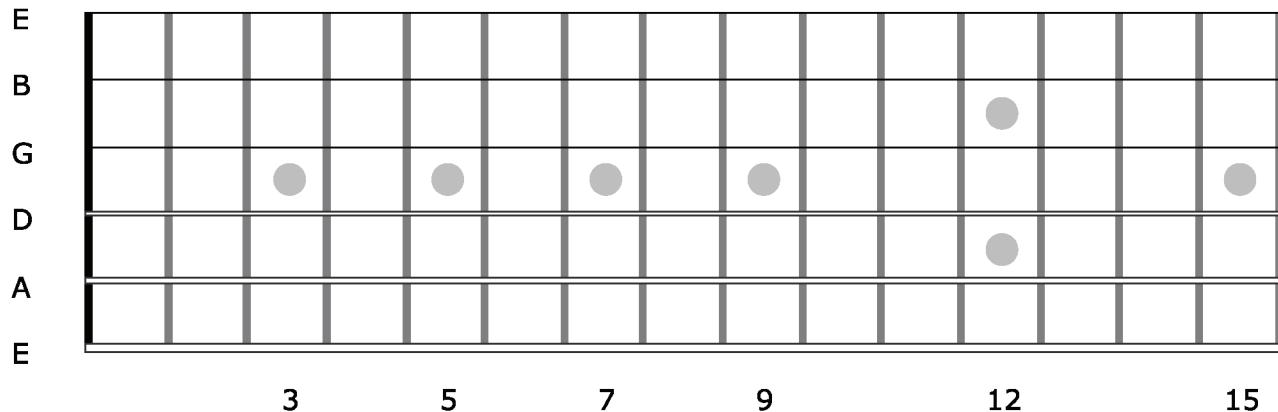


NOTES ON THE FINGERBOARD



When learning the notes on the fingerboard, it is more effective to use a linear approach. This is how piano players see the keyboard and it will make feel more natural. The musical alphabet is A through G and starts over (Ex.: A B C D E F G A B C D E F G A). Starting with the open string move up the string and memorize where the natural notes are. There is a whole step between each natural note except for between B/C and E/F. On the E string, it would go like this:

E || F | | G | | A | | B | C | | D | | E

Starting at the open note of each string, slowly and methodically move up the fretboard from natural note to natural note all the way to the twelfth fret. Do this for a couple of days, then when you reach the twelfth fret move from natural note to natural note back to the open note. This will help you start to develop points of reference and is the foundation of learning the notes on the fingerboard. This exercise hits three key areas. they are 1) What's the note? 2) Where is it? 3) What does it sound like?

Although you may not see the importance of learning the notes on your instrument in the beginning, it will become increasingly important the further that you progress on the guitar. Knowing where your notes are will enable you to manipulate chord shapes, solo more effectively, understand how to name bar chords and power chords and in general just give you a deeper understanding of the instrument that you are learning.

DO NOT STOP DOING THIS EXERCISE.

Whenever a student decides to stop practicing this, we eventually come to a lesson where the ability to name your notes is needed and they have already made that lesson more difficult than it ever needed to be.