

# LESSON PLAN

## Pivot Fingers

### Objective

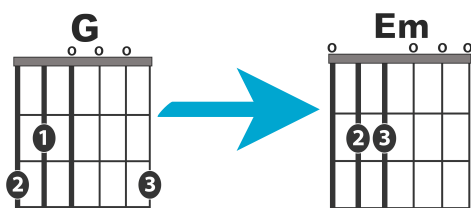
Students will learn how common fingers can facilitate switching between chords.

### Procedures

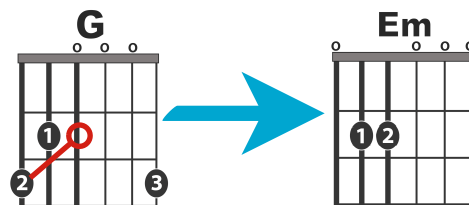
When switching between chords, often a finger can stay on the same string and fret. In those cases, it's not necessary to pick the common finger up and replace it, in fact, it's inefficient. Don't be afraid to change chord fingerings to facilitate switches. Many times there's more than one way to finger almost every chord.

#### Look for Common Frets

Consider the switch between the G and Em chords - very common in the key of G. The fingering for G is a common one, so is the Em, but look at what they have in common, the second fret on the fifth string. Using the first set of chords, you'd have to move every finger when switching.



Instead of this...



Use this.

In the second example, the 2nd finger pivots around the 1st finger into position, and the third finger simply comes up. Now the Em fingering might not be the best one depending on what's coming next, but the concept should give you something to think about. Think about positions that chords have in common, the less your fingers have to move, the more efficient you can be with your playing.

Sometimes we think of the first way we learned a chord as the "right" way. There's nothing wrong with using a different fingering if it makes something easier to play.