Common guitar chord voicings for keyboard.

The first step in creating convincing acoustic guitar parts with sampled guitars is using realistic chord voicings. Below, and on the following pages are the keyboard equivalents for many common guitar chords. Flat and sharp chords are not shown, so just find a chord that's close and move it up or down a semitone (for Eb maj, use the D maj example up one half step). Keep in mind that these examples are just a starting point, and many other choices can sound great, so experiment to find what works for you. What sounds good on a guitar sometimes sounds muddy when played on a keyboard. Here's my rule of thumb; a sampled guitar part doesn't have to be something that a guitar player could actually play- it just has to *sound* like a guitar player could play it!

Simple arpeggios are very effective, and are easy to play. Starting at the lowest note, just play one note of the chord at a time while holding the sustain pedal. When finger-picking, guitarists will usually play the lowest note with their thumb, and play the remaining strings with their fingers. I find it useful to let my left hand play the lowest note (like the guitarist's thumb) and let my right hand play the remaining notes.















