

3 NOTES



With **Mark Marxon**

For My Beautiful Wife...

Introduction

This book was created to be my own personal study guide. I found it so useful that I thought I'd share it with other students of bass.

The exercises and concepts in this book are to be played as arpeggios and in all keys. This can be achieved by either chromatically ascending, descending or moving through the cycle of fourths.

I advise that all ideas are to be approached slowly, and the goal of the student should be to obtain a clear bell like tone and a solid rhythmic feel.

For more information about this book, it's exercises and to see a visual demonstration of the exercises, just click this link to watch an accompanying video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SWWHUgihev0>

With patience, consistency, and a passion for music, I'm sure you will be playing the music that speaks to you with clarity and conviction!

All the best to You and your studies,

Mark Marxon.

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Moveable Major Triads - 3 Fingerings

Practice Tip #1

Play these in:

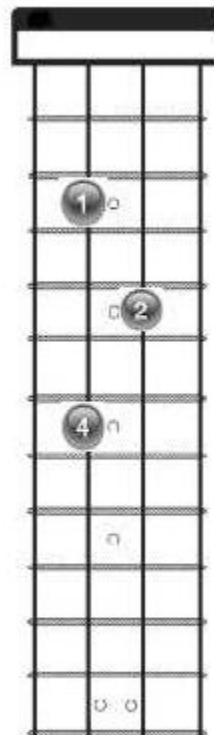
a group of 4 – (root, 3rd, 5th, rest)

a group of 3 – (root, 3rd, 5th)

a group of 5 (root, 3rd, 5th, 3rd, root)

a group of 7 (root, root, 3rd, 3rd, 5th, 5th, 3rd)

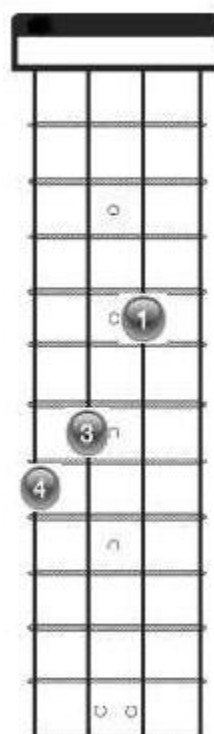
1st Finger



2nd Finger



4th Finger



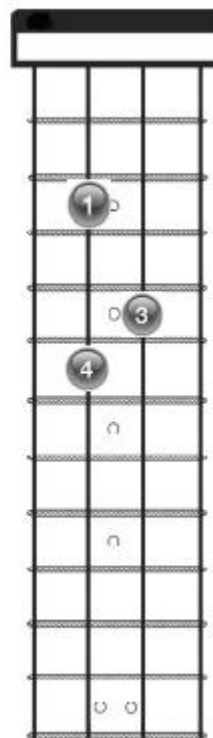
Movable Minor Triads - 3 Fingerings

Practice Tip #2

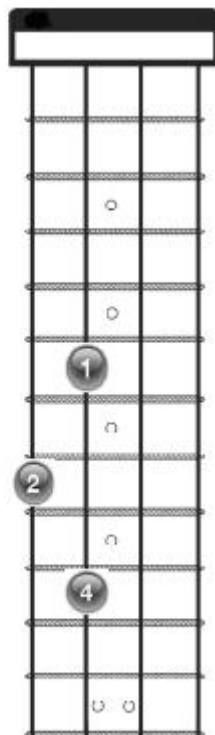
Play with a Metronome and place the click on "2" & "4".

This will create a backbeat and improve your feel.

1st Finger



2nd Finger



4th Finger

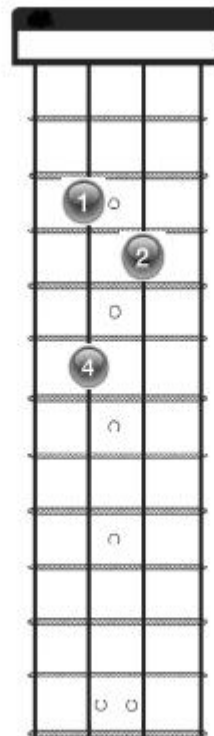


Moveable Diminished Triad – 3 fingerings

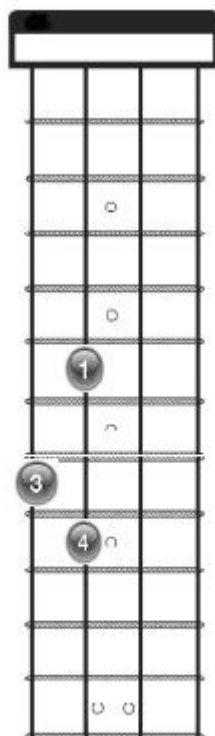
Practice Tip #3

Start to play the triads at 60BPM and increase the tempo by 5 BPM each time you complete the exercise.

