

# Chord Orbits: A Comprehensive Guide for the Progressive Guitarist

Chord Orbits is a revolutionary guitar technique that allows guitarists to seamlessly transition between chords in a fluid and musical manner. This technique has become increasingly popular among progressive guitarists, who are constantly seeking ways to push the boundaries of their playing. In this article, we will delve deep into the concept of Chord Orbits, exploring its origins, mechanics, and various applications.



## Chord Orbits (The Progressive Guitarist Series)

by Don Latarski

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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## Origins of Chord Orbits

The concept of Chord Orbits was first developed by guitarist Ted Greene in the 1970s. Greene was a highly influential figure in the world of jazz guitar, and he dedicated his life to exploring the harmonic possibilities of the instrument. Through his studies, he discovered that by organizing chords into "families" based on their shared notes, he could create smooth and logical chord progressions.

## Mechanics of Chord Orbits

Chord Orbits are based on the idea of a "pivot note." A pivot note is a note that is common to two or more chords. By using pivot notes as a foundation, guitarists can create chord progressions that flow naturally from one chord to the next.

To create a Chord Orbit, start by finding a set of chords that share at least one common note. For example, the chords C major, G major, and D major all share the note G. These chords can be arranged in an orbit around the pivot note G, as shown in the diagram below:

[Diagram of a Chord Orbit with C major, G major, and D major chords]

Once the orbit has been established, guitarists can transition between the chords by moving their fingers between the notes that are common to each chord. For example, to transition from C major to G major, simply move your fingers from the C major shape to the G major shape, keeping your finger on the G string.

## Applications of Chord Orbits

Chord Orbits have a wide range of applications in guitar playing. They can be used to create:

- Smooth and logical chord progressions
- Complex and dissonant harmonies
- Extended soloing lines
- Improvisational accompaniment

Progressive guitarists often use Chord Orbits to create complex and extended harmony. By combining multiple orbits, guitarists can create chord progressions that span several keys and include a wide range of chords. This technique is commonly used in jazz, fusion, and progressive rock music.

## Learning Chord Orbits

Learning Chord Orbits can be a challenging but rewarding experience. Here are a few tips to help you get started:

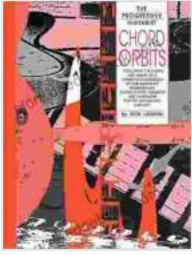
- Start by learning the basic chords in each key. This will give you a solid foundation for building Chord Orbits.
- Identify the pivot notes between different chords. This will help you understand how the chords are connected.
- Practice transitioning between chords smoothly. Focus on keeping your fingers close to the fretboard and moving them only when necessary.
- Experiment with different combinations of chords to create your own unique Chord Orbits.

Chord Orbits are a powerful guitar technique that can open up a world of harmonic possibilities. By understanding the mechanics and applications of Chord Orbits, guitarists can expand their vocabulary and create truly expressive and progressive music.

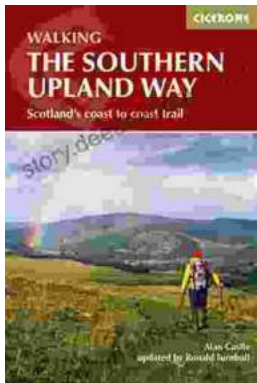
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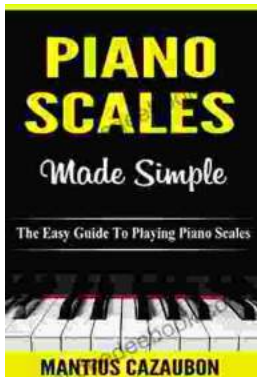


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