Guitar Capo

Cheat Sheet

The Guitar Capo Chart

You Play	Capo Position							
	No Capo	1st Fret	2nd Fret	3rd Fret	4th Fret	5th Fret	6th Fret	7th Fret
A	A	Bb	B	C	C#	D	Eb	E
B	B	C	C#	D	Eb	E	F	F#
C	C	C#	D	Eb	E	F	F#	G
D	D	Eb	E	F	F#	G	G#	A
E	E	F	F#	G	G#	A	Bb	B
F	F	F#	G	G#	A	Bb	B	C
G	G	G#	A	Bb	B	C	C#	D

Capo chart courtesy of theguitarcapo.com

www.theguitarcapo.com

Tips For Using A Guitar Capo

The Guitar Capo changes the pitch of the guitar. For each fret it changes the pitch by ½ step (same as 1 semitone). Go up one fret and the pitch goes up a half a step. For example, the E fingering becomes F, G# to A, D to D#, etc.

Changing keys for the vocalist. It's common to use a capo to change the key of the song to make it easier for the vocals without having to change the chord fingering.
The timbre (sound) of your guitar changes slightly also as you go higher.

Place the capo as close to the fret as possible. This will minimize buzzing strings and muted notes.

Tune your guitar before putting the guitar capo on the guitar's neck. On some guitars the intonation is not perfect at every fret. Also some capos will exert excess pressure on the strings and cause them to go slightly sharp. Starting with a perfectly tuned guitar will minimize this.

Never leave the capo clamped onto the guitar's neck when you are not playing.

Use a capo to make the key "guitar friendly". When playing with others you can use a guitar capo to make some key signatures easier to play on the guitar. For example, B-flat major is a popular key for wind players, but includes very few open-position chords for the guitar. Remedy this problem by placing a capo on the first fret.

Sometimes a capo causes the strings to go out of tune, especially when putting it on and taking it off. Check your tuning and make adjustments whenever you attach or remove the capo.
One unique use for a guitar capo has nothing to do with vocal ranges. If you place a capo on the neck (especially high on the neck), the guitar has a brighter sound. It can even sound more like a mandolin.

Another use for a capo is to create the "fat chord" effect when you have two guitarists playing a song together. One can play the chords without a capo. The second guitarist would then play the chords in a different position with a capo. The difference in *timbre between the two instruments creates the "fat chord" effect. Check out this YouTube video to see this in action: Capo Secrets With Two Guitars*

One additional small advantage of using a capo on guitar is that the frets get closer together as you go up the neck. This means it requires less stretching in the left hand and can make some songs a little easier to play.

Experiment and have fun :)