

Triads and 7th Chords

Triads

Three notes: root, 3rd and 5th. Each one can be on the bottom, which gives three inversions on every set of three strings (pages 2-5).

7th chords (drop 2 voicings)

Four notes: root, 3rd, 5th and 7th, so there are four inversions. Stack them in order and drop the second-highest note down an octave, and they fit on four neighbouring strings with no skips. That is a drop 2 voicing (pages 6-17).

Inversions

Root position: root on the bottom	1st inversion: 3rd on the bottom
2nd inversion: 5th on the bottom	3rd inversion: 7th on the bottom

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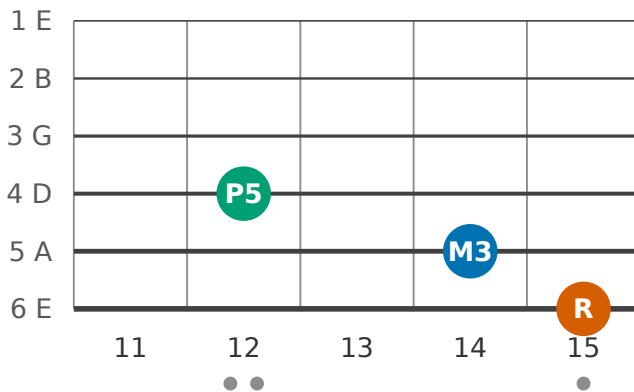
Triads · strings 6 5 4

Major and minor, all three inversions.

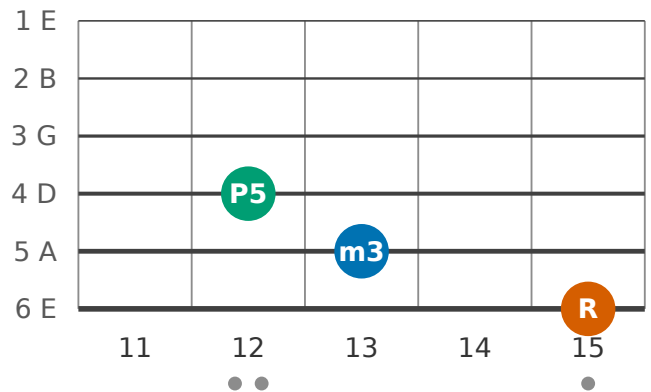
Formula: Major R M3 P5 · Minor R m3 P5

Root position = root on the bottom, 1st inversion = 3rd, 2nd inversion = 5th.

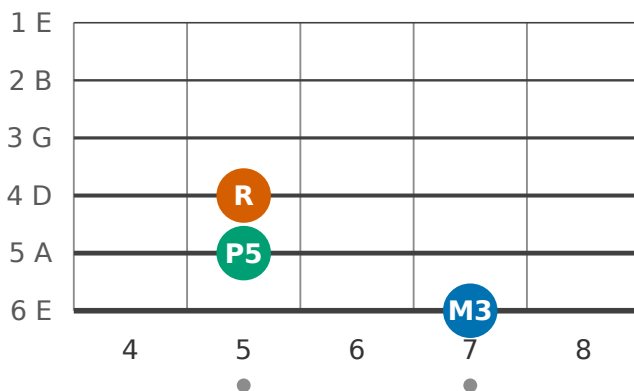
Major · Root position



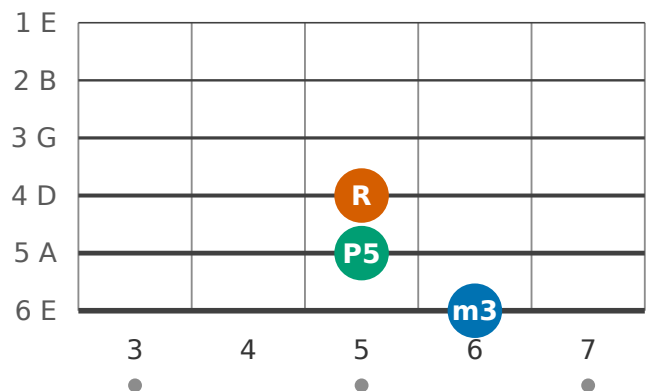
Minor · Root position



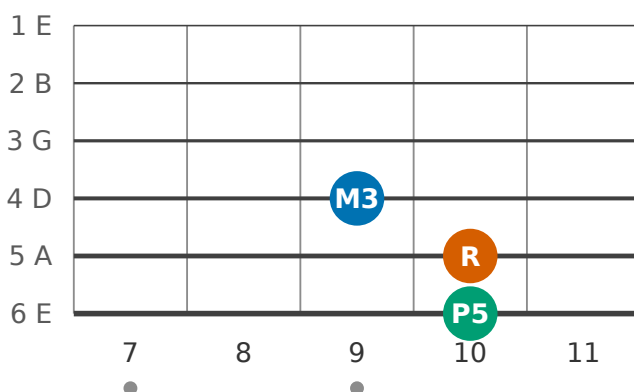
Major · 1st inversion



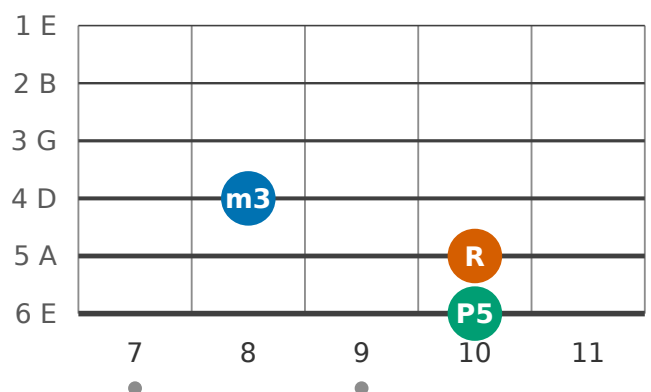
Minor · 1st inversion



Major · 2nd inversion



Minor · 2nd inversion



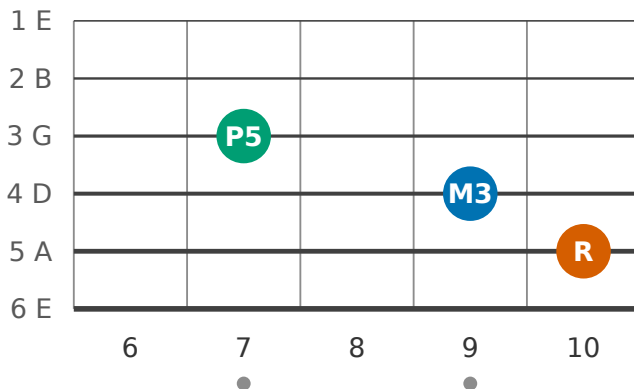
Triads · strings 5 4 3

Major and minor, all three inversions.

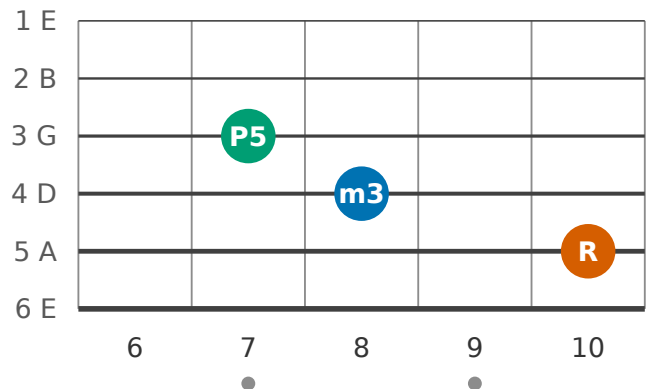
Formula: Major R M3 P5 · Minor R m3 P5

Root position = root on the bottom, 1st inversion = 3rd, 2nd inversion = 5th.

