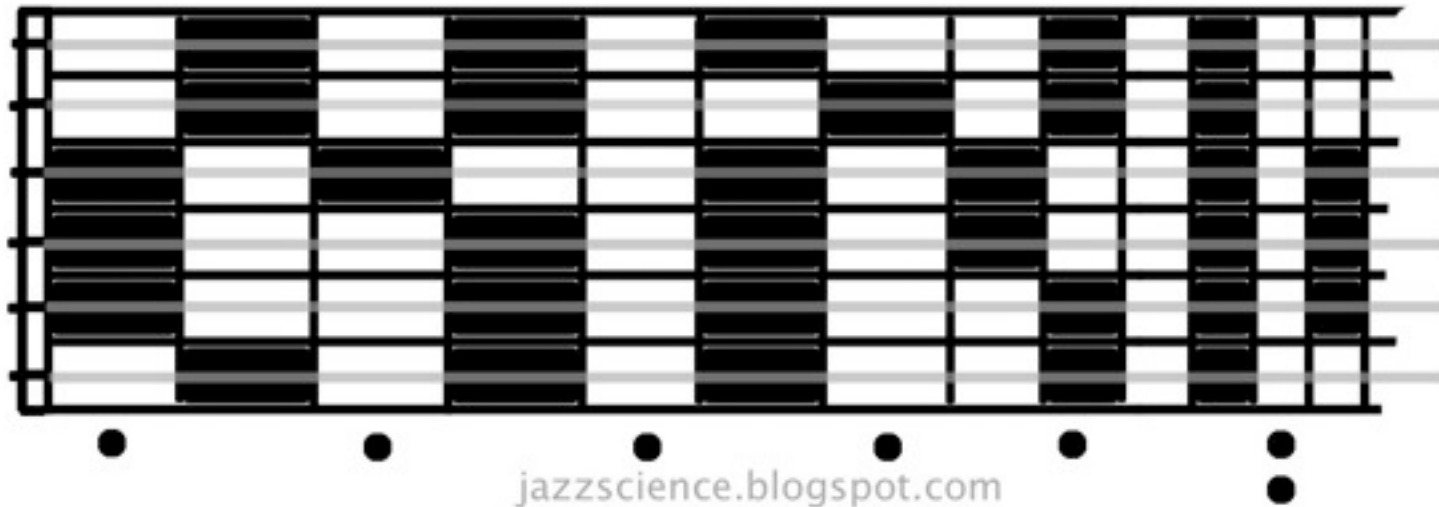


# Learning the Notes on the Guitar Fretboard



By Brian Prunka from <http://jazzscience.blogspot.com/2010/02/guitar-players-only-learn-all-notes-on.html>

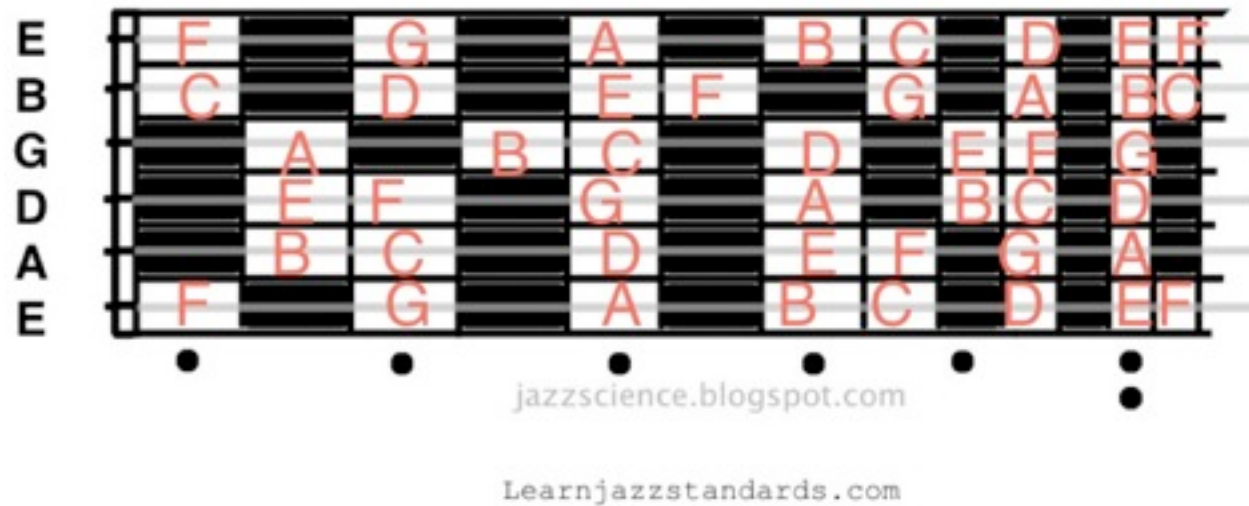
Learning the neck of the guitar is very important. It is limiting to play the guitar without knowing what notes you are playing. Most other instrumentalists ALWAYS know what note they are playing. However, many guitarists, even some experienced ones, avoid learning the notes on the fretboard, maybe because it is difficult to visualize the notes. This limits their musicianship. There is a difference between someone who is good at guitar gymnastics/pyrotechnics and a musician who happens to play the guitar. It's much better to be a musician.

The above diagram from jazzscience.blogspot.com helps you visualize the neck of the guitar as if it were a piano, in terms of white (natural) versus black notes (flats and sharps). Learn to visualize the white notes and the fretboard and the black notes will take care of themselves. In the above article (an excellent read, by the way) from Brian's website, we learn that you can tackle the fretboard by

taking 5 minutes a day for 5 weeks to learn the notes on 5 strings (one string per week.) Once you learn an E string, you have taken care of two strings. That's why you only need to concentrate on 5 of the 6 strings.

I have expanded Brian's diagram to include the names of the white notes:

### So You Want to Learn the Neck of the Guitar?



Spend a few minutes a day studying these diagrams, learning to visualize the notes. This will be an immense help to you as a guitarist.