Which Power Chord Is It?

The power chord = **root + perfect fifth** (7 semitones higher, fret +2 on the next string). No third — one shape serves any context. Find the root, name the chord. See **Handout 484** for the full shape map.

Quick reference. String 6 roots: open=E, fret 1=F, fret 2=F♯, fret 3=G, fret 4=G♯, fret 5=A, fret 7=B, fret 8=C. String 5 roots: open=A, fret 2=B, fret 3=C, fret 5=D, fret 7=E, fret 10=G. Fifth = root fret +2 on the next string. Add "5" to name the chord.

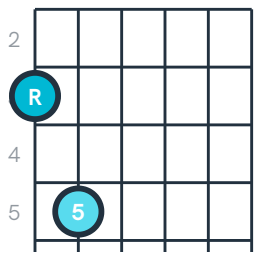
Key: Root (R) Fifth (5)

A — NAME THE CHORD

The root dot is shown. Write the full chord name (e.g. G5) on the line below each diagram.

1

frets 2–6

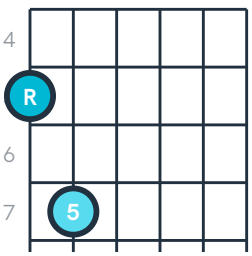


String 6, fret 3

_____

2

frets 4–8

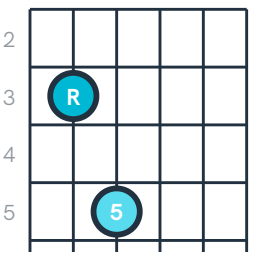


String 6, fret 5

_____

3

frets 2–6

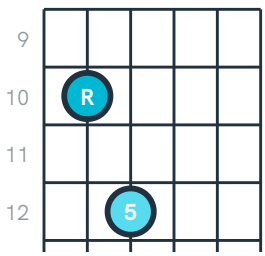


String 5, fret 3

_____

4

frets 9–13



String 5, fret 10

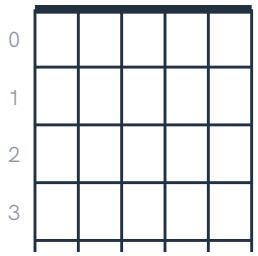
_____

B — PLACE THE ROOT

The fret grid is blank. Draw an R dot at the correct root fret on the correct string.

5

frets 0–4

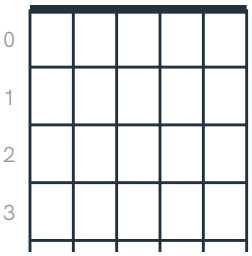


E5

Mark root R on the diagram

6

frets 0–4

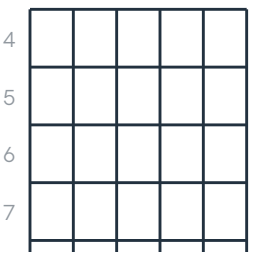


F5

Mark root R on the diagram

7

frets 4–8

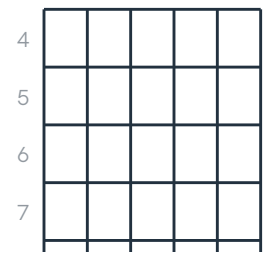


A5

Mark root R on the diagram

8

frets 4–8



D5

Mark root R on the diagram

C — MOVE THE SHAPE (TEACHER-OBSERVED)

Your teacher watches as you play the two tasks below. Tick each criterion when met.

9

Play G5, then slide to A5

- ☐ Same two-finger grip kept throughout
- ☐ G5: str 6 fret 3, fifth on str 5 fret 5
- ☐ A5: str 6 fret 5, fifth on str 5 fret 7
- ☐ Both notes ring clearly (no dead strings)

10

Play C5 on string 5

- ☐ Root on str 5 fret 3
- ☐ Fifth on str 4 fret 5 (7 semitones higher)
- ☐ Same shape as the string-6 version
- ☐ Both notes ring clearly

TRY IT

After Part B: play each chord you placed. Can you hear the same interval (perfect fifth) in every shape? Ask your teacher to verify that the grip does not change between E5, G5, and A5.

Part A: 1. G5; 2. A5; 3. C5; 4. G5 | Part B: 5. E5 → str 6 fret 0; 6. F5 → str 6 fret 1; 7. A5 → str 6 fret 5; 8. D5 → str 5 fret 5

Answers online · quarter = 72 · Parts A & B: hear the correct root + fifth for each item (notes arpeggiated).
Audio after publication: tissimo.co/exercises/guitar-power-chord-root-name-check

© 2026 Tissimo. All rights reserved.