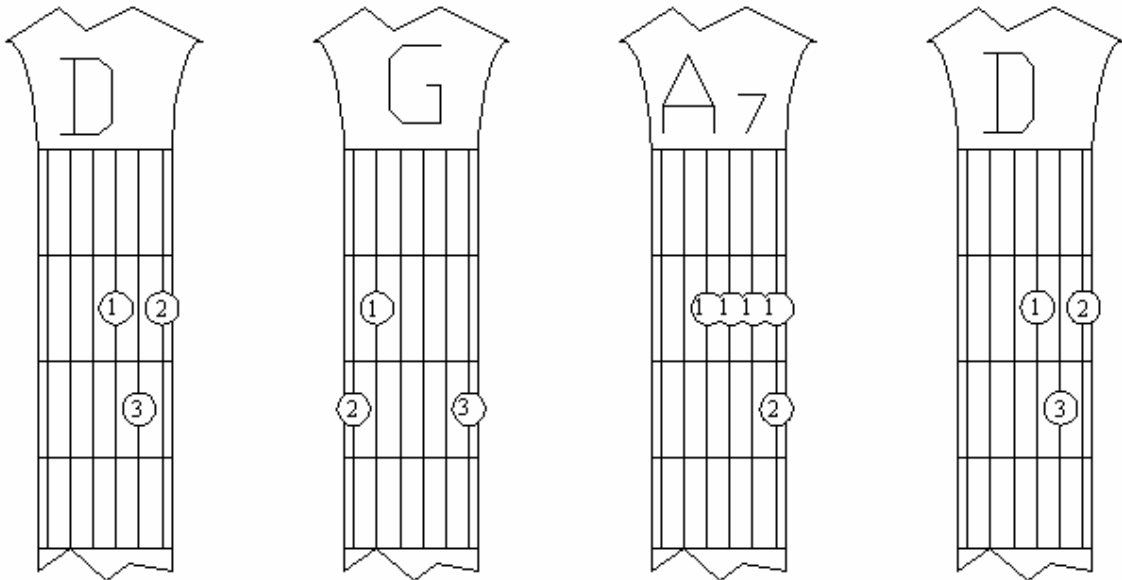


Figure 5

**Key of “D”:**

The author’s goal is to get the student playing a song as fast as possible. We will give the hopeful musician the boring stuff later squeezed in between the fun stuff. There are three fundamental chords in each major key. A chord is a number of notes played together that sound good. Learning three chords in a key allows the student to play hundreds of songs. **The first lesson is to memorize three chords in the key of “D”.** Strum the chords D, G, A7 and back to D. Do this repeatedly until the fingers and the brain work together. Most beginners cannot make the notes sound right at first. The goal is to know where the fingers should be placed for a certain chord. This is the first assignment. The second assignment is putting the fingers on the numbered dots in Figure 6 and strumming.

This exercise is better accomplished away from music critics. Here are the chords:



## Figure 6

Shown in the next series of photographs are instructions on where and how to place fingers for the key of “D”. The chord will sound better by placing the fingers near the frets. The thumb is supposed to be placed under the neck, which is the traditional position. For some people, it is easier to chord a guitar with the thumb sticking up in the air. Place the thumb where it feels natural rather than trying to follow a tradition.

The fingers are numbered as shown in Figure 7. This may help the student in locating the chords in Figure 6.



**Figure 7. Numbering of the fingers**



**Figure 8. “D” Chord**

Shown in Figure 8, Figure 9, and Figure 10 are the three chords to practice over and over until the procedure becomes automatic. It may be helpful to note that the fingers are placed above the second and third frets for all three chords.