

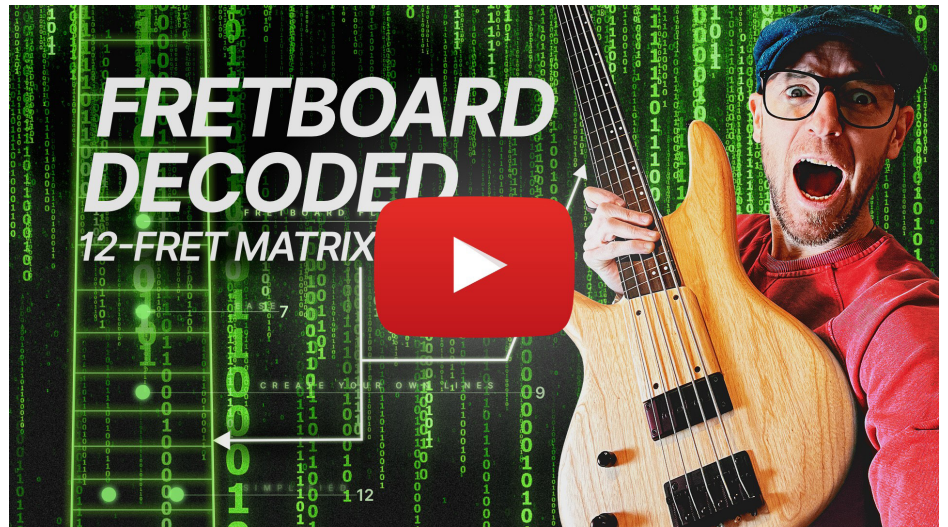


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**Learn The ENTIRE Fretboard FOR
GOOD (12-Fret MATRIX Method)**



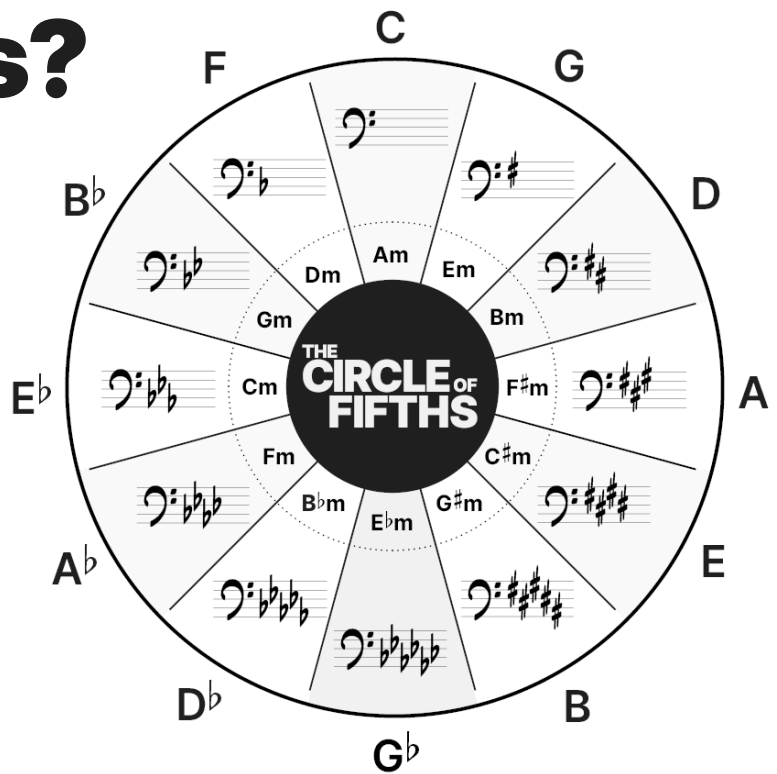
Learn The ENTIRE Fretboard FOR GOOD (12-Fret MATRIX Method)



In today's video, we're going to show you something that often separates GREAT bass players from everybody else. And it's one of the simplest steps you can take to really elevate your bass playing. Not very rock 'n' roll - true, but it's great for re-affirming your grasp of fingerboard geography. Have fun with it! We sure did.

What is the Circle of 5ths?

The circle of fifths is a sequence of notes in which every note is a perfect fifth interval higher than the preceding note. It's usually represented as a circular diagram, as it can start on any of the twelve notes of the chromatic scale and will always return to the starting note. Some people call the counterclockwise direction the circle of 4ths, but it's really the same thing.



12-Fret MATRIX Method

Example 01

YouTube - 06:44

Starting with C, we're going to play an 8th note rhythm through all 12 notes on the fretboard. Below the 12th fret, there are 12 notes in total, which occur once on each string. Remember, learning the fretboard is a continuous process, and you should drill yourself with this sequence until you feel confident in your neck knowledge. This will make you not only a better bassist, but also a better musician.

