



WeJam Fretboard Visualization Guide

Translating your musical vision into a reality

By Jojo



Chord to Ear Visualization Starter Pack

Don't move your 1: a 10 minute drill to stop getting

lost between the 1 and the 4 chord

This is for intermediate guitarists who can already play basic chords and scales, but still feel lost when songs move from 1 to 4 (like G to C).

In the next 10 minutes you'll:

See how to visualize your 1 and 4 chords without moving your "home base"

Learn one simple "chord melody" drill that trains your ear and hands at the same time

How to use this guide:

Skip ahead to the page titled "1 and 4 Chord Melody Style Practice" and watch the video.

Come back to pages 2–5 to understand what you're actually seeing and hearing.

Do the 10-minute practice routine on the next page for 7 days.

This is one step of the bigger process I use to help guitarists play what they hear across the whole neck.



Your 10 minute daily routine

1. Pick your key and chords

Use G and C open chords (1 and 4) like in the video.

2. Warm up the shapes (2 minutes)

Slowly move between G and C while whispering the note numbers you see:

Over G: 1, 3, 5, 7

Over C: 4, 6, 1, 3

Keep your “1” in the same place the entire time. Don’t move your 1.

3. Chord melody drill (6 minutes)

Use the exercise from the video: play a bit of chord, then a bit of single-note melody, always seeing the numbers.

Focus on how 5 and 7 “drop” into 4 and 6 when you go to the 4 chord.

4. Cool-down (2 minutes)

Turn the track off and try to switch between G and C while freely making up small melodies, still seeing 1-3-5-7 / 4-6-1-3.

If you do this for 7 days, you’ll start to feel the 1 and 4 chords as one unified map instead of two separate shapes.



My Journey with improvisation

Hi! My name is Jojo and I'll be showing you around today. I am extremely passionate about improvisation and composition, and I have a degree in jazz studies from the Frost School of Music (University of Miami). Despite getting into college with a full ride for my trombone playing, I still felt holes in my improvisation and composition skills. I couldn't consistently play the music in my head and I had no clear path/method to study the sounds I wanted to play.

Everything changed when I picked up guitar and started study chords in a new way. I adopted a **purely numerical** approach to music and my whole world opened up. I went from not able to play what I heard to being able to effortlessly translate any melody I heard (or could remember) onto an instrument in any key. Additionally, I developed the ability to listen to a song once or twice and understand how to play it in any key on my instrument. To develop these skills, I studied chords and scales methodically but playfully, embracing the spirit of improvisation and understanding that improvisation **was** the practice, instead of practice being a prerequisite to improvisation. The following exercise completely opened up my musical world and I hope it does the same for you.



How to visualize chords

Don't move your "1"!

- The biggest mistake guitarists make when studying chords is moving their "1" for every chord.
- In actual music, we hear every note/chord in relation to a tonal center(key) instead of each chord in isolation.
- Let's take a look at our 1 chord now, which is made up of the notes 1,4,5 and 7

