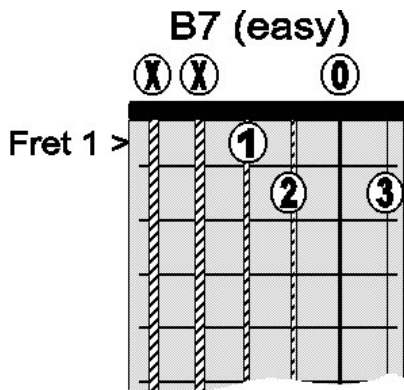
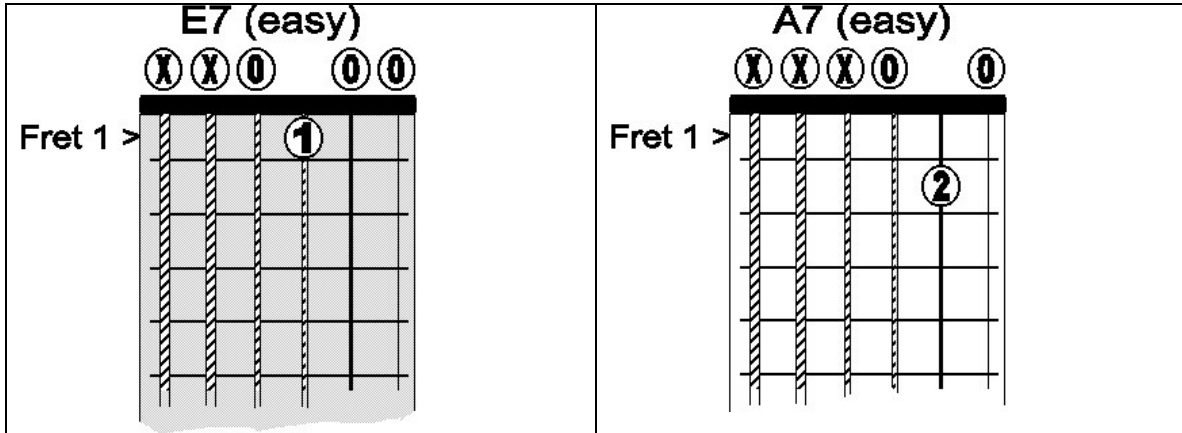
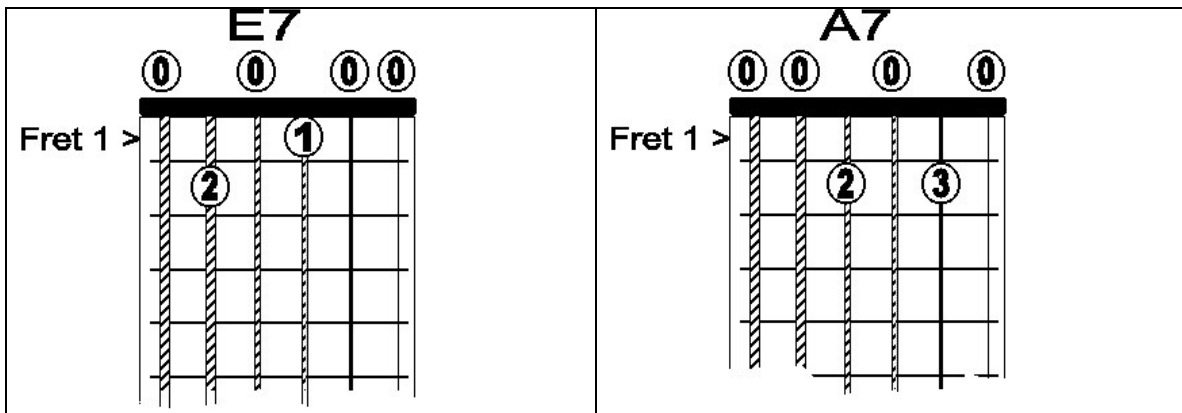


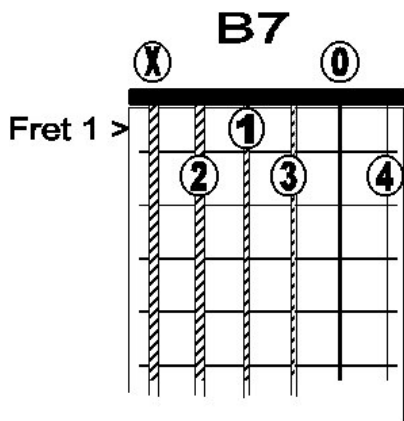
Blues in E. (beginner lesson)

Here's a blues progression in E. First, some basic chord diagrams followed by full chord diagrams. Here they are:



Those chords are fairly easy to get your fingers onto, because they only use three or four strings. But, when you're ready, move to the full chords. Here they are:





Here's the rhythm notation for this exercise.

Use downstrokes on this. As you play, count out loud, “One, two, three, four,” saying one number per beat.

Use the simple chords first, then use the full chords. If your fingers can't get every note to ring, or your fingers can't yet make all the shapes, don't worry. If you relax when you play, focus on the sound, and practice a bit every day, the sounds and shapes will come.

Ingredients of the Blues

This blues in E shares something in common with many, many songs in the Blues genre of music: the chord progression. You can describe that progression as follows:

Play four bars of the I chord.

Play two bars of the IV chord.

Play two bars of the I chord.

Play one bar of the V, and one bar of the IV.

Play one bar of the I, and one bar of the V.

Repeat this sequence.

What's all this I, IV, and V stuff? These are Roman numerals that refer to chords. Every key has its own set of I, IV, and V chords, which are the only chords used in the basic 12-bar blues that we've been playing.

In the key of E, the I chord is the E or E7, the IV is the A or A7 and V is the B or B7.

[Excerpted from Blues Grooves for Beginners and Beyond.]

Learn much more about how to create that blues feeling on the guitar through using backbeats, riffs, shuffles and other ingredients. Order Blues Grooves here:

<http://www.maximummusician.com/BluesGroovesRhythmGuitareBook.htm>