

# Teach Yourself To Play Rock Guitar

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<b>THE PARTS OF YOUR GUITAR</b> . . . . .	2	Ties . . . . .	40
The Acoustic Guitar . . . . .	2	<i>Rainforest Komp</i> . . . . .	40
The Electric Guitar . . . . .	2	<i>Nice Attire</i> . . . . .	41
<b>WHICH GUITAR IS BEST FOR ME?</b> . . . . .	2	<b>EIGHTH NOTES</b> . . . . .	42
<b>HOW TO HOLD YOUR GUITAR</b> . . . . .	3	Eighth-Note Exercise . . . . .	42
<b>THE AMPLIFIER</b> . . . . .	3	<i>Ellis Island</i> . . . . .	43
<b>THE RIGHT HAND</b> . . . . .	4	<b>FOUR-STRING D7 CHORD</b> . . . . .	44
<b>THE LEFT HAND</b> . . . . .	5	D7 and A7 Chord Exercise . . . . .	44
<b>HOW TO TUNE YOUR GUITAR</b> . . . . .	6	D7 Chord with Notes . . . . .	44
<b>GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH MUSIC</b> . . . . .	7	<b>SIX-STRING E CHORD</b> . . . . .	45
<b>GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH TABLATURE</b> . . . . .	8	Introducing the Eighth-Note Slash . . . . .	45
<b>THE SIXTH STRING E</b> . . . . .	9	Eighth-Note Slash Exercise . . . . .	45
Sixth-String Riff 1 . . . . .	9	Strumming Exercise with E Chord . . . . .	45
Sixth-String Riff 2 . . . . .	9	<b>FIVE-STRING A CHORD</b> . . . . .	46
More Riffs . . . . .	10	Minor and Major . . . . .	46
Still More Riffs . . . . .	10	<i>Vacate the Sky</i> . . . . .	47
Rockin' Bass Line . . . . .	11	<i>Doo Dah, Poo Bah</i> . . . . .	47
Silent Guitar Calisthenics 1 and 2 . . . . .	11	<b>ELEVEN CLASSIC ROCK</b>	
<b>SOUND-OFF: HOW TO COUNT TIME</b> . . . . .	12	<b>STRUMMING PATTERNS</b> . . . . .	48
Four Kinds of Notes . . . . .	12	<i>Rough Evening</i> . . . . .	49
Time Signatures . . . . .	12	<i>Always Been Crazy</i> . . . . .	49
<b>THE FIFTH STRING A</b> . . . . .	13	<i>Keep It to Yourself</i> . . . . .	50
Jamming on 5 and 6 . . . . .	13	<b>SHARPS <math>\sharp</math>, FLATS <math>\flat</math>, AND NATURALS <math>\natural</math></b> . . . . .	51
Two-String Rock . . . . .	13	The Chromatic Scale . . . . .	52
<b>EASY ROCK RIFFS ON THE 5TH</b>		Chromatic Rock . . . . .	52
<b>AND 6TH STRINGS</b> . . . . .	14	Bluesy Accidentals . . . . .	53
Repeat Signs . . . . .	14	<i>Wet Duet</i> . . . . .	54
<i>King Louie</i> . . . . .	14	<b>SIGNS OF SILENCE</b> . . . . .	55
<i>As I Arrive</i> . . . . .	15	Take a Rest . . . . .	55
<i>Ferrous Guy</i> . . . . .	15	<i>Ugly Times</i> . . . . .	56
<i>They Can Rock</i> . . . . .	16	Stop-Time Bass Line . . . . .	57
Silent Guitar Calisthenics 3 . . . . .	16	<b>PLAYING TWO NOTES TOGETHER:</b>	
<b>THE FOURTH STRING D</b> . . . . .	17	<b>BLUES PATTERNS</b> . . . . .	58
Fourth-String Riff . . . . .	17	E Blues Boogie . . . . .	58
1950s Rock Lick . . . . .	17	A Blues Boogie . . . . .	59
