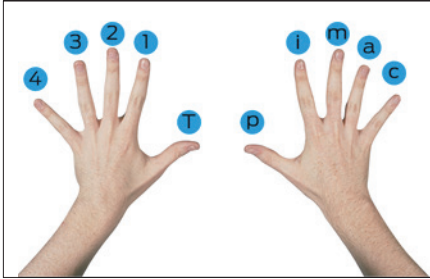


Guide to guitar tab

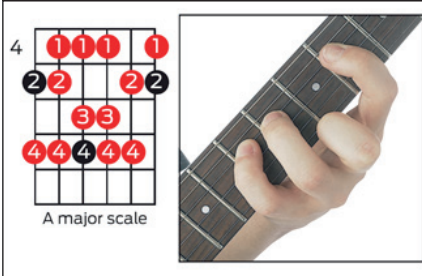
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Hand and finger labelling



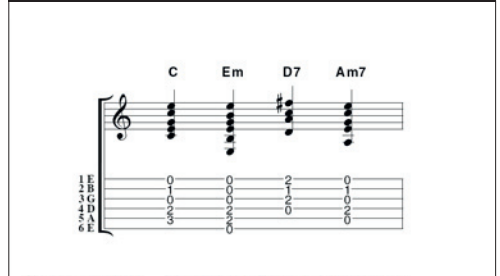
Here are the abbreviations used for each finger:
Fretting hand: 1, 2, 3, 4 (T), Picking hand: p (thumb), i (index), m (middle), a (anular), c (little finger)

Scale example



The fret box diagram illustrates the fret hand fingering for the A major scale. The photo shows part of the scale being played on the fourth string with fingers 1, 3 and 4.

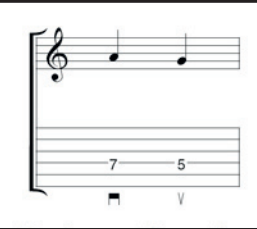
Treble clef and tablature



Musical staff – The five horizontal lines for music notation illustrate a combination of note pitches and rhythms, and are divided by bar lines. **Tab** – Under the musical staff, tab is an aid to show you where to put your fingers on the fretboard. The six horizontal lines represent the six strings on a guitar – the numbers on the strings are the fret numbers.

Picking

Down & up picking



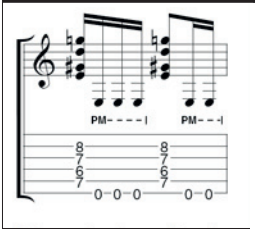
This diagram tells you the first note is to be down-picked and the last note is to be up-picked.

Tremolo picking



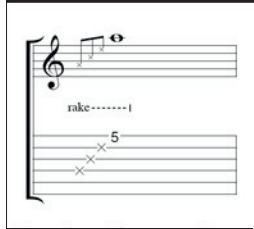
Each of the four notes are to be alternate picked (down and up picked) very rapidly and continuously.

Palm-muting



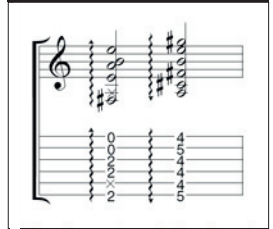
Palm-mute by resting the edge of your picking hand palm on the strings near the bridge saddles.

Pick rate



Drag the pick across the strings shown with a single sweep. This is often used to augment a rake's last note.

Arpeggiated chord



Play the notes of the chord by strumming across the relevant strings in the direction of the arrow head.

Fretting hand

Hammer-on & pull-off



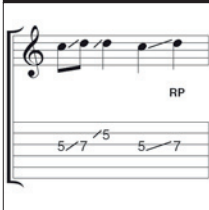
Pick first note and hammer-on with your fretting hand for the second note. Then pick the third note and pull-off for fourth note.

Note trills



Rapidly alternate between the two notes indicated in brackets with fretting hand hammer-ons and pull-offs.

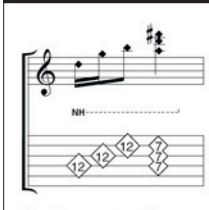
Slides (glissando)



Pick the first note and then slide to the next. For the last two notes pick the first, slide to the next and then re-pick it (RP).

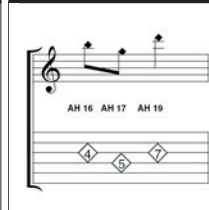
Harmonics

Natural harmonics



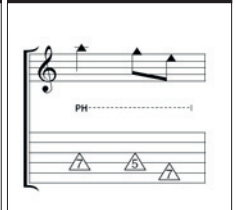
Pick the note while lightly touching the string directly over the fret indicated. A chiming harmonic results.

Artificial harmonics



Fret the note as shown, then place your index finger directly but lightly over 'x' fret (AH'x') and pick (with a pick, p or a).

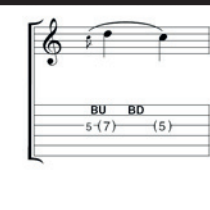
Pinched harmonics



Fret the note as shown, but dig into the string with the side of your thumb as you sound it with the pick.

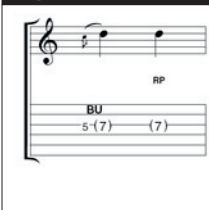
Bending and vibrato

Bend and release



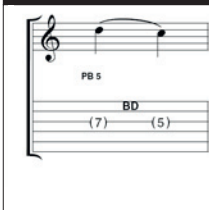
Fret the start note (here, the 5th fret) and bend up to the pitch of the bracketed note, before releasing again.

Re-pick bend



Bend up to the pitch shown in the brackets, then re-pick the note while holding the bent note at the pitch indicated.

Pre-bend



Bend the note up from the 5th fret to the pitch of the 7th fret note, then pick it and release it to the 5th fret note.

Vibrato bar/whammy bar

Vibrato bar bends



The note is picked as shown, then the vibrato bar is raised and lowered to the pitches shown in brackets.

Scoop and doop



Scoop – depress the bar just before striking the note and then release. Doop – lower the bar slightly after picking the note.

Divebomb



Note is sustained then vibrato bar is depressed to slack. A square bracket is used if a long held note has a new articulation applied.