

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT THE AUTHOR .....	4
INTRODUCTION .....	5

## Chapter 1: Getting Started

Open Position Chords-6, Barre Chords-7, Reading Music and Tablature-8, Blues Progressions and Strumming-9, Pentatonic Scale Fingerings-10

### The "A" Lessons Chords and Harmony

### The "B" Lessons Improvisation

## Chapter 2

Lesson 1A: Basic Theory .....	11
The Chromatic Scale-11, The Major Scale-11, Key Signatures-14, Intervals-15, The Cycle of 4ths (or 5ths)-16, Reading Roman Numerals-16	
Lesson 2A: Triad Theory & Root Position Fingerings .....	18
Minor, Diminished and Augmented Triads and Their Inversions-19, The Four Basic String Sets-20, Root Position Triad Fingerings-20, Etude #1: Root Position Triads-22,	
Lesson 3A: First-Inversion Triads on Four Strings .....	24
Etude #2: First Inversion Triads-25,	
Lesson 4A: Second-Inversion Triads on the Four String Sets .....	27
Etude #3: Second-Inversion Triads-28	

Lesson 1B: Major Scale Fingerings .....	17
Major Triad Theory-18, Major Triad Inversions-18	
Lesson 2B: Two More Major Scale Fingerings .....	23
Lesson 3B: Two More Major Scale Fingerings .....	26
Lesson 4B: Major Scale Etude .....	29
Etude #4: The Major Scale-29	

## Chapter 3

Lesson 1A: Constructing Larger Chords .....	30
How Larger Chord Formulas Work-30, Extensions-30, Inverting Larger Chords-31, Voicings-31	
Lesson 2A: 6th Chords .....	33
Major 6th Chords-33, Minor 6th Chords-33, Etude #6: 6th Chords-34	
Lesson 3A: 7th Chords .....	37
Major 7th Chords-37, Minor 7th Chords-37, Dominant 7th Chords-38, Etude #7: 7th Chords-39	
Lesson 4A: 9th Chords .....	41
Extensions & Chord Families-41, Major 9th Chords-41, Minor 9th Chords-42, Dominant 9th Chords-42, Etude #8: 9th Chords-43, Etude #9: More 9th Chords-44	
Lesson 5A: Other Chords You Need to Know .....	46
Minor 11th Chords-46, Dominant 11th Chords-47, Major 13th Chords-47, Minor 13th Chords-47, Dominant 13th Chords-48, Major Add9 Chords-48, Minor Add9 Chords-48, Min <sup>7</sup> <sub>5</sub> (Half-Diminished) Chords-49	

Lesson 1B: Major Scale Etude .....	32
Etude #5: The Major Scale-32	
Lesson 2B: Connecting Major Scales .....	35
Lesson 3B: Three-Octave Scales .....	40
Lesson 4B: More Three-Octave Scales .....	45

**The “A” Lessons  
Chords and Harmony**

**The “B” Lessons  
Improvisation**

**Chapter 3, continued**

Diminished 7th Chords-49,  
Dominant 7th Suspended Chords-49,  
Minor (Maj7) Chords-50,  
Dominant 7th Augmented Chords-50,  
*Etude #10: More Chords-51*

Lesson 5B: Two Tunes Using the Major Scale ..... 52  
*Noah’s Groove-52, Blues for Maggie-53*

**Chapter 4**

Lesson 1A: The Harmonized Major Scale ..... 54

Lesson 1B: Improvising with the Major Scale ..... 55  
*What It’s All About-55, Diatonic Thinking-56*

Lesson 2A: Major Chord Scales ..... 58

Lesson 2B: Two Tunes Based on the Major Scale ..... 59  
*Ruby, My Deerfly-59, Fly Like a Beagle-60*

Lesson 3A: More Major Chord Scales ..... 61

Lesson 3B: Two More Tunes Based on the Major Scale . 62  
*Noisy Nights-62, The Creature-63*

Lesson 4A: More Major Chord Scales ..... 64

Lesson 4B: Two More Tunes Based on the Major Scale . 65  
*Julie in Wonderland-65, Samba de Shauna-66*

**Chapter 5**

Lesson 1A: Roman Numerals and Transposition ..... 67

Lesson 1B: Modes of the Major Scale— The Basics ..... 69

Lesson 2A: More About Roman Numerals and  
Transposition ..... 71

Lesson 2B: Modes of the Major Scale—  
Parallel- Approach Fingerings ..... 72  
D Dorian-72, E Phrygian-72, F Lydian-73  
G Mixolydian-73, A Aeolian-73, B Locrian-74,  
Practice Progressions-74

Lesson 3A: Vertical Chord Scales ..... 76

Lesson 3B: Modes of the Major Scale—  
Derivative Approach ..... 77

Lesson 4A: More Vertical Chord Scales ..... 79

Lesson 4B: Two Modal Tunes ..... 80  
*Nosh 4 Josh-80, Chocolate Tuna Enchiladas-81*

Lesson 5A: More Vertical Chord Scales ..... 82

Lesson 5B: Two Modal/Diatonic Tunes ..... 83  
*Modelicious-83, Blue Tofu-84*

**CODA—A Medley of Suggestions and Musical Concepts**

How Jazz Works ..... 85

Technique ..... 85

Basic Left and Right Hand Technique-85, Posture-86, Basic Strumming Technique-87,  
Fingerstyle Chords-87, Pick and Fingers Technique-88

Practice ..... 89

The Value of Practicing Slowly-89, Learning Difficult Chords and Changing Chords-89,  
Learning Scales Two Strings at a Time-90, The Value of Locked Positions-90, Practicing the Major Scales-91,  
Limiting Rhythmic Options-92, Using Melodic Patterns-92

Soloing ..... 93

Form: Using an Opening, Body and Conclusion-93, Form Based on Motif and Variation-94  
The Use of Repetition in Your Solos-94

Tag Ending (Afterword) ..... 95

Now let's try putting some of these triads to work in a more musical setting. Learn and practice the following *etude* (study) until all the moves are second nature. Try to memorize the sounds of all four types of triads as you enjoy playing this. Experiment with different *feels* (rhythms) and *tempo* (speeds).



## ETUDE #1: ROOT POSITION TRIADS

C Amin Dmin G Gaug C Amin Dmin G Gaug

C Amin Dmin G Gaug C C#dim Dmin G Gb

F Dmin Gmin C Bb Gmin Cmin F Faug

Eb Cmin Fmin Bb Ab A#min Eb