GENERAL

5 string bass notes chart

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Mastering the 5 String Bass: Your Ultimate Notes Chart Guide

Whether you're a seasoned bassist looking to sharpen your technique or a beginner trying to make sense of the fretboard, a clear, comprehensive **5 string bass notes chart** is an essential tool. It bridges the gap between theory and practice, helping you navigate the instrument with confidence and precision. In this guide, we'll explore the fundamentals of 5 string bass tuning, break down every note on the fretboard, and give you practical tips on how to use the chart for practice, improvisation, and performance.

Why a 5 String Bass Notes Chart Is a Must Have

Unlike the traditional 4 string bass, a 5 string version adds an extra low B string, expanding your range by an octave. This additional string opens up new musical possibilities, from deep groove foundations in funk and hip hop to soaring melodic lines in progressive rock and metal. However, the extra string also introduces complexity: more frets to remember, new positions, and an altered string arrangement.

A **5 string bass notes chart** simplifies this complexity by presenting every note in a single, easy to read format. It allows you to:

- Identify the location of any note instantly.
- Plan scales, arpeggios, and chord shapes across the entire fretboard.
- Spot patterns that can be translated into riffs or solos.
- Improve muscle memory and speed.
- Facilitate communication with other musicians who may not be familiar with your specific tuning.

Understanding 5 String Bass Tuning

The most common 5 string bass tuning is **B E A D G**. Starting from the lowest string (the one with the thickest gauge) and moving toward the highest, the strings are tuned to:

1. Low B (B0)
2. Low E (E1)
3. A (A1)
4. D (D2)
5. High G (G2)

Some players may opt for alternative tunings like **B E A D G** or **B E A D G**, for specific tonal colors or to accommodate different music genres. For the purpose of this article, we'll focus on the standard B E A D G tuning, but the chart can be adapted easily to any other tuning by adjusting the open string notes accordingly.

How to Read the 5 String Bass Notes Chart

Every fret on a bass guitar corresponds to a half step increase in pitch. A **5 string bass notes chart** typically lists each string from low to high, then enumerates the notes from the open string up to the 24th fret (the most common maximum on modern basses). Here's a quick guide on how to interpret the chart:

1. Open String – The note you hear when you play the string without pressing any fret.
2. Fret Number – The position on the neck where you press the string to raise its pitch.
3. Note Name – The musical note produced at that fret. Chromatic notes are written as natural (C, D, E), sharp (#), or flat (b).
4. Octave Number – Indicates the pitch level (e.g., B0, E1). This helps you understand the relative position of notes on the fretboard.

By memorizing the pattern of notes on each string, you'll be able to locate any pitch on the fretboard in seconds.

The Complete 5 String Bass Notes Chart

Below is a detailed, printable **5 string bass notes chart**for the standard B E A D G tuning, covering frets 0 through 24. Each string is listed from low to high, and the notes are shown in ascending order. The chart is broken into three sections to keep it readable: the low B, low E, and the higher strings A, D, and G.

Low B String (B0)

- Open: B0
- 1: B&o0 / C1
- 2: C&o1
- 3: D1
- 4: D&o1 / E1
- 5: E&o1 / F1
- 6: F&o1 / G&m1
- 7: G1
- 8: G&o1 / A&m1
- 9: A1
- 10: A&o1 / B&m1
- 11: B1
- 12: C2
- 13: C&o2
- 14: D2
- 15: D&o2 / E2
- 16: E&o2 / F2
- 17: F&o2 / G&m2
- 18: G2
- 19: G&o2 / A&m2
- 20: A2
- 21: A&o2 / B&m2
- 22: B2
- 23: C3
- 24: C&o3

Low E String (E1)

- Open: E1
- 1: F1
- 2: F&o1 / G&m1
- 3: G1
- 4: G&o1 / A&m1
- 5: A1

- 6: A&o1 / B&m1
- 7: B1
- 8: C2
- 9: C&o2
- 10: D2
- 11: D&o2 / E2
- 12: E2
- 13: F2
- 14: F&o2 / G&m2
- 15: G2
- 16: G&o2 / A&m2
- 17: A2
- 18: A&o2 / B&m2
- 19: B2
- 20: C3
- 21: C&o3
- 22: D3
- 23: D&o3 / E3
- 24: E3

A String (A1)

- Open: A1
- 1: A&o1 / B&m1
- 2: B1
- 3: C2
- 4: C&o2
- 5: D2
- 6: D&o2 / E2
- 7: E2
- 8: F2
- 9: F&o2 / G&m2
- 10: G2
- 11: G&o2 / A&m2
- 12: A2
- 13: A&o2 / B&m2
- 14: B2
- 15: C3
- 16: C&o3
- 17: D3
- 18: D&o3 / E3
- 19: E3
- 20: F3
- 21: F&o3 / G&m3
- 22: G3
- 23: G&o3 / A&m3
- 24: A3

D String (D2)

- Open: D2
- 1: D&o2 / E2
- 2: E2
- 3: F2
- 4: F&o2 / G&m2
- 5: G2
- 6: G&o2 / A&m2
- 7: A2
- 8: A&o2 / B&m2
- 9: B2
- 10: C3
- 11: C&o3
- 12: D3
- 13: D&o3 / E3
- 14: E3
- 15: F3
- 16: F&o3 / G&m3
- 17: G3
- 18: G&o3 / A&m3
- 19: A3
- 20: A&o3 / B&m3
- 21: B3
- 22: C4
- 23: C&o4
- 24: D4

High G String (G2)

- Open: G2
- 1: G&o2 / A&m2
- 2: A2
- 3: A&o2 / B&m2
- 4: B2
- 5: C3
- 6: C&o3
- 7: D3

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