<i>Foggy Lake</i> . . . . .	18	<b>MOVE UP THE NECK ON THE 6TH STRING</b> . . . . .	60
<i>Ladder to the Sky</i> . . . . .	18	Practice A, B, and C . . . . .	60
<i>Crazy Kid</i> . . . . .	19	Two Positions on the 6th String . . . . .	60
<b>PLAYING TWO NOTES TOGETHER</b> . . . . .	19	<b>MOVE UP THE NECK ON THE 5TH STRING</b> . . . . .	61
Blues in 3 . . . . .	20	Practice D, E, and F . . . . .	61
<b>THE THIRD STRING G</b> . . . . .	21	Two Positions on the 5th String . . . . .	61
<i>Cash</i> . . . . .	21	<b>MOVE UP THE NECK ON THE 4TH STRING</b> . . . . .	62
Introducing the Quarter Rest . . . . .	22	Two Positions on the 4th String . . . . .	62
<i>Ode to Joy</i> . . . . .	22	<b>MOVE UP THE NECK ON THE 3RD STRING</b> . . . . .	62
Rockabilly Sound . . . . .	23	Two Positions on the 3rd String . . . . .	62
<b>POWER CHORDS</b> . . . . .	24	Classic Rock Lick with 5s and 7s . . . . .	63
Three-Chord Progression . . . . .	24	<b>MORE ON POWER CHORDS</b> . . . . .	64
<i>Down You Go</i> . . . . .	25	Power Chords Are Moveable . . . . .	64
Rock Duet . . . . .	26	Power Chord Rock . . . . .	64
<i>Bop the Blitz</i> . . . . .	28	More Power Chord Rock . . . . .	65
<b>THE SECOND STRING B</b> . . . . .	30	<b>SIX-STRING G CHORD</b> . . . . .	66
Classic Rock Lick . . . . .	30	<b>CHORDS IN STANDARD NOTATION</b> . . . . .	66
Five-String Rock . . . . .	31	Chords in Notes . . . . .	67
<i>Satisfying Lick</i> . . . . .	31	<i>Rockin' the Bach</i> . . . . .	68
<i>Don't Miss the Train</i> . . . . .	32	<i>Party, Party</i> . . . . .	69
<i>Give Me a Hand, Lady</i> . . . . .	32	<b>ROCK AND BLUES LICKS AND TRICKS</b> . . . . .	70
Rockin' in D . . . . .	32	Rock Lick 1 . . . . .	70
<b>THE FIRST STRING E</b> . . . . .	33	Rock Lick 1 with a Bend . . . . .	70
Jamming with E, F, and G . . . . .	33	Rock Lick 2 . . . . .	70
Review . . . . .	34	<b>THE E MINOR PENTATONIC SCALE</b> . . . . .	71
<i>Aura Lee</i> . . . . .	34	Pentatonic Lick 1 . . . . .	71
<b>THE MAJOR SCALE</b> . . . . .	35	Pentatonic Lick 2 . . . . .	71
C Major Scale Exercise . . . . .	35	1950s Blues-Rock Tune . . . . .	72
<b>SIX-STRING EM CHORD</b> . . . . .	36	<b>A MINOR PENTATONIC SCALE</b> . . . . .	73
Quarter-Note Slash . . . . .	36	A Minor Pentatonic Call and Response . . . . .	73
Em Strumming Exercise . . . . .	36	<b>INCOMPLETE MEASURES OR PICKUPS</b> . . . . .	74
<b>FIVE-STRING A7 CHORD</b> . . . . .	37	<i>House of the Rising Sun</i> . . . . .	74
Strumming the A7 Chord . . . . .	37	12-Bar Blues Duet . . . . .	76
Strumming Em and A7 Chords . . . . .	37	<i>Good Times Bad Times (Intro)</i> . . . . .	78
Minor Two-Chord Rock . . . . .	38	<b>GUITAR FINGERBOARD CHART</b> . . . . .	80
<b>INTRODUCING HIGH A</b> . . . . .	39		
Rockin' in Dorian Mode . . . . .	39		