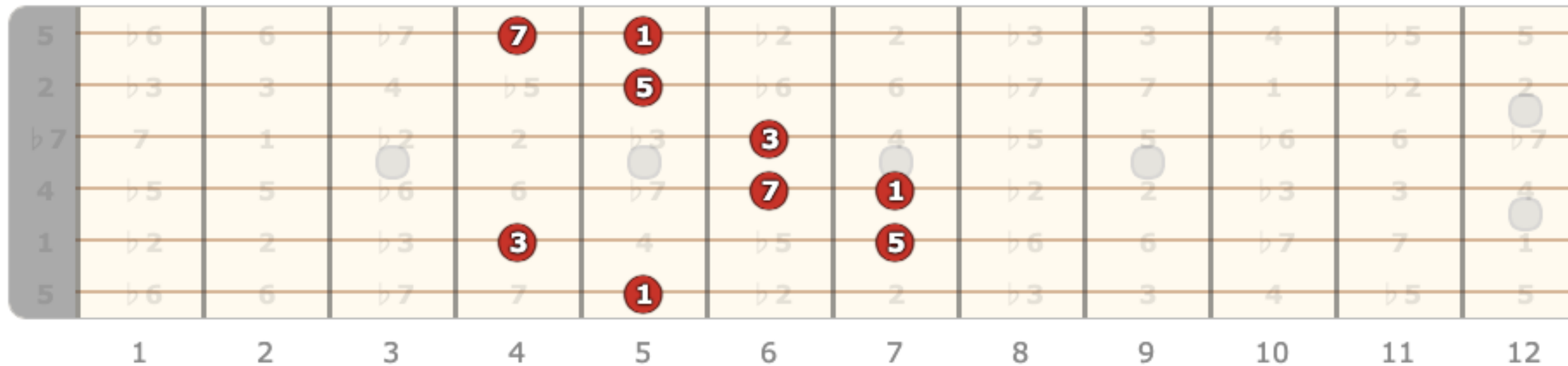




How to visualize chords

Don't move your "1"!

1 Chord Low E String



⑦
6
⑤
4
③
2
①
1

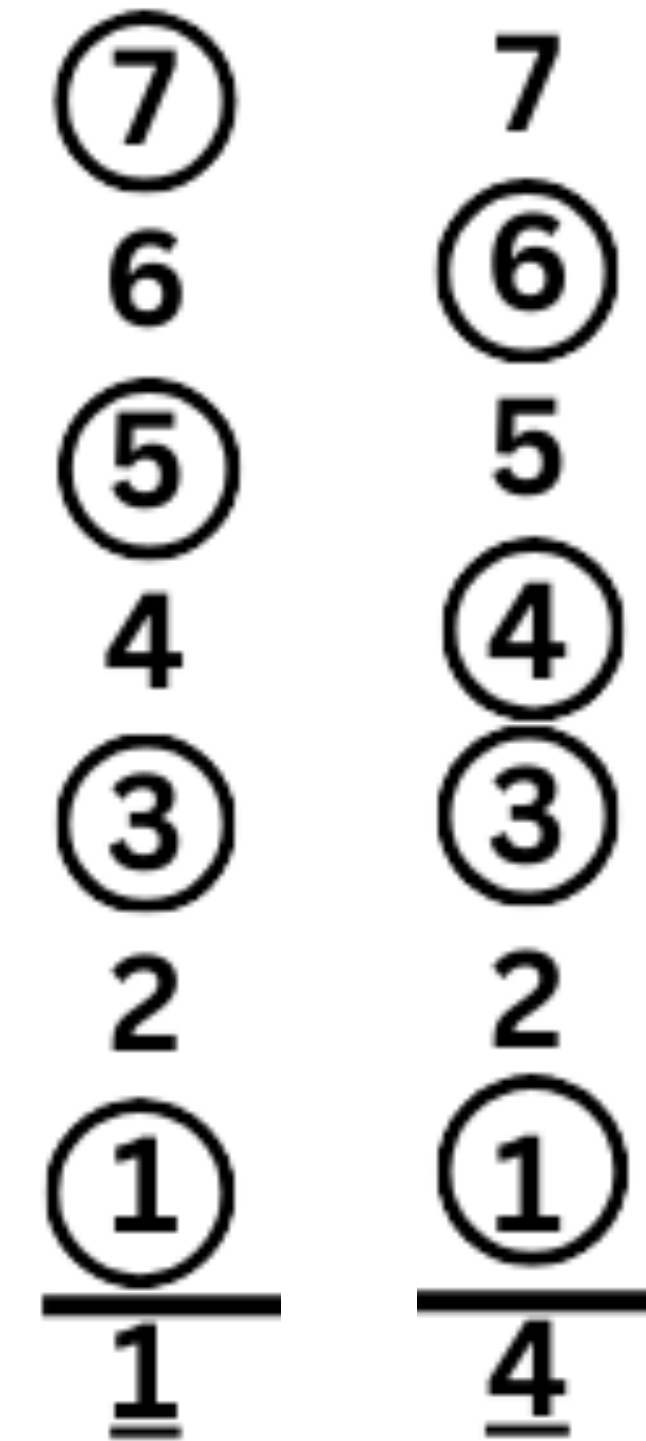
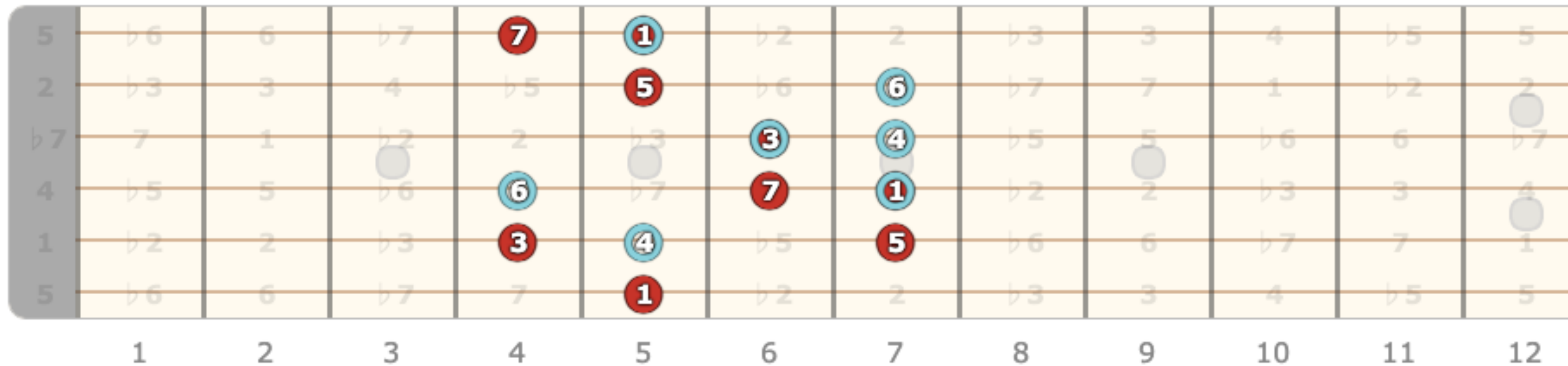
- Here is our 1 chord built out on the E string in the key of "A" (although the key doesn't really matter). Notice how we've highlighted every instance of the notes "1,3,5 and 7" in this region. These are all of the possible note choices we have to form a "1 Chord"



