Power Chord Chart

This is the base Standard tuning chart for each string:

Next, we'll walk through the neck positions for the power chords you'll find in your rock songs.

This is by no means an exhaustive power chord chart. These are just the most common and easiest power chords you'll find.

Some Background

In case you're new to power chords, in many forms of rock music the rhythm is heavy and driving, with a very saturated tone (distortion). When your tone is so distorted, it’s not as important to play all the notes in a chord structure, as you’re laying down a base for the rest of the song and capitalizing on the low end frequencies (bass) to create a heavy tone.

The main purpose of the power chord is to create that heavy rhythm part of a song. To create the power chord form, you are merely including the first and fifth notes of the major chord. That’s not to say you necessarily have to omit any other notes in the chord, but when you’re playing a fast tune with a lot of chord changes, power chords become a life saver!

Once you have the chord fingered, you only need to play those strings. Whether the song calls for ringing chords (hit the chord and let it ring) or you’re palm muting the strings for some chinking, power chords will work well.

Crank up the distortion and hit the chord – feel the rumble!
The A Major shows the first power chord form. This can be repeated with all the major chords up the guitar neck.

Start at the fifth fret of the sixth string (E) with your first finger to get the A Major note. Add the fifth note on the fifth string (A) with your ring finger to get your E note and fill out the power chord.

This is arguably a second power chord form. While it incorporates a full barre chord base, the main focus is on the fourth, third and second stings, so as long as you strum these, you’re golden.

Again, these notes are the first (D string, A note) and fifth (G string, E note), adding the A Major on the second string (B) to round it out with your pinky finger.

Now move up the neck to the B Major power chord.
You’re starting the B Major power chord on the seventh fret with your index finger on the B note. Add the fifth note F# with your third finger (fifth string, ninth fret).

A repeat of the A Major second form power chord, just up a full step (2 frets) to give you your B Major.

Here’s a third form for power chords. Barre the first four strings (D through e) at the fourth fret, adding a B note on the first string with your pinky finger. Mute the fifth and sixth strings.

Again, I wouldn’t argue about this not being a true power chord, but it will add texture to your songs and playing and give you a bigger arsenal to get the job done.
Start with your index finger and press down on the A string (fifth) at the third fret. Finally, on the D string (fourth), press your ring finger at the fifth fret. That’s the C Major power chord.

Make sure you mute the sixth string (E).

You can also play the C Major power chord at the eighth fret. Index finger on the C Major note at 8 (E string). Ring finger on the fifth string, ninth fret for the E note.

And again, same form as the B Major third power chord form. Just move up one half-step (one fret) to make it happen. Mute the fifth (A) and sixth (E) strings.
**D Major**

The D Major power chord is made up of the D note and the A note as the first and fifth notes of the chord.

Mute the sixth string, adding the index finger on the A string (fifth) at the fifth fret and the ring finger on the seventh fret of the D string (fourth).

Just like the B and C Major third form power chords. Played from the seventh fret, barring first through fourth (e to D) strings again with your index finger and adding the pinky on the first string, tenth fret.
E Major

Open E Major power chord starts with finger positions on the fourth and fifth strings. The low E string (number 6) will be played open. Place your index finger on string number five (A) at the seventh fret. Press string four (D) at the ninth fret with your ring finger.

You can also mix it up and play an E Major barred at the second fret. Bar the first through fifth strings (e through A). Using your ring finger, press the third string (G) at the fourth fret. Press your pinky down on the second string (B) at the fifth fret. Strum all six strings, since the first string is an open E.

Third form power chord E Major is played from the ninth fret, barring first through fourth strings again with your index finger and adding the pinky on the first string, twelfth fret.
F Major power chord starts with your index finger on the sixth string (E) on the first fret. On the fifth string (A), place your ring finger at the third fret. Listen to the rumble!

Move up to the third fret to start the F Major power chord using the second form. Barre the first through fifth strings (e through A) with your index finger.

Add the C major and F major on the third string (G), fifth fret with your ring finger and the second string (B) with your pinky at the sixth fret respectively.
G Major

No surprises here. Just the same as the F5, A5 and B5 power chords.

Start at the third fret on the sixth string (E) with your index finger for the G Major note. Ring finger at the fifth fret of the A string (fifth) for the B note.

Same as the rest of the second form power chords, just at the fifth fret.