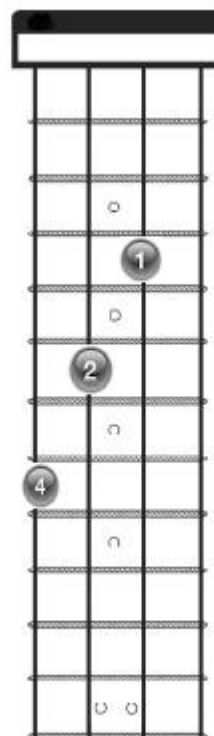
1st Finger



2nd Finger



4th Finger



Triads using open strings

*These positions are not moveable as open strings are involved

Major triad (1st fret)



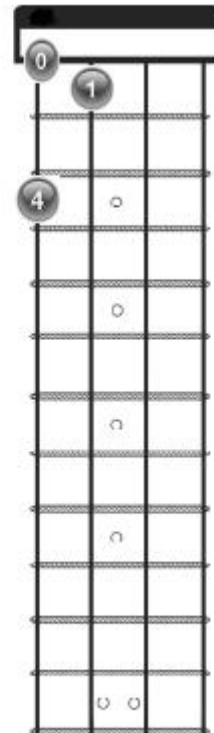
Major triad (open)



Minor triad (open)



Diminished triad (open)



Moveable Major Triads – 1st inversion

Practice Tip #4

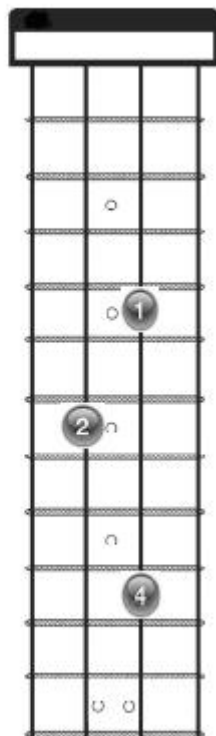
When you are playing the 1st inversion, the last note of the triad is the root.

This information is helpful to direct your hand into the position of the chord.

1st Finger



2nd Finge



4th Finger

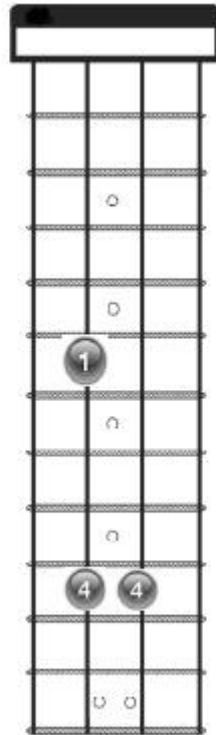


Moveable Minor Triads – 1st Inversion

Practice Tip #5

Remember to practice these patterns descending. I.e: Instead of 3rd, 5th, root here play root, 5th, 3rd etc.

1st Finger



2nd Finger



4th Finger



Moveable Diminished Triad – 1st Inversion

Practice Tip #6

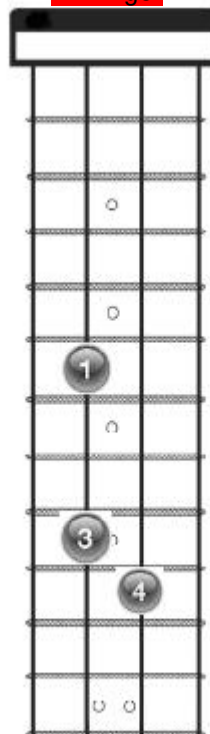
Make sure your ears are open and listening to the different sounds of major, minor and diminished.

