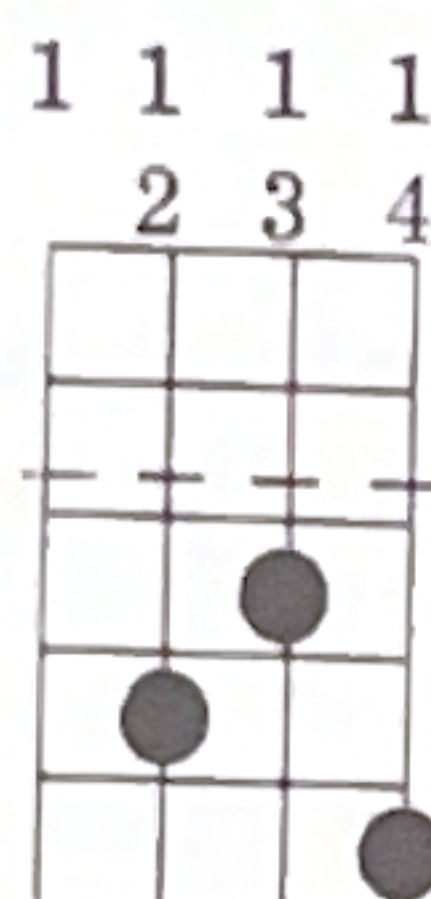


NOTE TO THE CHORD DIAGRAMS: In these diagrams, the majority of the chords are on the lowest four frets, being in their lowest possible form. Often, however, in the playing of a melody or in performing in group ensembles, you may want to use notes or chords higher up on the neck. Such chords can be found easily by merely transferring finger positions found in the diagrams. For instance, in Diagram II find an F chord. Keep your fingers in the F position but slide the whole configuration up two frets. This will give you a G chord just the same as if you had put the capo up two frets and then made your F chord position. In this particular transfer, don't play the 4th string unless you also "move the nut up" two frets by capoing with the index finger either across the entire 2nd fret or only on the 4th string 2nd fret (in which case the fingers must be shifted around as indicated below). Now move that same configuration up another 5 frets, till the index finger is on the 7th fret. This will give you a C chord. As every fret moves you a half-step higher, if you kept moving up in this manner you would soon have an F chord again.

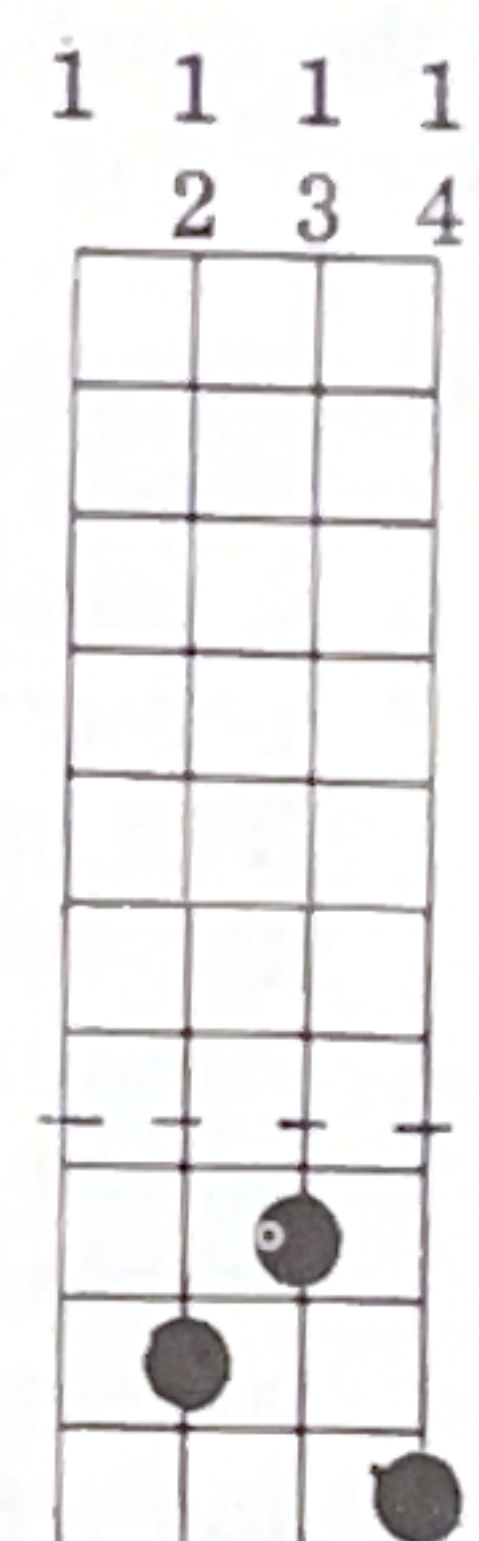
F chord
F position



G chord
F position



C chord
F position



This can be done with any of the lower chord positions and it opens up a whole new world to you. Make diagrams showing what each chord configuration would be on the upper frets and use these newly placed relationships in your playing.

VI. FURTHER TECHNIQUES

- A. The basic stroke (continued). As previously mentioned, the basic stroke provides the rhythm and right-hand techniques which are the foundation of traditional banjo-picking, a foundation upon which numerous variations may be laid. The actual stroke itself may be made slightly fuller in sound by using two fingers on the first beat instead of the index finger alone. The stroke would then go like this:

- (1.)
 1. Index and 2nd fingers pluck up simultaneously on (respectively) the 2nd and 1st strings (or on the 3rd and 1st, etc.).
 2. Nothing happens.
 3. The fingers brush down over all the strings.
 4. The thumb plucks the 5th string.