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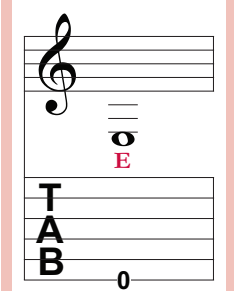
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# The Sixth String E

## OPEN STRING\* (not fingered)



T  
A  
B  
0

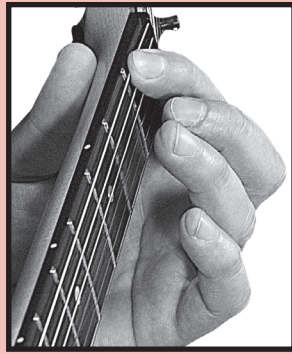
6th string,  
open

## 1st FRET



T  
A  
B  
1

6th string,  
1st fret





## 3rd FRET



T  
A  
B  
3

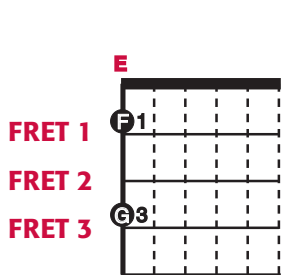
6th string,  
3rd fret



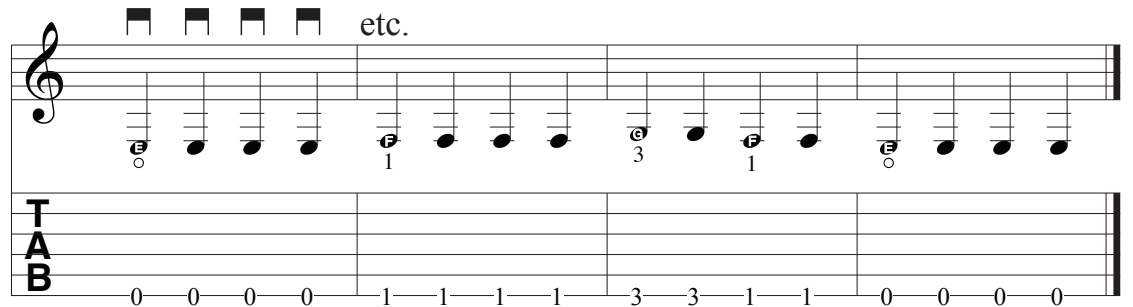
Use only down-strokes, indicated by . The symbol  under or over a note means *open string*. Do not finger.

It is easy to tell the notes E, F, and G apart. E is the note under the three lines below the staff. F is on the third

line below the staff. G is under the two lines below the staff.



FRET 1  
FRET 2  
FRET 3



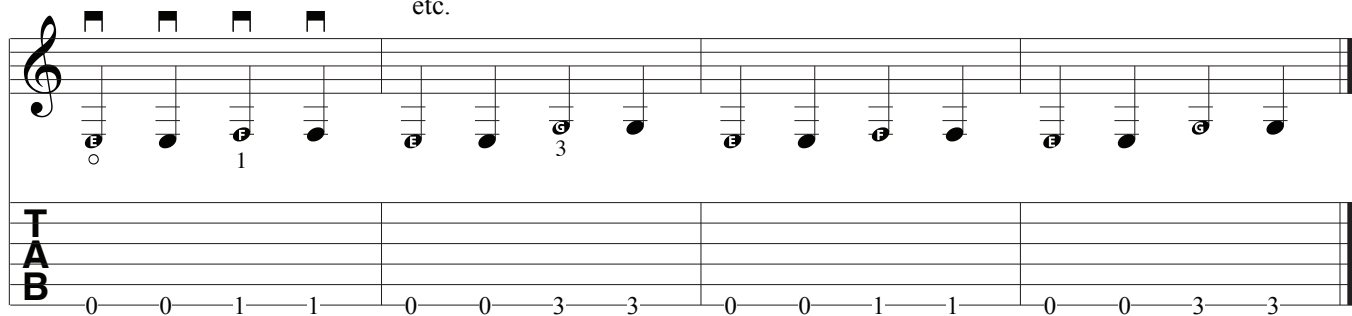
etc.

T  
A  
B  
0 0 0 0 | 1 1 1 1 | 3 3 1 1 | 0 0 0 0

Play slowly and evenly.

A FINAL DOUBLE BAR SHOWS THE END OF AN EXAMPLE OR SONG.