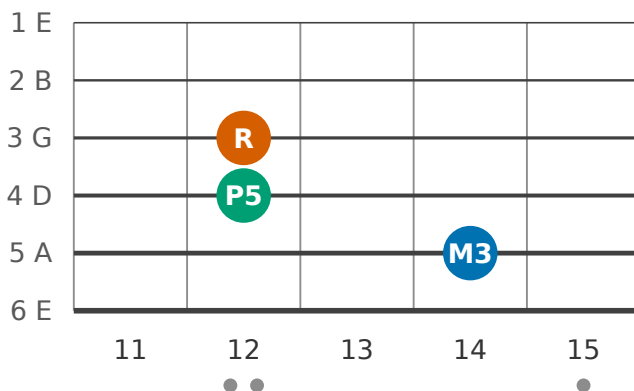
Major · Root position



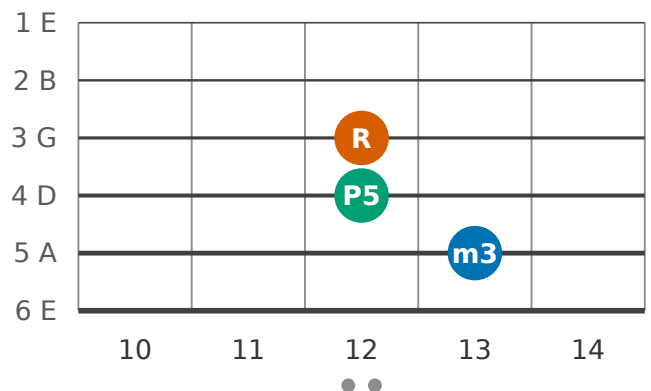
Minor · Root position



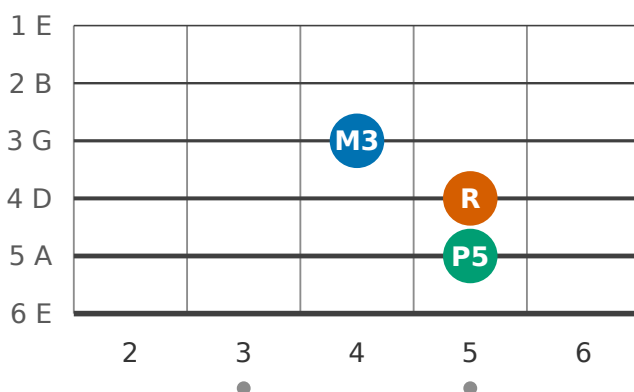
Major · 1st inversion



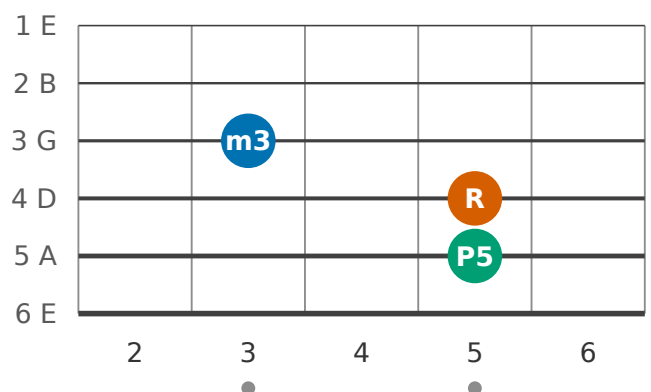
Minor · 1st inversion



Major · 2nd inversion



Minor · 2nd inversion



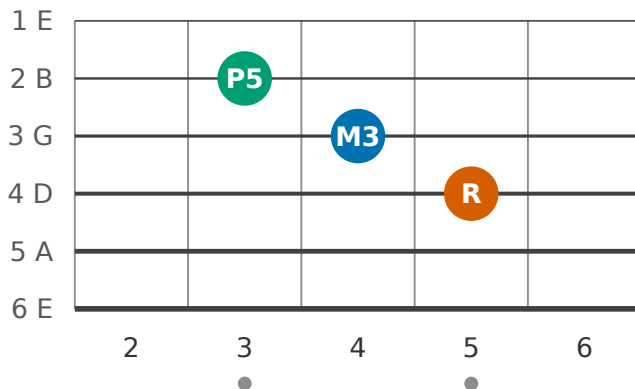
Triads · strings 4 3 2

Major and minor, all three inversions.

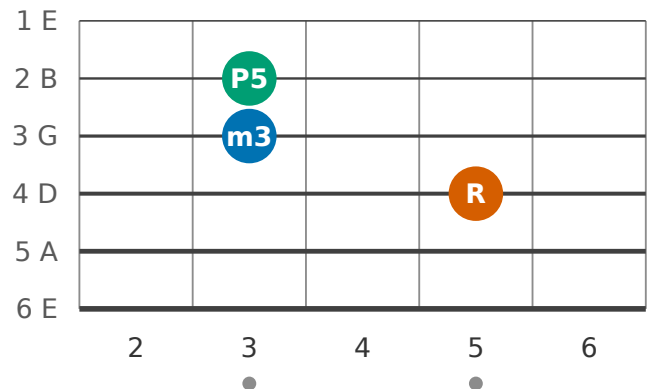
Formula: Major R M3 P5 · Minor R m3 P5

Root position = root on the bottom, 1st inversion = 3rd, 2nd inversion = 5th.

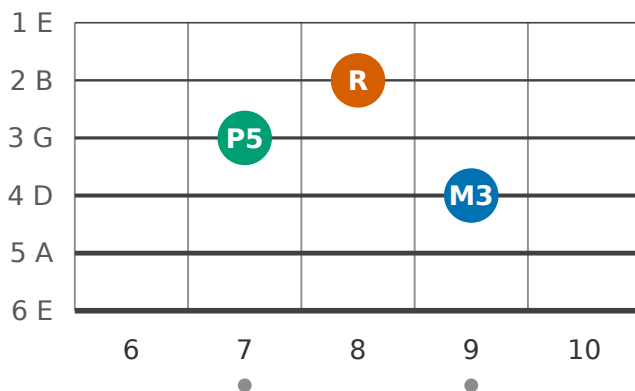
Major · Root position



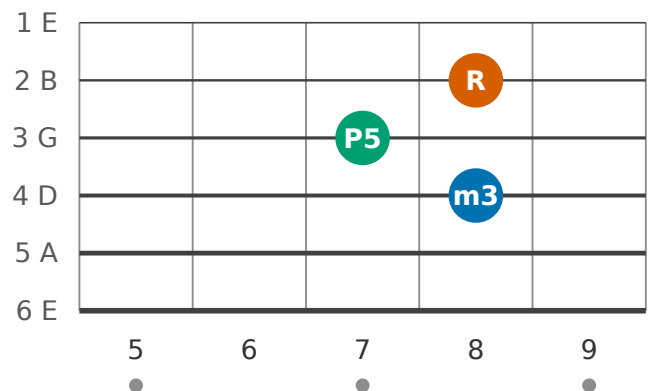
Minor · Root position



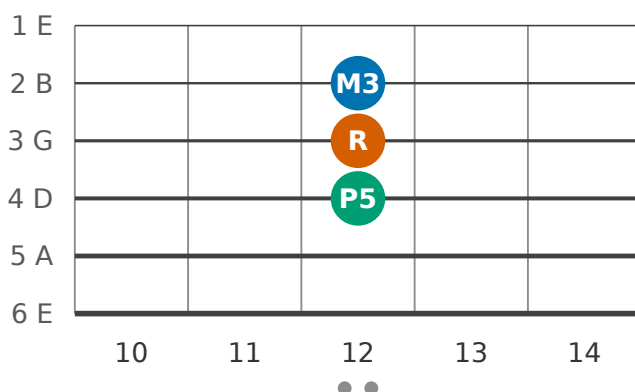
Major · 1st inversion



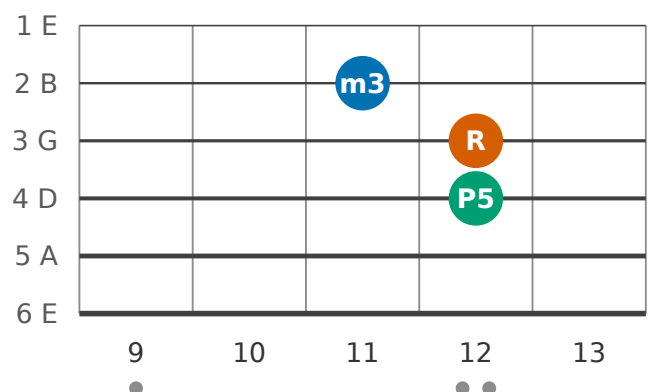
Minor · 1st inversion



Major · 2nd inversion



Minor · 2nd inversion



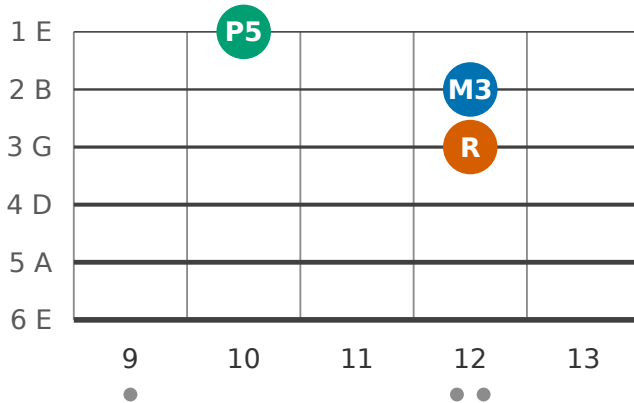
Triads · strings 3 2 1

Major and minor, all three inversions.