Major = Happy

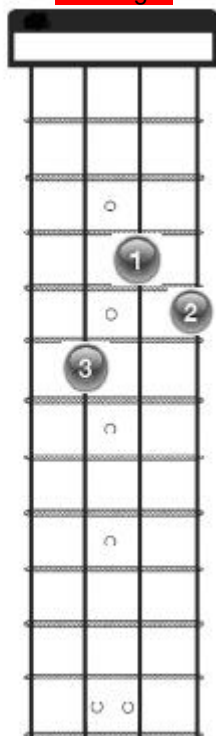
Minor = Sad

Diminished = Scary/unresolved

1st Finger



2nd Finger



4th Finger



Moveable Major Triad – 2nd Inversion

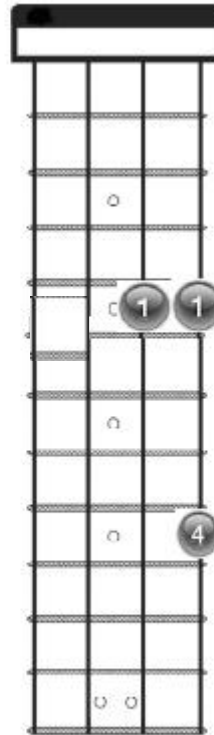
Practice Tip #7

Once you learn the root position, 1st inversion and 2nd inversion of a triad, put them all together!

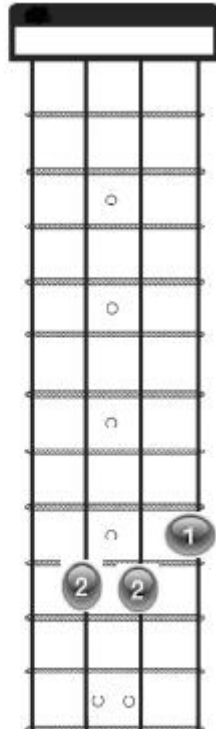
Eg. Major Triad

- Root, 3rd, 5th
 - 3rd, 5th, root
 - 5th, root, 3rd
- Etc.

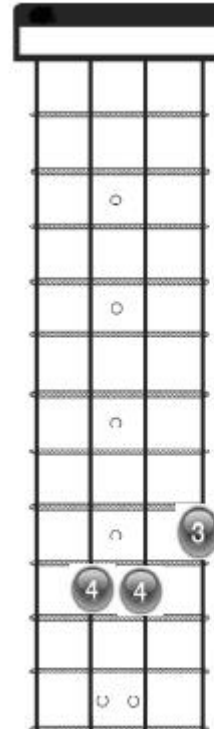
1st Finger



2nd Finger



4th Finger



Moveable Minor Triad – 2nd Inversion

Practice Tip #8

Practice your bass WITH and WITHOUT an amp.

Playing without an amp will let you hear the true sound of the bass.

Playing with an amp at louder volumes will force to play cleanly.

1st Finger



2nd Finger



4th Finger



Moveable Diminished Triad – 2nd Inversion

Practice Tip #9

Pick up a copy of the “real book”, choose a chart at random and play nothing but triads and their inversion over the changes.

1st Finger



2nd Finger



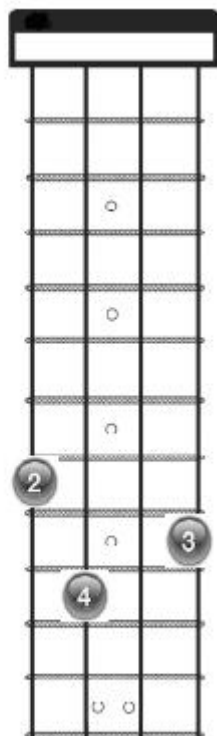
4th Finger



Major Triads – Block Chords

Important note

Instead of playing “arpeggios” (each note individually), play these as block chords (all the notes together)

