

Lesson 27

Common Notation

Tempo defines how fast the music is being played. Most tempo markings do not refer to a specific speed, but to how fast the music feels. Sometimes a specific tempo is defined by a **metronome marking**, which gives the **beats per minute**. Much guitar music has no tempo marking, or defines the tempo in English, for example "Lively" or "Not too fast" More formal scores may give the terms in Italian.

Some Common Tempo Markings

Allegro	Fast
Andante	Walking tempo
Moderato	Medium
Adagio	Slow
<i>rit.</i>	Slower
<i>accel.</i>	Gradually faster
Tempo I	Back to the original tempo

Guitar Technique

Articulation defines the beginning and end of each note. A slur is one type of articulation. Again, much guitar music is informal and doesn't include many articulation marks, but, particularly in classical music, you may see markings such as accents.

Common Accent Markings



Play an accented note louder and stronger than the other notes around it. (A strong rest stroke can give a good accent.)

G Major Scale

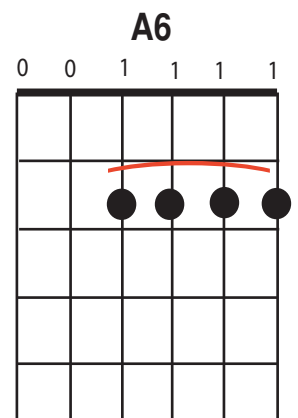
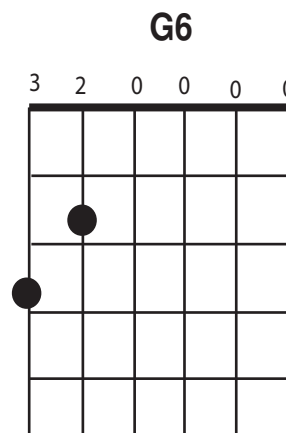
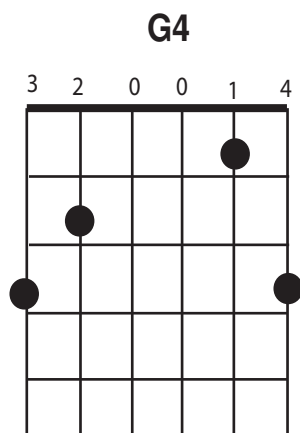
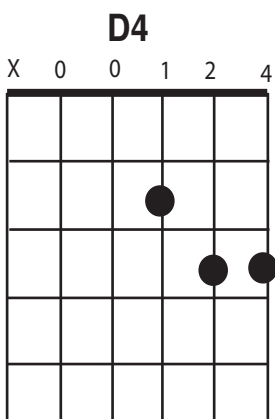


Chords

The fourth or sixth note of the scale can also be added to the chord. A 4 is often labelled a **suspension (sus)**, which means it temporarily replaces 3 and should be resolved downward (4 followed by 3).

When a number is added to a chord symbol, find the added note using the scale associated with the chord.

If you don't know the scale yet, use your no-open-strings scale fingerings to find the correct notes.



*learn more about suspensions and their resolutions: <http://cnx.org/content/m11953/latest/>