



Fret-Theory

Theory comes alive. On your fretboard.



Presentation and getting-started guide

Prototype version · October 2026

Working name

What is Fret-Theory?

A music theory and practice app for guitarists, musicians and teachers. You see scales and chords on a real fretboard, you hear them, then you play them: generative backing, ear training, metronome, groovebox, touch instrument and sequencer in a single tool.

Understand

Scales, intervals and chords on the fretboard. Every note has its colour; the root is a square, the third a diamond.

Listen

Progressions, circle of fifths, harmony: hear how chords colour the music.

Practise

Generative backing, ear training, metronome, drone, groovebox: real practice material.

Play

Surface: an expressive touch instrument and a versatile, expressive MIDI controller, where each pad is a scale degree; harmony wheels, modeled strings, looper.

13 modules · Français · English · Windows and Android installers (macOS, iOS and iPadOS under study) · MIDI and controllers

Who is it for?

Guitarists

Get out of memorised positions: arpeggios, scales and chords on 6 strings or more, free tunings.

Musicians

Look for progressions, chain chords, build a loop, drive it with MIDI controllers.

Teachers

Show theory on a fretboard, give students 25% off, sign teaching exports.

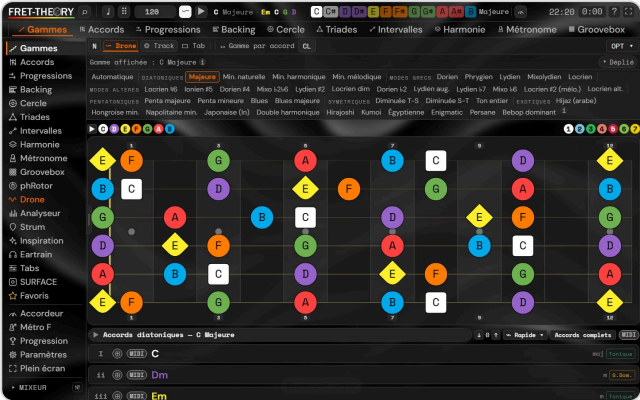
Schools

One licence for a whole class, volume pricing, collective follow-up that respects privacy.

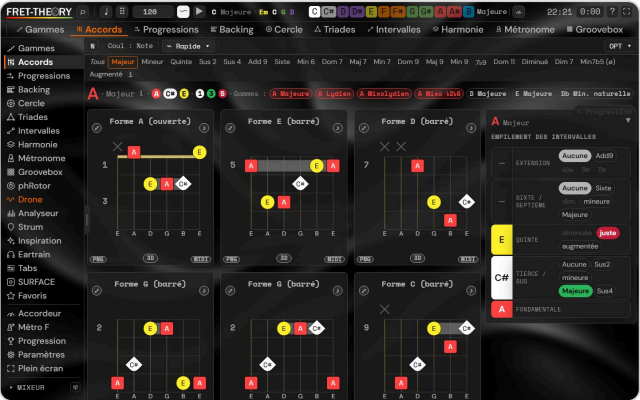
What the app contains

MODULE	WHAT IT IS FOR	FREE	EXPLORER	COMPLETE
Scales	Scales and modes on the fretboard, colour per note, free tunings and string counts	●	●	●
Chords	Chord shapes, interval stacking, voicings	●	●	●
Progressions	Chord sequences, listening, backing	●	●	●
Metronome · Drone	Pulse and reference drone	●	●	●
Triads · Intervals	Inversions, intervals, fretboard landmarks	—	●	●
Harmony · Circle of fifths	Chord functions, key relationships	—	●	●
Ear training · Rhythm · Tabs	Ear and rhythm training, tablature editor	—	●	●
Groovebox	Step rhythm sequencer, pattern bank, song mode	—	●	●
Surface	Expressive touch instrument and versatile MIDI controller: grid, piano, Orbital wheels, modeled strings, pads, looper	—	—	●
Sequencer · Rotor	Piano-roll, groovebox Rotor mode	—	—	●
MIDI	Keyboards and controllers, per-zone routing, MIDI out	—	—	●

Provisional split between plans. The “Surface pack with sequencer” adds Surface, sequencer, Rotor and MIDI on top of Explorer.



Scales: each note has its colour, the root is a square, the third a diamond.