How to visualize chords

Don't move your "1"!

1 and 4 Chord A String



- Here are both of our chords visualized at the same time. Notice that both chords share notes 1 and 3. When you look at the diagrams to the right, you might also notice that notes 5 and 7 in the 1 chord “move down” to notes 4 and 6 in the 4 chord.
- Experiment with moving between these two shapes while maintaining this unified vision of the octave
- Listen to how the affect of each note changes depending on which notes surround them.
- Take a few minutes now and play through this map, staying keenly aware of where you are at all times



1 and 4 Chord Melody Style Practice

Don't move your "1"!

- Here is a free video from the full effortless improvisation course, showing you exactly how to study these 2 chords together using your OPEN CHORDS G and C. Have fun and remember, the long way is the short way!
- [1 and 4 Chord Melody](#)



Yay Freedom!

- I hope this document was able to give you a taste of what improvisational freedom and a comprehensive understanding of the fretboard feels like.
- If your dream is to make beautiful music from your imagination, play with others, and understand the music you hear, I made something really special designed to take you from step 1 all the way to 100 on your journey.
- Watch this 13-minute breakdown of the full system and, if it clicks, apply for a spot in the program: <https://www.wejamimprovisation.com/strategy>
- Any other questions? DM me on Instagram @andnowyousayjojo