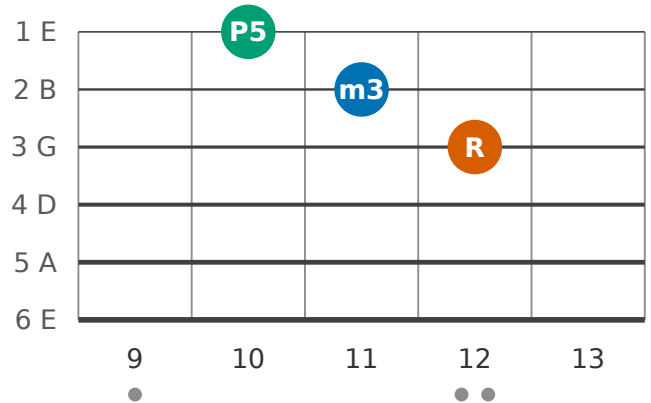
Formula: Major R M3 P5 · Minor R m3 P5

Root position = root on the bottom, 1st inversion = 3rd, 2nd inversion = 5th.

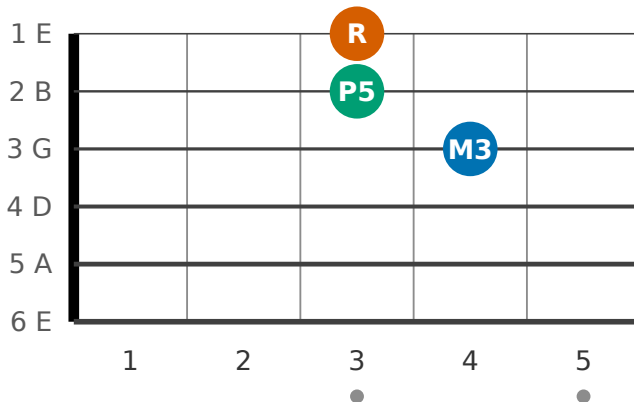
Major · Root position



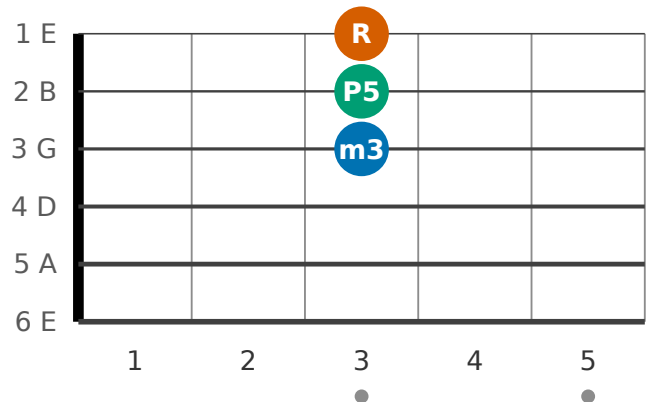
Minor · Root position



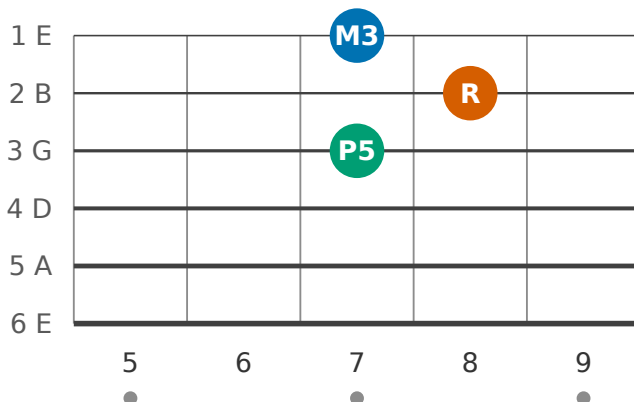
Major · 1st inversion



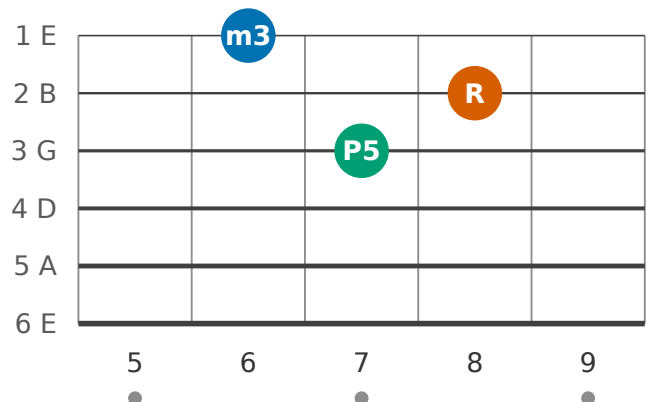
Minor · 1st inversion



Major · 2nd inversion



Minor · 2nd inversion



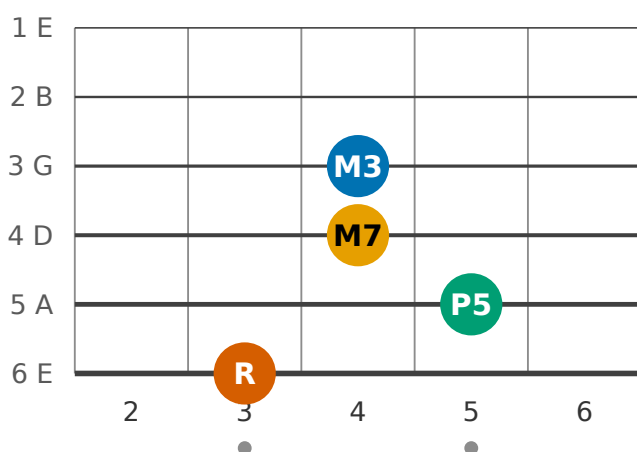
Major 7 • strings 6 5 4 3

Drop 2 voicings, all four inversions.

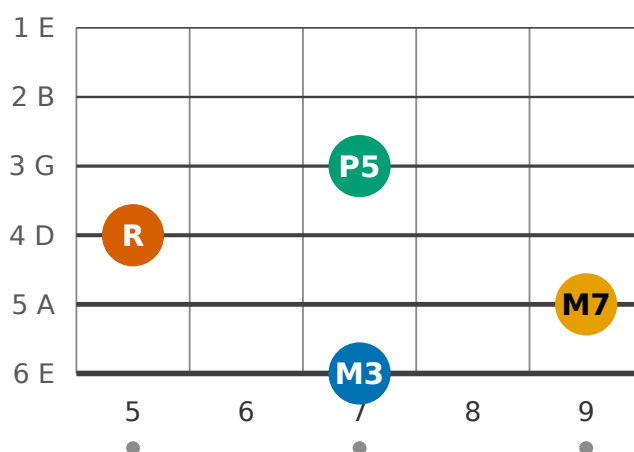
Formula: R M3 P5 M7

Smooth and jazzy. The I chord in a major key.

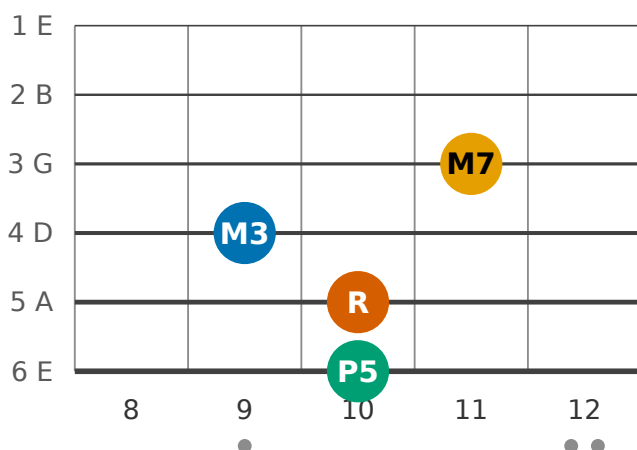
Root position



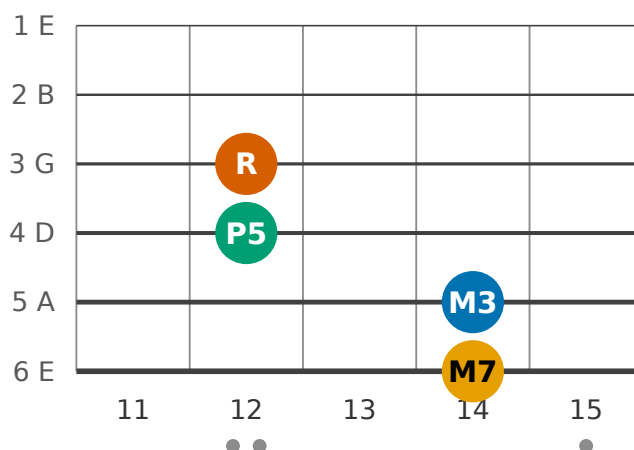
1st inversion



2nd inversion



3rd inversion



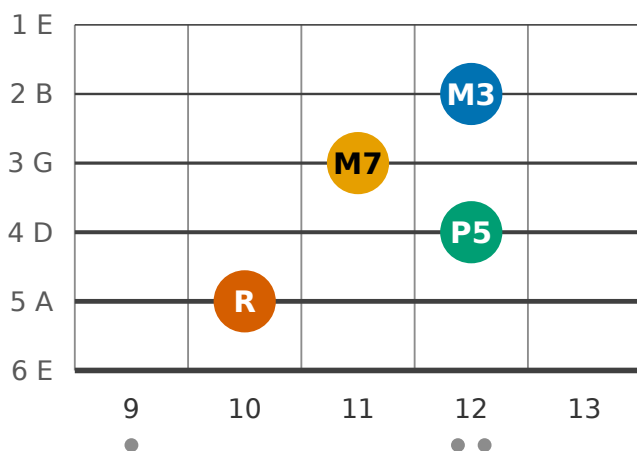
Major 7 • strings 5 4 3 2

Drop 2 voicings, all four inversions.