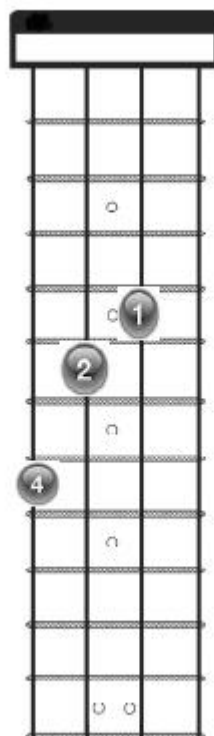
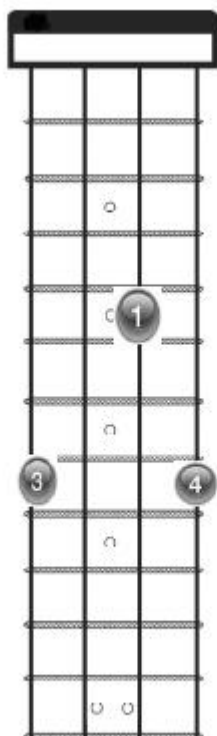
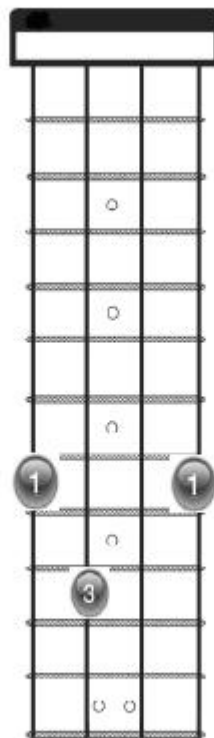


Minor Triad – Block Chords

Remember!

The lower block chords are played on the bass, the “muddier” they will sound.

Keep them mainly in the upper register.



Diminished Triad – Block Chords

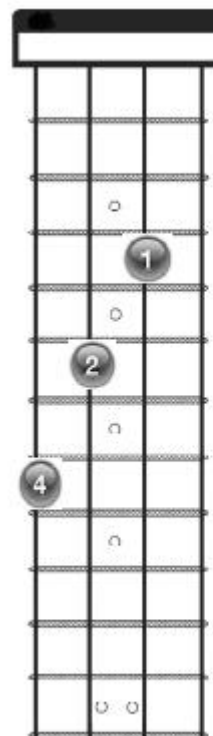
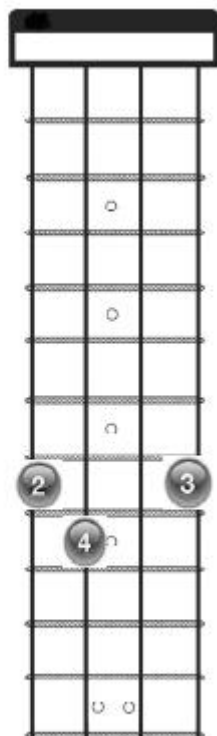
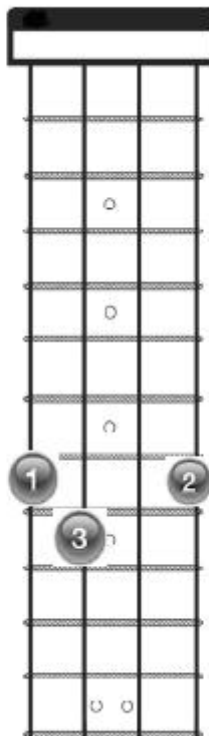
Practice Tip #10

Set specific goals!!

Record yourself to keep an audio diary of how you are playing and monitor your progress.

Then keep a written diary to vocalise your goals.

Then... just... WORK YOUR BUTT OFF!!!



About Mark Marxon

Mark has completed a bachelor of music at Newcastle University where he studied under Peter Gray (Channel 10 band/Newcastle Conservatorium) for four years. He also studied under Steve Hunter (Chic Corea/Kim Lawson Trio/AIM) for six months.

You can find tutorials from Mark as a guest teacher on the PLAYBASSNOW.COM website which is run by the Sandberg Signature artist and YOUTUBE star, MarloweDK (aka Thomas Risell).

He is a contributor to Bass Musician Magazine as an educator and has also been a guest teacher for Bass Players United.

Mark is a sought-after session player in NSW, Australia both live and in the studio. This year will see Mark touring the east coast of Australia, releasing his first book and his first bass focused EP as a band leader. He is also going to Germany in September to cover Warwick's Basscamp 2014 for Bass Musician Magazine. Mark is an endorsed "Warwick Artist" and proud to be part of the Warwick artist family.

If you feel this book is worth being paid for, you can contribute by following the link below to Mark's website and clicking the "Donate" button.

Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Mark's Website - <http://markmarxon.wix.com/markmarxon#>

3 NOTES video - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SWWHUgihev0>