Chords: chord shapes on the fretboard with the interval stack.

Modules in detail

UNDERSTAND

Scales Free

See any scale on the fretboard. To understand where the notes of a solo or riff come from, and stop memorising positions.

- More than twenty scales and modes: major, natural, harmonic and melodic minor, Greek modes, altered modes, pentatonics and blues
- Notes, intervals or degrees on the fretboard; one colour per note, the root as a square, the third as a diamond
- Free tuning and string count, for guitar, bass or other string instruments
- "Scale for chord": shows the scale that fits the chosen chord
- Drone, backing and tablature view reachable from the module

Chords Free

A living chord dictionary. To find a shape, understand how it is built and know which scales it sits on.

- More than twenty types: major, minor, power chord, sus2, sus4, add9, sixth, min6, sevenths, ninths, eleventh, diminished, half-diminished, augmented
- Shapes on the fretboard (open or movable) with the interval stack
- Colours by note or by interval; listen to each chord
- List of scales compatible with the chord; add it to a progression in one gesture

Triads Explorer

The three notes of the chord, everywhere on the neck. To play and see chords on small string sets, in every inversion.

- Major, minor, diminished, augmented
- Root position and inversions, on groups of three strings
- Role of each note (root, third, fifth) shown by shape and colour
- Choice of the bass string

Intervals Explorer

Measure the distance between two notes. To learn to recognise and place intervals without counting frets.

- The twelve intervals, from unison to major seventh, with their name and semitone count
- Move the root to see the same interval everywhere
- Quiz mode to practise

Circle of fifths Free

The map of keys. To understand neighbouring keys, key signatures and the chords of each key.

- Key, number of sharps or flats, relative minor or major
- Diatonic chords with numerals (I, ii, iii, IV, V, vi, vii°), dominant and subdominant
- Major and minor modes; click a note to hear it, with octave choice

Harmony Explorer

Build chords, notes and melodies. To assemble a progression, see how chords relate and look for a melody on top.

- Three input modes: chords, notes, melody
- Root and more than fifteen chord qualities (sus, add9, sixth, sevenths, ninths, diminished, augmented...)
- Progression built step by step, with templates such as I–V–vi–IV or the blues

Progressions Free

Chord sequences to hear and play. To find a sequence that works, understand each chord's function and play along.

- Progression catalogue and chord bank
- Diatonic mode (chords of the scale) or free; borrowed chords (bVI, bVII, iv...)
- Listening and backing; MIDI input possible

PRACTISE

Ear training Explorer

Train your ear, six exercises. To recognise by ear what you see on the fretboard.

- Rhythm: rhythmic dictation to rebuild, three difficulty levels, score
- Intervals, chords, scale degrees, cadences and scales
- Listen, answer, check, new exercise in one click

Rhythm Explorer

Right-hand rhythms to play and create. To work on the strumming or picking hand: patterns, accents, swing.

- Rhythm generator (for example D-DU-UDU) with adjustable time signature, subdivisions and swing
- Editor: down, up, muted, rest, on each subdivision
- Pattern library sorted by genre (pop, folk, rock, punk...) and by level
- Sound from samples or synthesis

Metronome Free

A precise, full-featured metronome. To work on pulse, from the first slow tempo to advanced training.

- Tempo, tap tempo, accents adjustable beat by beat
- Swing and human feel, tempo ramp, random beat mute to test your steadiness
- Session timer, savable presets, visual flash and vibration, full screen

Drone Free

A held note to set your ear. To work on intonation, the colour of a mode, or to sing over a tonic.

- Note and octave of your choice, frequency shown
- Timbres: sine, sawtooth, square, triangle, bell
- Held chords: major, minor, sevenths, sus, add9, diminished, augmented

Analyzer Explorer

Tell what you are playing. To identify a chord, notes or a rhythm from what you place or play.

- Harmonic: place notes on the fretboard (frets, open string, muted string) to get the chord, notes and intervals
- Audio listening and MIDI input
- Rhythmic: tap tempo and analysis of the rhythm you play

Tablature Explorer

Read, write and play tabs. To note an idea, learn a piece or prepare course material.