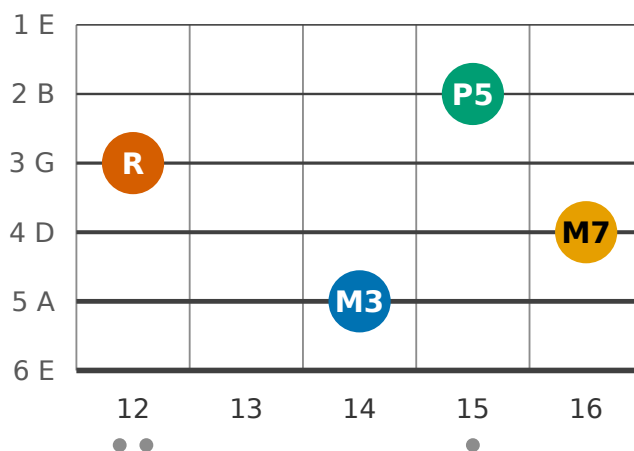
Formula: R M3 P5 M7

Smooth and jazzy. The I chord in a major key.

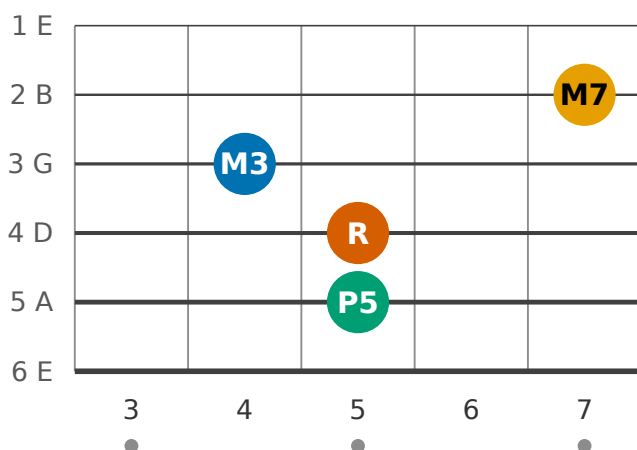
Root position



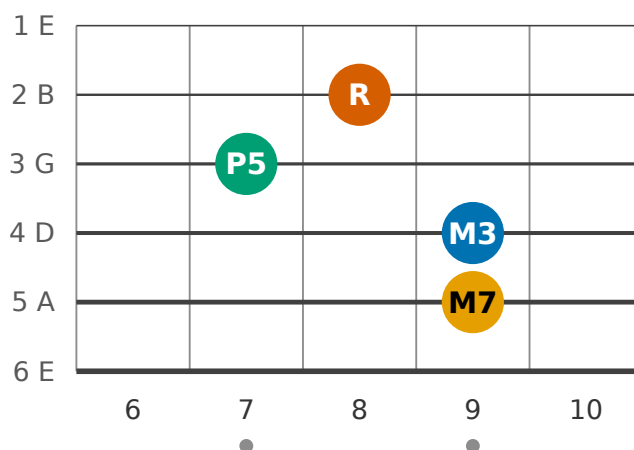
1st inversion



2nd inversion



3rd inversion



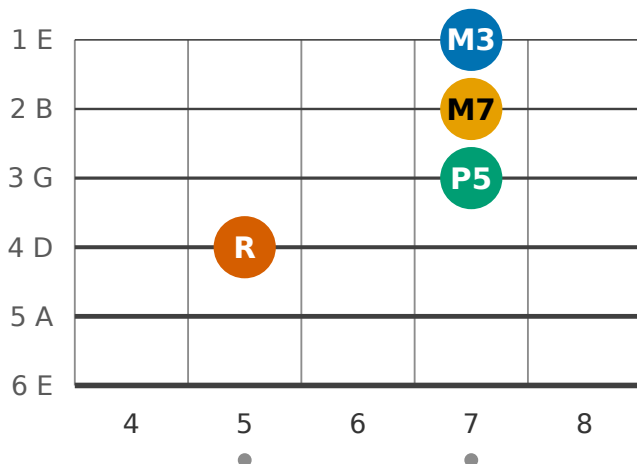
Major 7 • strings 4 3 2 1

Drop 2 voicings, all four inversions.

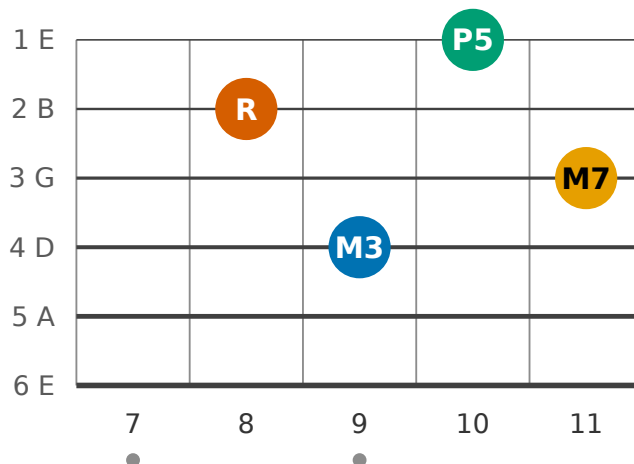
Formula: R M3 P5 M7

Smooth and jazzy. The I chord in a major key.

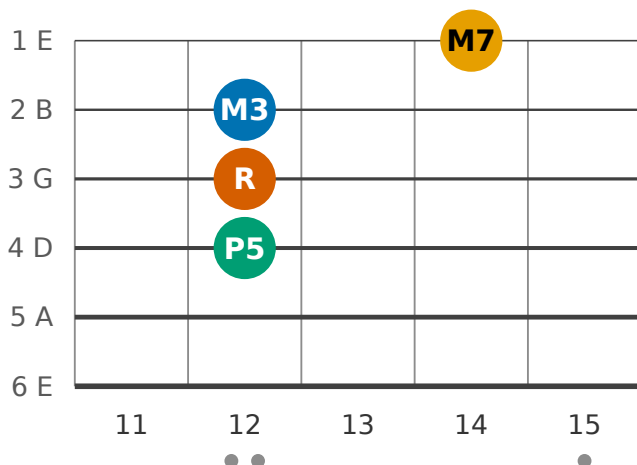
Root position



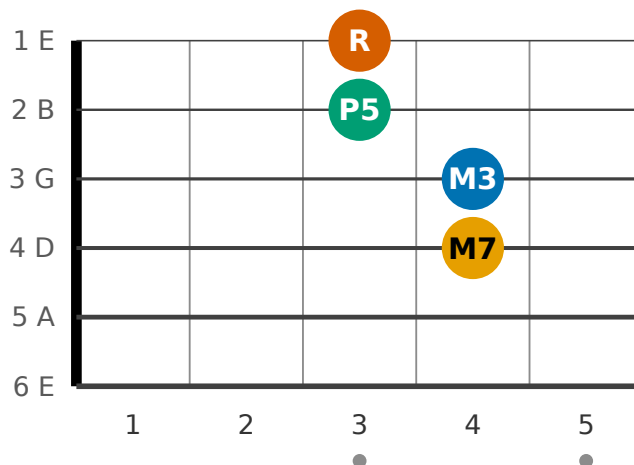
1st inversion



2nd inversion



3rd inversion



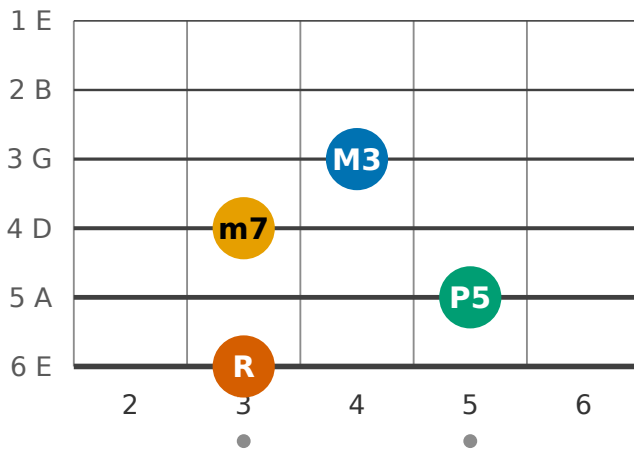
Dominant 7 • strings 6 5 4 3

Drop 2 voicings, all four inversions.

