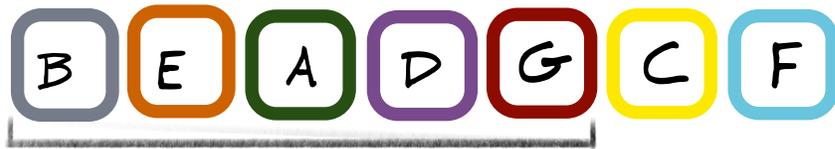


BEAD Guides Chord Flow

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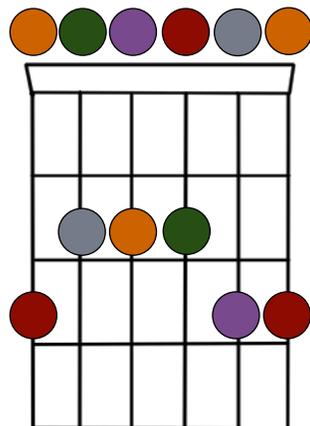
There's a lot of pieces that go into creating the atmosphere of "How Soon Is Now" by The Smiths. The first thing you'll likely notice is the tremolo effect on the guitar. There's a lot of it. There's a bunch of guitar tracks layered together as well. The rhythm of the guitar strumming is a "Bo Diddley Beat," that's synced up with the tremolo effect. After that slap a capo on fret 2 and play an E chord (occasionally hammering off and on E7). That's most of the song.

The rest of the chords can be found in BEAD Guides Chord Flow like this:

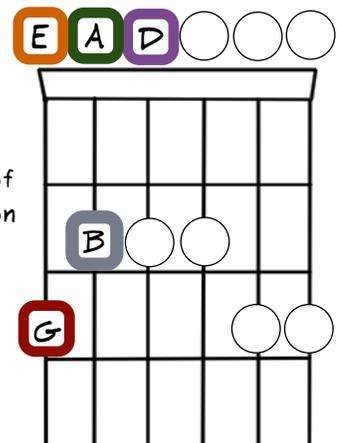


Another way of understanding the chords in this song, is that each chord is named after a note in either the G major or E minor pentatonic scale, (they share the same notes). The chords themselves remain major throughout the song, which is kind of a bluesy/rock 'n roll thing to do.

Here's the E minor or G major pentatonic scale:



Here are the roots of the chords in How Soon Is Now:



While the chords of the song never change tonality from major to minor, the verse has a distinct minor feel, with the E note as the root of the scale. When the chorus comes around and the G chord is introduced there's a bit of a lift that feels more major. Another song that plays with the same pattern of chords (five major chords in a row taken from BEAD Guides Chord Flow) is "Hey Joe" by Jimi Hendrix. If "How Soon Is Now," isn't actually a blues, it's about as close as you can get without being one.