- Editing, playback and library, free tuning
- Techniques: hammer-on, palm mute, let ring, bend...
- Copy, paste, add beats and bars; playback with adjustable tempo and speed
- Examples included; video export of tabs

Spark Explorer

A starting point when you are stuck. To start an idea without a blank page.

- Pick a genre: blues, pop, rock, jazz, folk, country, R&B, metal, reggae, bossa, latin, classical, funk
- Add a mood: bright, tender, melancholic, restless, triumphant, suspended, dark, airy
- Or let the app surprise you

BACKING AND COMPOSING

Backing (Structures) Explorer

A band that plays your chords. To play over a backing built from your chord grid, without recording tracks.

- Sections (verse, chorus...), bars and chords per bar, structure loops
- Rhythm per track: nylon, steel, baritone, clean/crunch/overdriven/jazz electric guitar, ukulele, piano, sitar, harp, dulcimer
- Styles and rhythms of your choice, backing generated from the grid

Groovebox Explorer

A step drum machine. To build drum and percussion patterns and practise over them.

- Step grid per instrument: kick, snare, hi-hat, percussion, cymbal
- Pattern bank from A to H and song mode to chain them
- Drum kits and starting genres, automatic generation and pattern learning
- Send the result to the backing

Sequencer Complete

A piano-roll to compose. To write melodies and lines, play them back and rearrange them.

- Piano-roll with entry by mouse, computer keyboard or MIDI
- Scenes A to H that can be chained, tracks with effects and sounds of your choice
- Idea generation, notebook, transfer to the other modules

PLAY

Surface Complete

An expressive touch instrument and an expressive, versatile MIDI controller. To play the screen like an instrument, or drive your synths and DAW with a controller built to your needs.

- Pages made of freely arranged zones: grid of pads by scale degree, piano, drum pads, looper, arpeggiator
- Orbital wheels: seven scale-based layouts (tour, safe notes, pentatonic, modes, lock, duo, T-S-D functions), chained chords, continuous glissando
- Modeled strings: guitars, bass, ukulele, harp, violin, cello, erhu — pluck, bow, slide
- Expression: finger pressure, position and movement shape the sound; gesture vibrato
- MIDI controller: MIDI output (including MPE), keyboard routing per zone, key ranges, MIDI in and out on computer and Android
- Per-zone effects (chorus, delay, reverb...), ready-made page templates for solo, two-player or looping

Playing with your fingers

Surface turns the screen into an expressive touch instrument, and into an expressive, versatile MIDI controller to drive your synths and DAW. A page is made of zones you arrange freely; ready-made templates cover solo playing, face-to-face duets, or loops and drums.

Grid and piano

Each pad is a degree of the chosen scale: hard to play wrong, easy to play right.

Orbital wheels

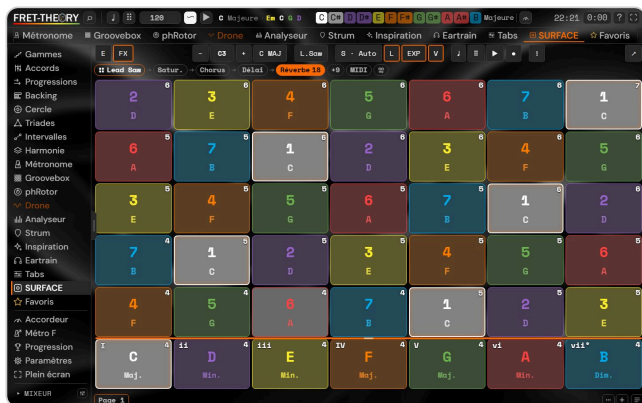
A wheel of sectors and rings. Seven scale-based layouts: Tour, Safe notes, Pentatonic, Modes, Lock (the arpeggio follows the touched chord), Duo (scale on the right, chords on the left), T-S-D functions. Corners add +7, sus4, major→minor or borrowed chords.