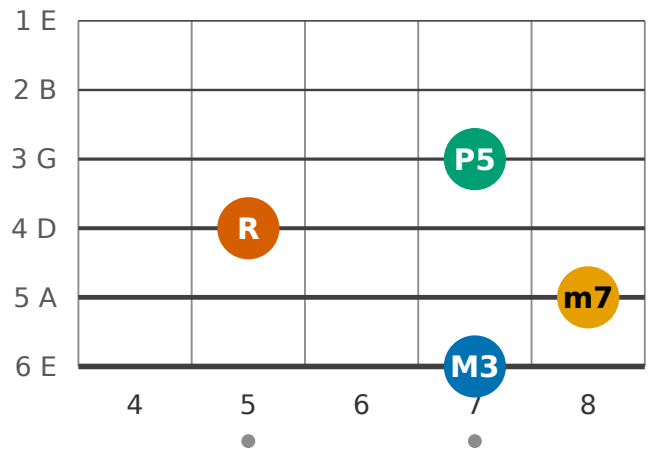
Formula: R M3 P5 m7

Bluesy, wants to resolve. The V chord, and every chord in a blues.

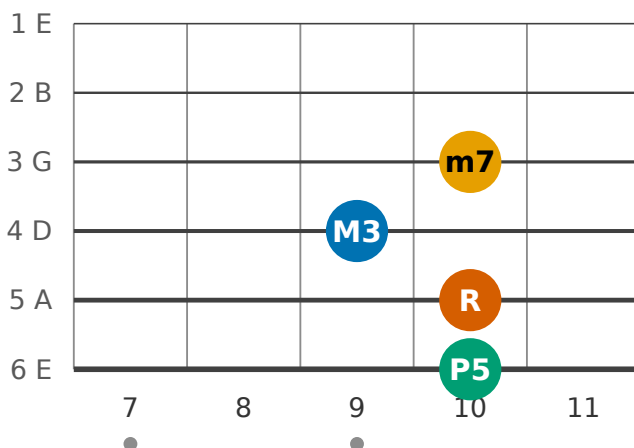
Root position



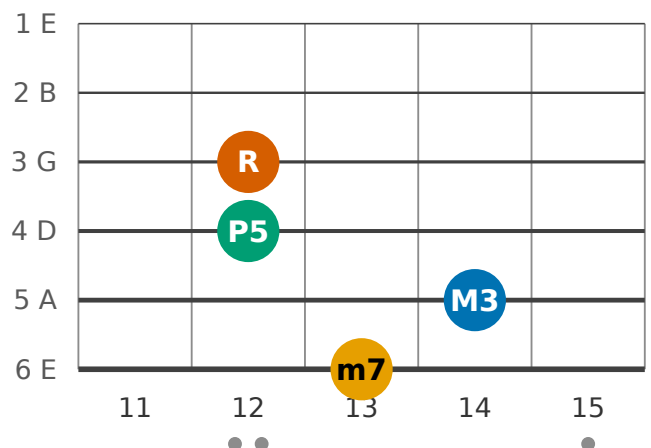
1st inversion



2nd inversion



3rd inversion



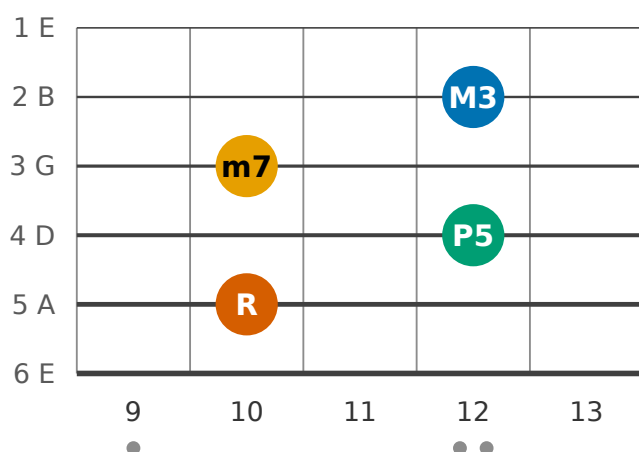
Dominant 7 • strings 5 4 3 2

Drop 2 voicings, all four inversions.

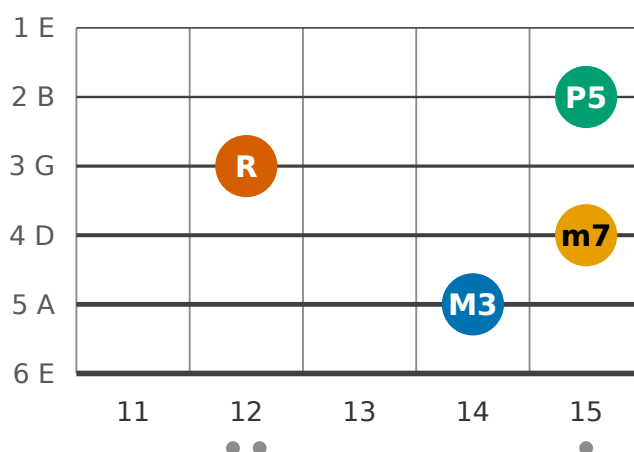
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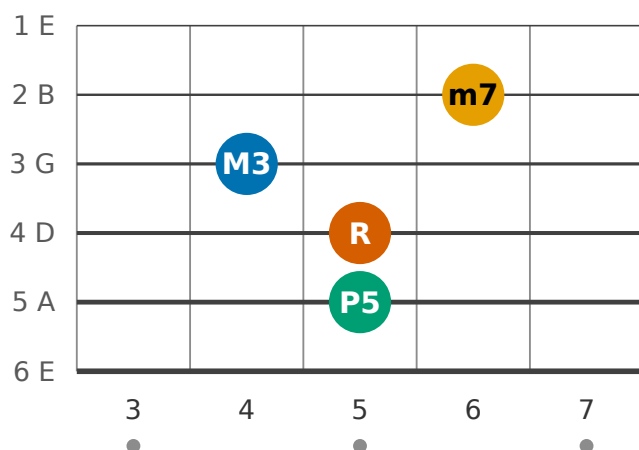
Root position



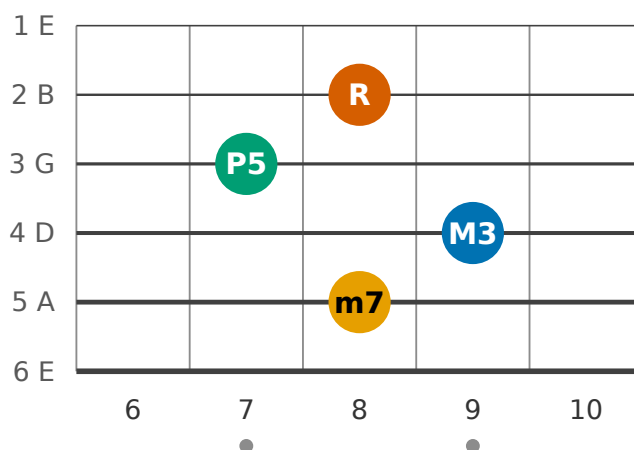
1st inversion



2nd inversion



3rd inversion



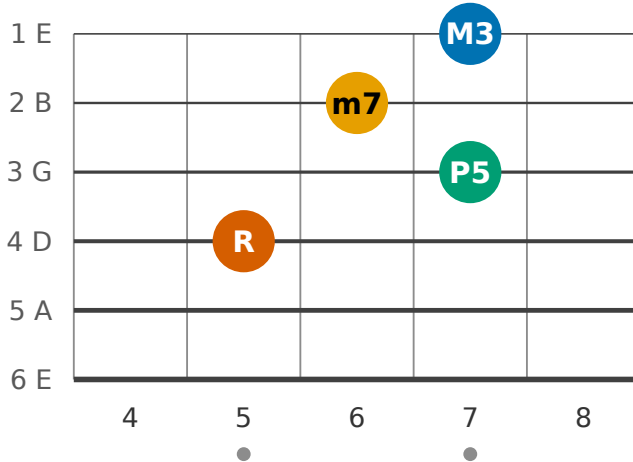
Dominant 7 • strings 4 3 2 1

Drop 2 voicings, all four inversions.

