

Spanning the Neck

Besides combining the boxes (which gives you a good length of the fingerboard to work with), there is a way of making even the extreme high and low areas of the fingerboard accessible to you.

A box can be moved up (or down) the board twelve full frets and, if thus moved, will produce the same notes one octave higher (or lower) in sound.

This is possible because, as you probably know, the guitar starts duplicating itself at the twelfth fret; e.g., the notes at the twelfth fret are exactly one octave higher than those played on the open strings; those played at the thirteenth fret are an octave above those at the first fret, and so on.

Here is how you can use this simple fact to cover practically the entire fingerboard in any given key. In the diagram to the left, the key of F is shown:

