

If you can play the chords on the following pages, you'll be able to play a huge number of songs (although not necessarily in the original key). Of course, there are many, many more chords than shown here and to be a proficient player you'll need to know a lot more than these 16 chords but you'll find that once you've mastered these 16 you can learn additional chords as and when they appear in a new song.

You need to be able to move from any chord to any other chord accurately and get there quickly, ideally without looking. You need to be able to know, almost without thinking, what each chord is called and how to play it so that if you see a chord name in a song, you can go straight to it.

I'm sorry, there are no short cuts. It's just practice, practice and more practice.

Some translations:

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b (eg Bb) - a note 1 semitone (=1 fret) lower
# (eg C#) - a note 1 semitone (=1 fret) higher
m (em Am) - minor chord.
7 (eg B7) - a major chord with an added 7th note.
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