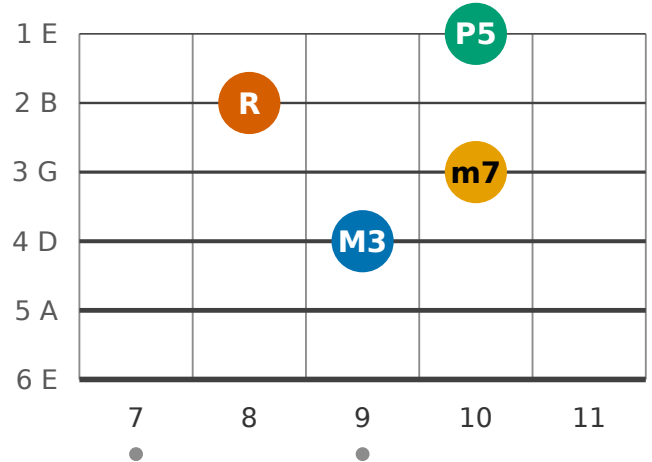
Formula: R M3 P5 m7

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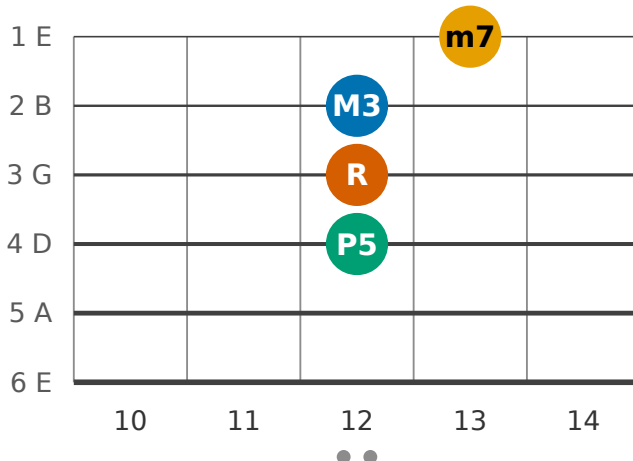
Root position



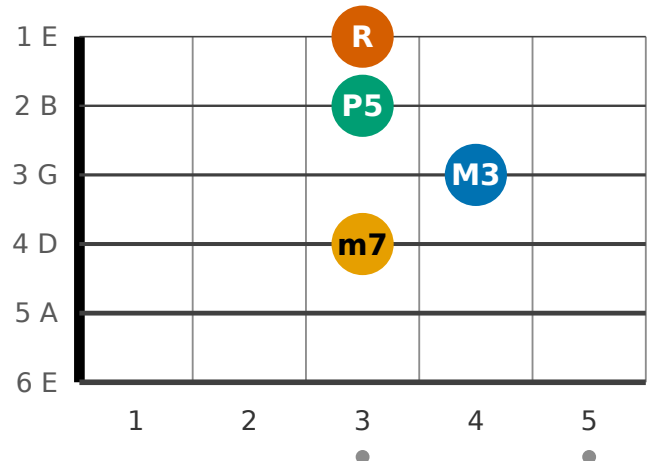
1st inversion



2nd inversion



3rd inversion



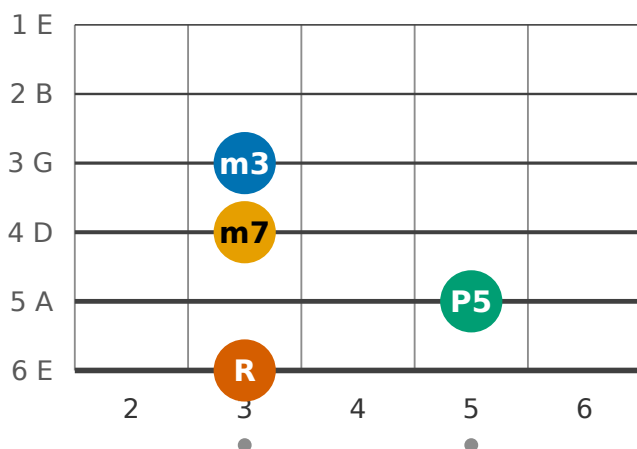
Minor 7 • strings 6 5 4 3

Drop 2 voicings, all four inversions.

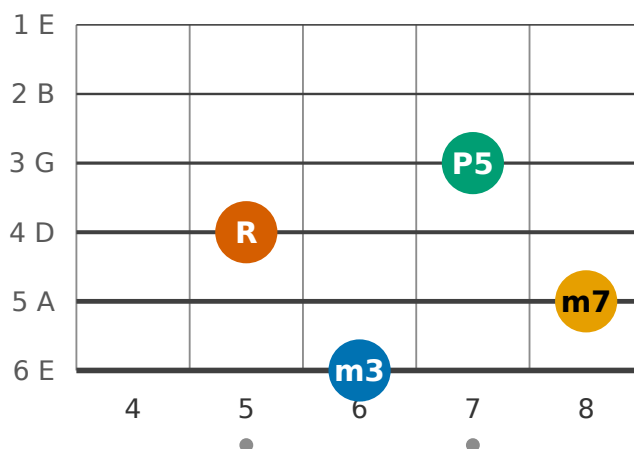
Formula: R m3 P5 m7

Mellow minor. The ii chord in a major key.

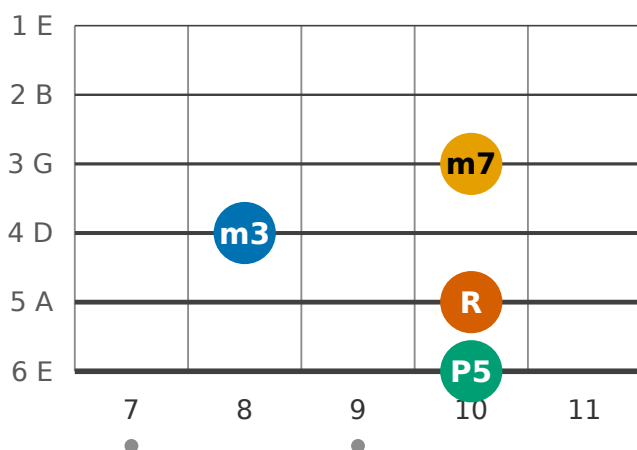
Root position



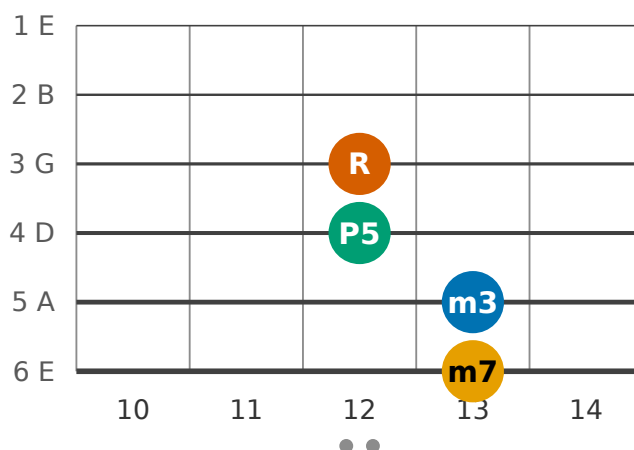
1st inversion



2nd inversion



3rd inversion



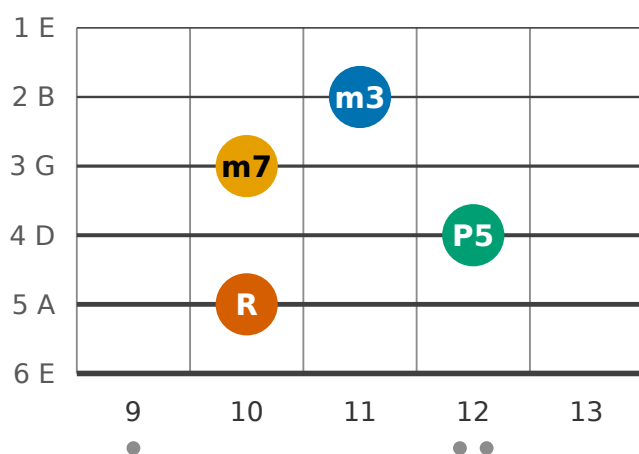
Minor 7 • strings 5 4 3 2

Drop 2 voicings, all four inversions.

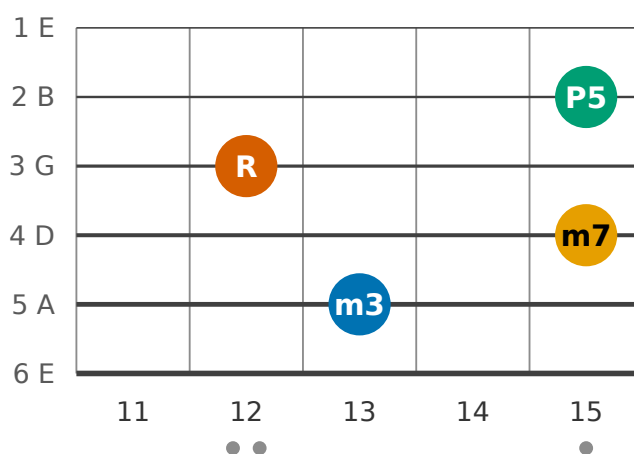
Formula: R m3 P5 m7

Mellow minor. The ii chord in a major key.