Modeled strings

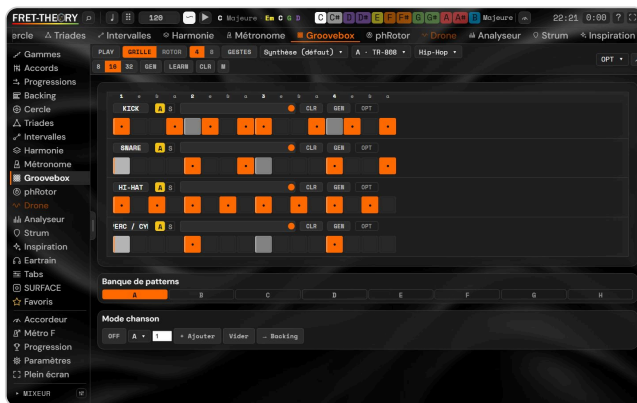
Guitars, bass, ukulele, harp, violin, cello and erhu synthesised by physical modeling: pluck, bow, slide.

Pads, looper, ARP

Drum pads, live-recorded loop, arpeggiator: build a track without leaving the screen.



Surface: a page of pads coloured by scale degree.



Groovebox: step sequencer, patterns and song mode.

Choosing a plan

Free

€0

Free

A first contact: scales, chords, progressions, metronome, drone.

Explorer

€79

one-time · €2.90/month · €24.90/year

Theory, harmony, practice and groovebox.

Complete

€119

one-time · €5.90/month · €39.90/year

Everything: Explorer + Surface, sequencer, Rotor, MIDI.

Surface pack with sequencer: €49 (one-time). Already own Explorer? Upgrade to Complete for €40. Prices include VAT, indicative, subject to change.

Teachers

Free partner programme on validation: student code -25% on a first yearly or one-time purchase, teacher name next to the logo on teaching exports. Further classroom tools (sharing exercises, overview of work) are being considered.

Schools and institutions

Yearly licence per active student, tiered from 10 students (up to -60% on yearly Complete), teacher seats included, -25% on students' personal licence, invoice and bank transfer, 60-day trial. White label available for institutions that want it. On quote, in preparation.

Getting started in four minutes

- 1 Create your account**
On the home page, "My account" → "Create account". Enter email and password (8 characters minimum) or choose "Continue with Google". A confirmation email arrives: click the link and you are signed in.
- 2 Open the app**
"Open the app" button. Sign in with the same address. Modules not part of your plan carry a padlock: one click explains what they bring and leads to the plans.
- 3 Pick a scale**
Scales tab: choose the root and the scale. Notes appear on the fretboard; change tuning or string count in the module settings.
- 4 Drop a chord**
Chords tab: its notes light up inside the scale. In Progressions, chain several chords and listen.
- 5 Play along**
Start the backing, adjust tempo with the metronome, then train your ear in Ear training.

Surface in five gestures

- 1 Add a page**
"+" button in the page strip: pick a template (Solo, Orbital, Strings, Rhythm, Multiplayer...).
- 2 Play**
Touch pads, slide along a ring for a glissando, hold several fingers for a chord. The main sound is chosen per zone.
- 3 Tune the zone**
A long press opens settings: Orbital layout, sector order (circle of fifths, T-S-D functions), arpeggio, velocity.
- 4 Plug in a MIDI keyboard**
Settings → Surface → MIDI: choose the device, assign a zone or a key range.
- 5 Record a loop**
Looper zone: record, overdub, then export or carry on with the groovebox.

Account, usage and data

Under “My account”, four tabs:

Overview	Your plan, licences, included or locked features.
Plans	Options suited to your account: Explorer, Complete, Surface pack, upgrade, subscription.
My usage	Time per module, most-used scales, chords and progressions over 7, 30 or 90 days.
Settings	Display name, email, password, usage tracking (switchable), data export, account deletion.

Usage tracking only counts durations per module, scale or chord: never the content of your creations. It does not slow the app down (an in-memory counter, sent in one batch every five minutes). You can switch it off at any time. On the team side only aggregated, anonymous statistics are read.

HELP

Frequently asked questions

I did not receive the confirmation email.

Check your spam folder, then create the account again with the same address.

I bought something but a module is still locked.

In the app, open the padlock then “I already bought it — refresh”, or reload the page. Entitlements also refresh automatically.

Do my licences work on several devices?

Yes: they are tied to the account, not the device.

Can I use the app offline?

Yes, once loaded (and with the upcoming Windows and Android installers). A connection is needed to refresh your entitlements.

Refunds?

Digital content is available immediately: by purchasing you waive the 14-day withdrawal right. Detailed terms in the T&Cs.

Contact: to be filled in before publication · Prototype document, information and prices subject to change.