## Sixth-String Riff 1

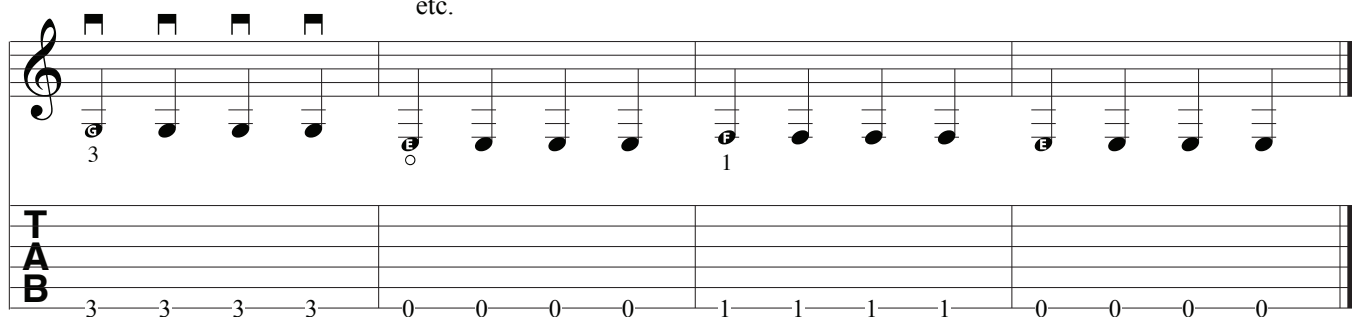


etc.

T  
A  
B  
0 0 1 1 | 0 0 3 3 | 0 0 1 1 | 0 0 3 3

A *riff* is a short, repeated melodic pattern.

## Sixth-String Riff 2

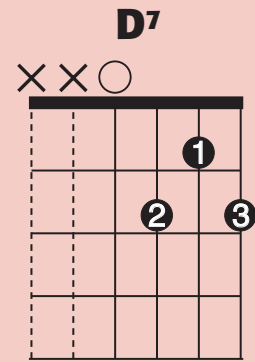
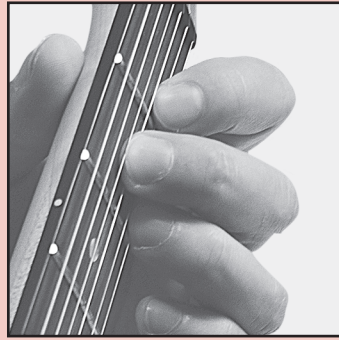


etc.

T  
A  
B  
3 3 3 3 | 0 0 0 0 | 1 1 1 1 | 0 0 0 0

\* Though no photo is shown for the open string, the fingers of the left hand should remain slightly above the string, ready to play the correct fret when needed. The thumb should also remain in its proper position.

## FOUR-STRING D7 CHORD



This chord uses three fingers. Place your 1st finger on the 2nd string, 1st fret, and 2nd and 3rd fingers on the 3rd and 1st strings. Only strum

the 4th through 1st strings. Do not strum the 5th or 6th strings. Play four measures of the D7 chord. Count out loud and keep the rhythm

even. Remember to strum firmly and directly downward across the strings to produce a nice full sound.



Track 53  
D7

Count: 1 2 3 4 etc.

## D7 and A7 Chord Exercise



Remember to practice the changes slowly, and then gradually increase the speed as you become more comfortable changing chords.