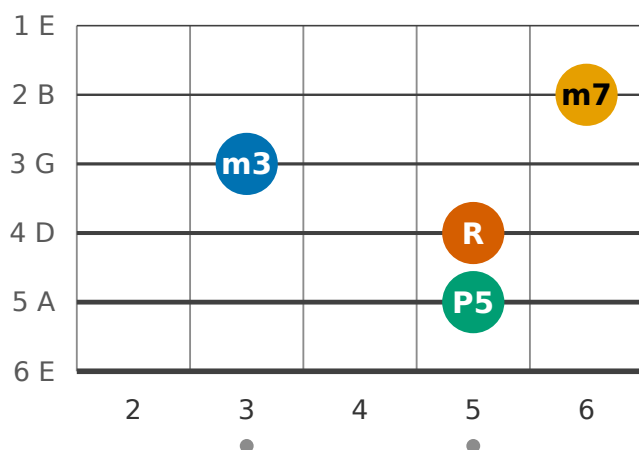
Root position



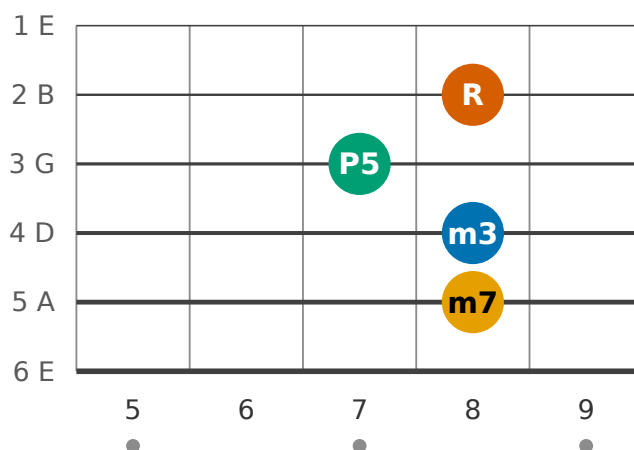
1st inversion



2nd inversion



3rd inversion



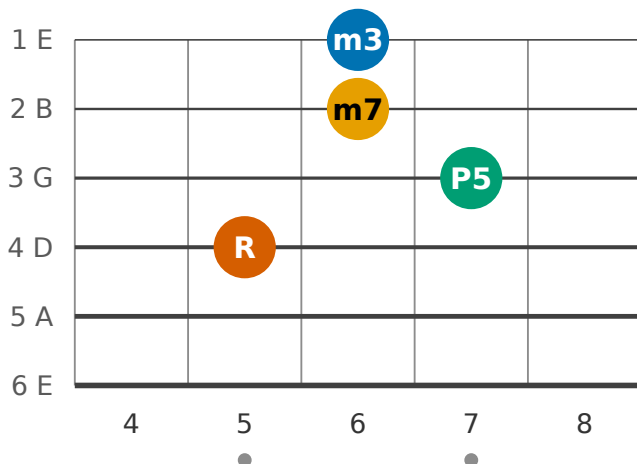
Minor 7 • strings 4 3 2 1

Drop 2 voicings, all four inversions.

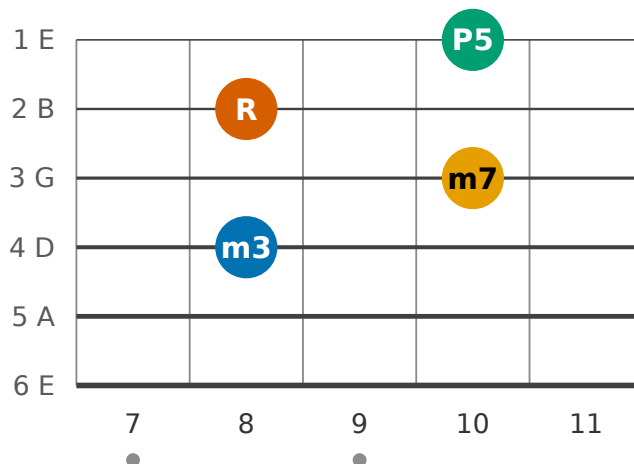
Formula: R m3 P5 m7

Mellow minor. The ii chord in a major key.

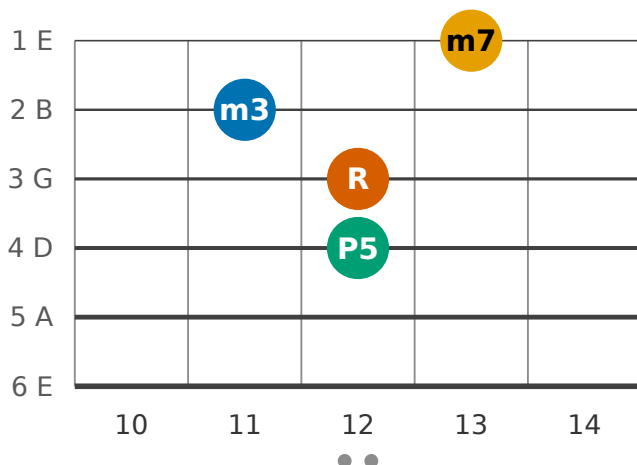
Root position



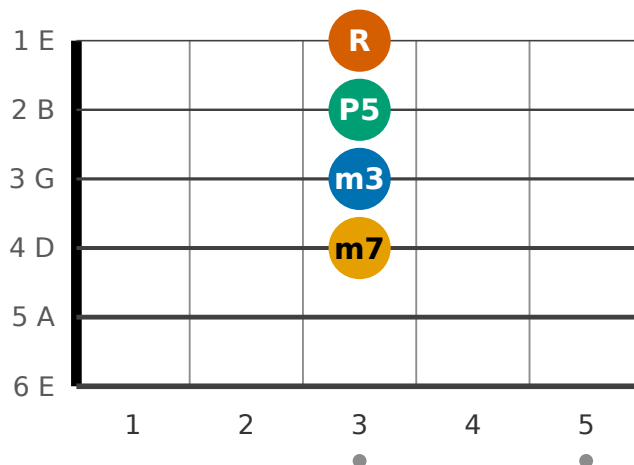
1st inversion



2nd inversion



3rd inversion



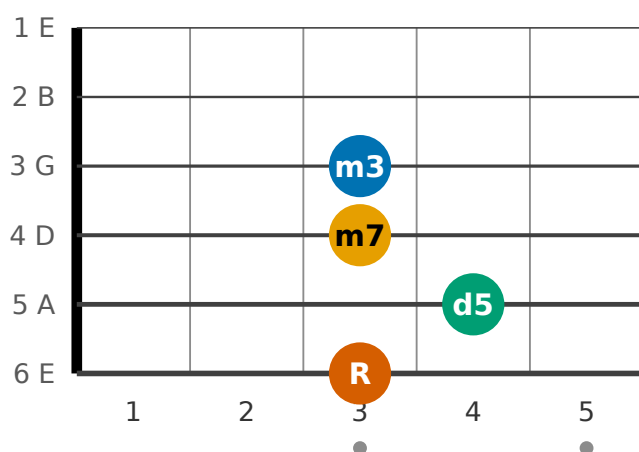
Minor 7^b5 ▪ strings 6 5 4 3

Drop 2 voicings, all four inversions.

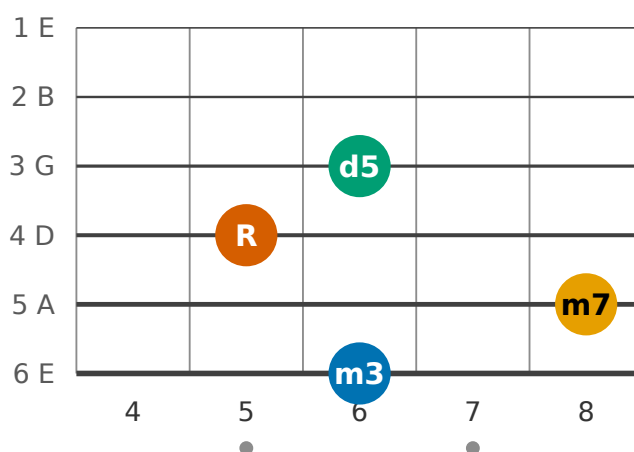
Formula: R m3 d5 m7

Half-diminished. The vii chord in major, the ii chord in minor.