4/4

8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 | 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 | 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 | 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5

5

1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 | 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 | 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 | 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10

9

6 6 6 6 6 6 6 6 | 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 | 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 | 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

continued →

EXAMPLE 01 (continued)

13

17

21

25

continued →

EXAMPLE 01 (continued)

29

T
A

B 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4

33

T
A

B 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9

37

T
A

B 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2

41

T
A

B 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7

45

T
A

B 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 8

Example 02

YouTube - 10:19

In this next run-through we're going to start changing position a little faster. These exercises are really designed to hone your fingerboard knowledge, but try to take some musical inspiration, too. Don't just play a flat, dead sound made up of dots and lines. Put some life into it and be as creative as you can with the rhythm.

The musical notation for Example 02 is presented in three systems, each with a bass clef staff and a guitar fretboard diagram below it. The diagram shows the top (T) and bottom (B) strings with fret numbers.

System 1: The staff contains four measures of eighth-note patterns. The fretboard diagram shows fret numbers: 8 8 8 8, 3 3 3 3, 10 10 10 10, 5 5 5 5, 1 1 1 1, 8 8 8 8, 3 3 3 3, 10 10 10 10.

System 2: The staff contains four measures of eighth-note patterns, with a flat (b) symbol above the first and last measures. The fretboard diagram shows fret numbers: 6 6 6 6, 1 1 1 1, 8 8 8 8, 3 3 3 3, 11 11 11 11, 6 6 6 6, 1 1 1 1, 8 8 8 8.

System 3: The staff contains four measures of eighth-note patterns, with a flat (b) symbol above the first and last measures. The fretboard diagram shows fret numbers: 4 4 4 4, 11 11 11 11, 6 6 6 6, 1 1 1 1, 9 9 9 9, 4 4 4 4, 11 11 11 11, 6 6 6 6.

continued →

EXAMPLE 02 (continued)

13

T
A
B
 2 2 2 2 9 9 9 9 4 4 4 4 11 11 11 11 7 7 7 7 2 2 2 2 9 9 9 9 4 4 4 4

17

T
A
B
 0 0 0 0 7 7 7 7 2 2 2 2 9 9 9 9 5 5 5 5 0 0 0 0 7 7 7 7 2 2 2 2

21

T
A
B
 10 10 10 10 5 5 5 5 0 0 0 0 7 7 7 7 3 3 3 3 10 10 10 10 5 5 5 5 0 0 0 0 8

Example 03

YouTube - 11:01

Example 03 is even more of a challenge. There will be a little customary hand-stretching, but get this in the pocket and it'll do wonders for your timing and feel. Work hard to master the position shifting, and don't forget to apply these patterns to the musical task in question.

The musical score for Example 03 is presented in three systems, each consisting of a staff of notes and a corresponding fretboard diagram below it. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4.

System 1 (Measures 1-4):

- Staff: Bass clef, 4/4 time. Notes: G2, A2, Bb2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, Bb3, C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, Bb4, C5.
- Fretboard Diagram: Shows fingerings for T and B strings. Measure 1: T (8), B (8). Measure 2: T (3), B (3). Measure 3: T (10), B (10). Measure 4: T (5), B (5).

System 2 (Measures 5-8):

- Staff: Bass clef, 4/4 time. Notes: G3, A3, Bb3, C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, Bb4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, Bb5, C6.
- Fretboard Diagram: Shows fingerings for T and B strings. Measure 5: T (1), B (1). Measure 6: T (8), B (8). Measure 7: T (3), B (3). Measure 8: T (10), B (10).

System 3 (Measures 9-12):

- Staff: Bass clef, 4/4 time. Notes: G4, A4, Bb4, C5, D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, Bb5, C6, D6, E6, F6, G6, A6, Bb6, C7.
- Fretboard Diagram: Shows fingerings for T and B strings. Measure 9: T (6), B (6). Measure 10: T (1), B (1). Measure 11: T (11), B (11). Measure 12: T (3), B (3).

Example 04

YouTube - 12:10

Our final example moves through the sequence in quarter notes. Don't worry about the tempo initially, just get everything up and running. I would only say that you should play in constant time with a metronome. The end goal is to allow you to move freely around the fingerboard without ever feeling boxed in.

The musical notation for Example 04 is presented in three systems, each consisting of a bass clef staff and a fretboard diagram. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. The sequence consists of 12 quarter notes.

System 1: The bass staff shows notes G2, A2, Bb2, C3, D3, E3, F3, G3, A3, Bb3, C4, D4. The fretboard diagram shows fingerings: 8, 3, 10, 5, 1, 8, 3, 10, 6, 1, 8, 3, 11, 6, 1, 8.

System 2: The bass staff shows notes Eb3, F3, G3, Ab3, Bb3, C4, D4, Eb4, F4, G4, Ab4, Bb4. The fretboard diagram shows fingerings: 4, 11, 6, 1, 9, 4, 11, 6, 2, 9, 4, 11, 7, 2, 9, 4.

System 3: The bass staff shows notes C4, D4, Eb4, F4, G4, Ab4, Bb4, C5, D5, Eb5, F5, G5. The fretboard diagram shows fingerings: 0, 7, 2, 9, 5, 0, 7, 2, 10, 5, 0, 7, 3, 10, 5, 0, 8.

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