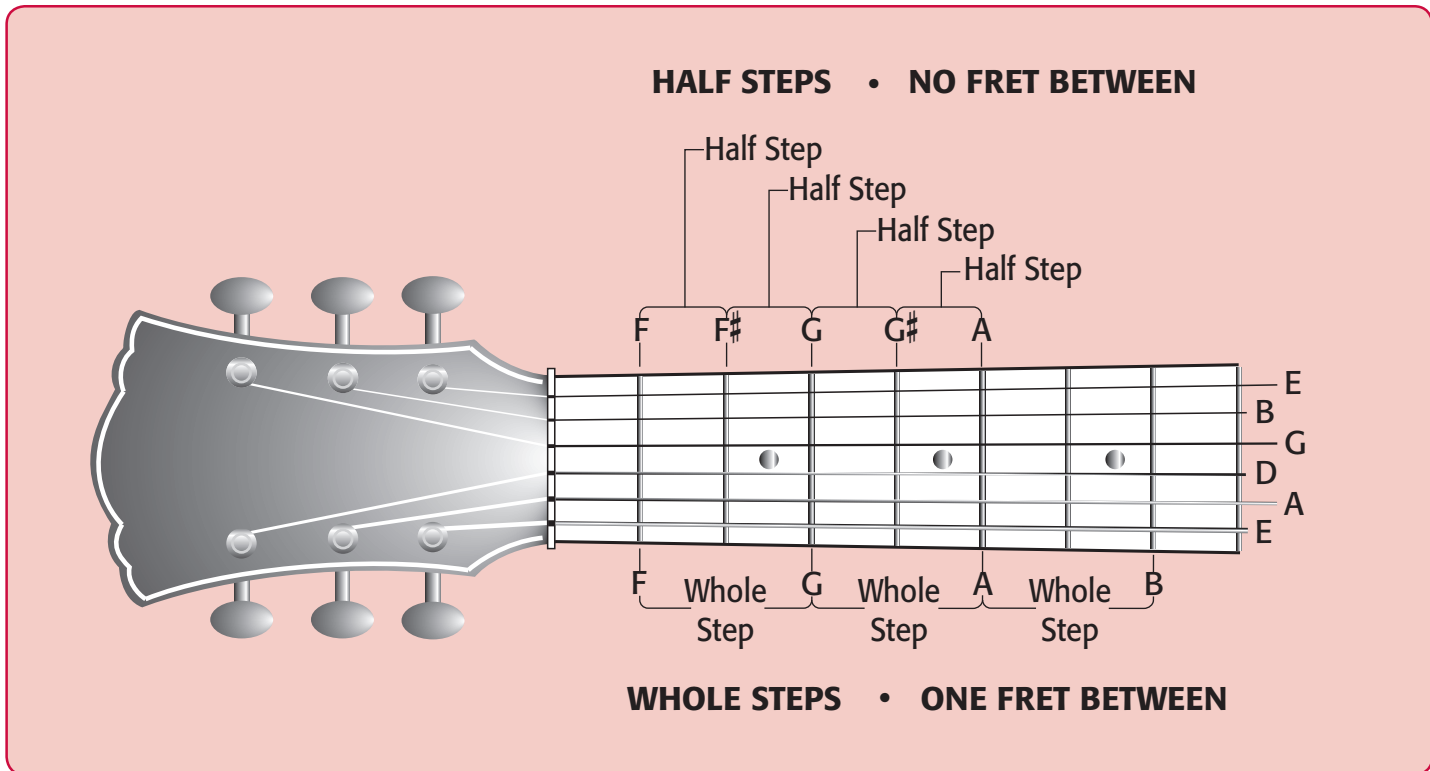
## D7 Chord with Notes



This example combines the D7 chord with single notes.

## SHARPS #, FLATS ♭, AND NATURALS ♮

The C Major Scale (page 35) is created from half steps (one fret) and whole steps (two frets). Sharp #, flat ♭, and natural ♮ signs change the notes you already know.



MINI  
MUSIC  
LESSON

**#** SHARPS **raise** the note a half step. Play the next fret higher.

**♭** FLATS **lower** the note a half step. If the note is fingered, play the next fret lower.  
If the note is open, play the 4th fret of the next lower string—except if that string is **G** (3rd string), then play the 3rd fret.

**♮** NATURALS **cancel** a previous sharp or flat.

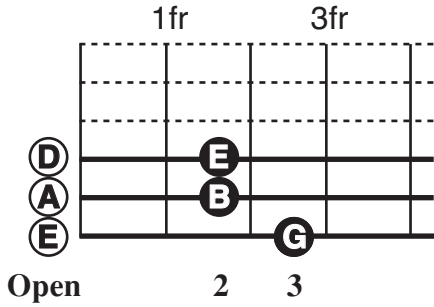
When added within a measure, sharps, flats, and naturals are called *accidentals*.  
A bar line cancels a previous accidental in the measures that follow.



# THE E MINOR PENTATONIC SCALE

The *pentatonic scale* has five notes, hence the name (*penta* is the Greek root for “five,” think pentagon). Many rock and blues guitarists consider the E minor pentatonic scale one of the easiest tools for creating lead guitar solos.

The notes in the E minor pentatonic scale are: E G A B D. They are shown below on the 6th, 5th, and 4th strings. Play through them from the lowest note to the highest. It’s a good idea to repeat the first note an octave higher at the end, as shown below.



Following are some fun licks to play using this scale.

## Pentatonic Lick 1



## Pentatonic Lick 2