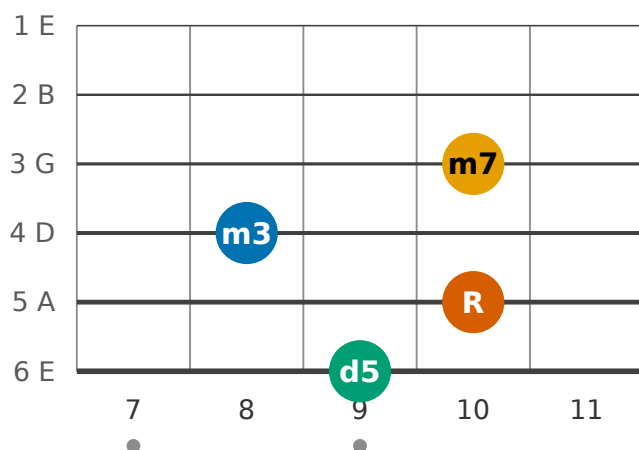
Root position



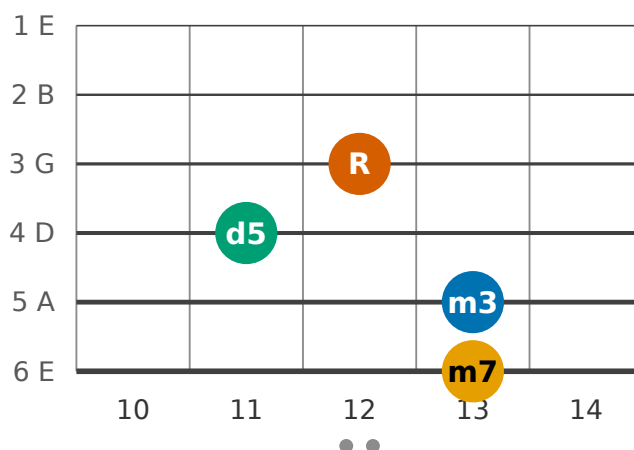
1st inversion



2nd inversion



3rd inversion



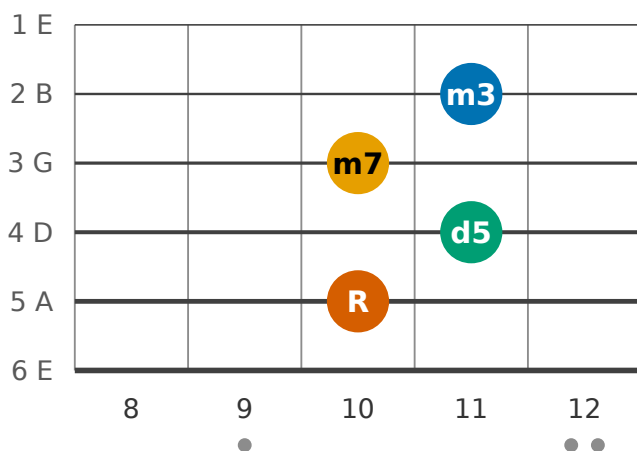
Minor 7^b5 • strings 5 4 3 2

Drop 2 voicings, all four inversions.

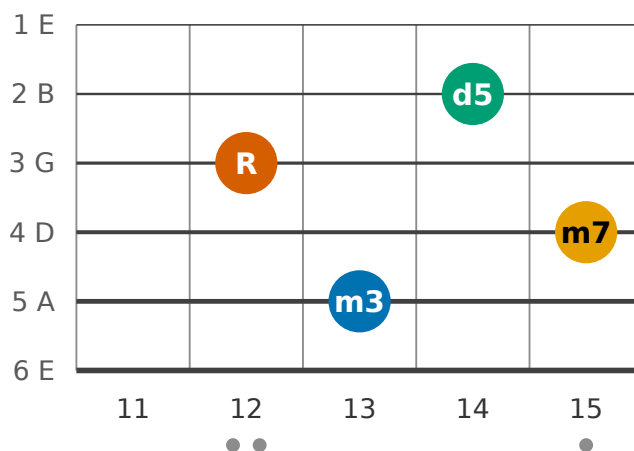
Formula: R m3 d5 m7

Half-diminished. The vii chord in major, the ii chord in minor.

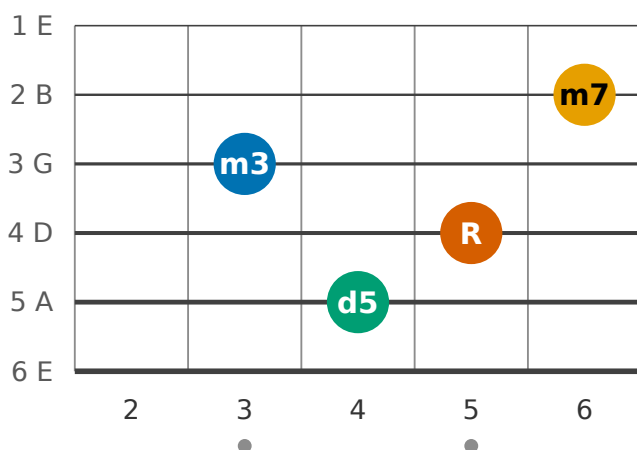
Root position



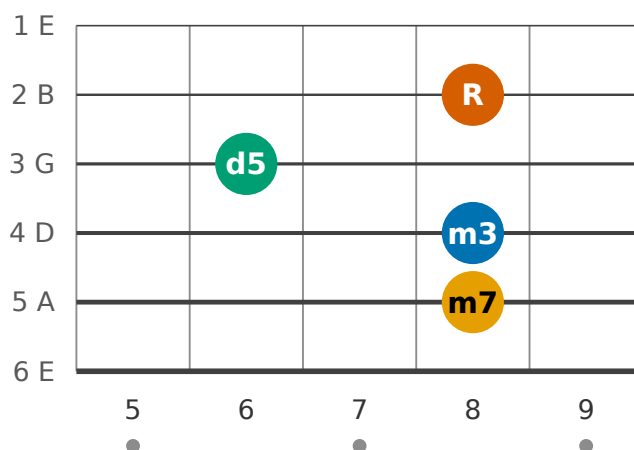
1st inversion



2nd inversion



3rd inversion



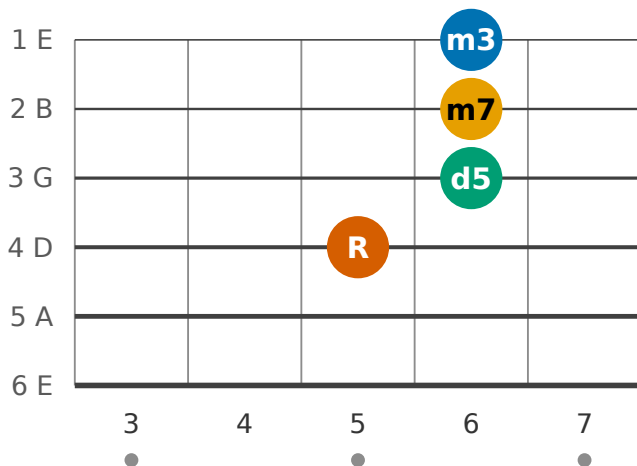
Minor 7^b5 • strings 4 3 2 1

Drop 2 voicings, all four inversions.

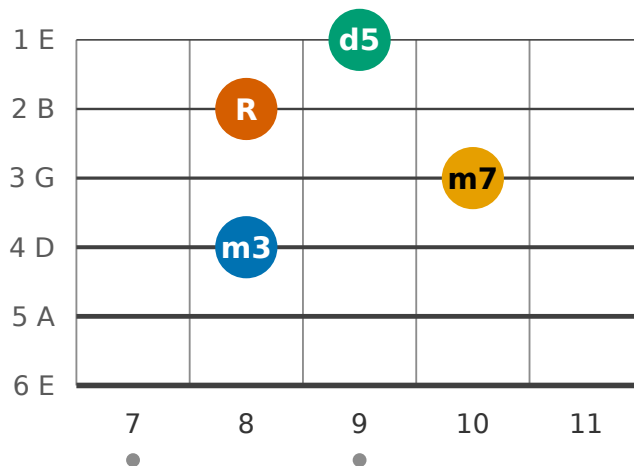
Formula: R m3 d5 m7

Half-diminished. The vii chord in major, the ii chord in minor.

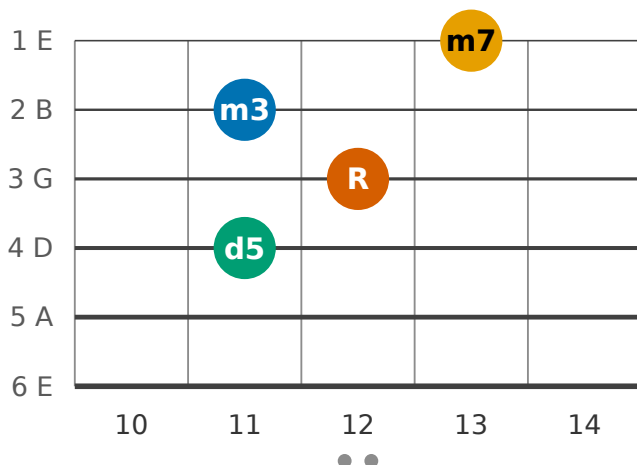
Root position



1st inversion



2nd inversion



3rd inversion

