

Ok there a million different chordal shapes you might learn. But if you get some seventh chords under your fingers you will be set. And then do some transcribing!

Seventh chords and often called **drop 2** and **drop 3** chord shapes. Don't be confused by these terms, they just describe different ways you can rearrange notes of a chord (usually a 7th chord) to make it more playable and better sounding.

Start with these shapes. Major seventh chords in Drop 2 position. We will use C as the root,

Cmaj7

5 Cmaj7

Cmaj7

Now get these shapes. Major Seventh chords in Drop 3 position. We will use G as the root to mix it up. I will talk a little about these in the next lesson.

1st string set (Only 2 possible, as it skips a string)

Gmaj7

Root 1st 2nd 3rd

T 3 7 8 12
A 4 7 11 12
B 4 5 9 12
3 7 10 14

2nd string set

Gmaj7

Root 1st 2nd 3rd

T 10 2 3 7
A 12 3 7 8
B 11 0 4 7
10 2 5 9

By just moving the notes in the chord shape, you can get hold of all other types of seventh chords. There are 10 handy ones to know.

Chord Name	Order of notes in Drop 2	In the key of C
Major 7	1, 5, 7, 3	C, G, B, E
Major 7#5	1, #5, 7, 3	C, G#, B, E
Major b5	1, b5, 7, 3	C, Gb, B, E
Dominant 7	1, 5, b7, 3	C, G, Bb, E
Dominant 7#5	1, #5, b7, 3	C, G#, Bb, E
Dominant 7b5	1, b5, b7, 3	C, Gb, Bb, E
Minor 7	1, 5, b7, b3	C, G, Bb, bE
Minor Major 7	1, 5, 7, b3	C, G, B, Eb
Minor 7 flat 5	1, b5, b7, b3	C, Gb, Bb, Eb
Diminished 7	1, b5, bb7, b3	C, Gb, bbB (A), bE

- After that, transcribe. That is when you will get more voicings down, and in a musical context which is key. My go to people to transcribe solo guitar are:
 - Joe Pass - I Remember Charlie Parker
 - Gene Bertoncini - Someone to Light Up My Life
 - Jack Wilkins - American Institute of Guitar Recital 1983 (YouTube)
 - Peter Sprague - Peter Sprague Plays Solo