Example 1-1 shows how to derive a C^7 shell voicing with the root on the 5th string from the first seven notes of a C major scale. Knowing where the root, 3rd and 7th are located on the fingerboard makes conversion into the other common chord types easy.

Ex.1-1

Ex. 1-2 shows the chord diagrams for the shell voicings with the roots on the 5th string for C^7, C7, C-7 (also used for C^07 since there is no 5th), C6 and C-6 (also used for C^07 since there is no 5th). Fingerings and optional fingerings are shown by the numbers under each diagram. Having optional fingerings available is important since different contexts make some variations more efficient, and later note additions on higher strings may require a change in how the basic shape is fingered.

Ex.1-2

Ex. 1-3 (on the following page) shows how to derive a G^7 shell voicing with the root on the 6th string from the first ten notes of a G major scale. Since the 8th step is the octave it is the same note (G) as the root, so we can count eight, nine, and ten as one, two, and three to find the octave higher version of the 3rd. This places the 7th and 3rd on the middle two strings. Again, knowing the locations for root, 3rd and 7th makes conversion easy.