Guitar Notation Legend

THE MUSICAL STAFF shows pitches and rhythms and is divided by bar lines into measures. Pitches are named after the first seven letters of the alphabet.

TABLATURE graphically represents the guitar fingerboard. Each horizontal line represents a string, and each number represents a fret.

**HALF-STEP BEND:** Strike the note and bend up 1/2 step.

**BEND AND RELEASE:** Strike the note and bend it up as indicated, then release back to the original note. Only the first note is struck.

**HAMMER-ON:** Strike the first (lower) note with one finger, then sound the higher note (on the same string) with another finger by fretting it without picking.

**PULL-OFF:** Place both fingers on the notes to be sounded. Strike the first note and without picking, pull the finger off to sound the second (higher) note.

**TRILL:** Rapidly alternate between the notes indicated by continuously hammering on and pulling off.

**TAPPING:** Hammer ("tap") the fret indicated with the pick-hand index or middle finger and pull off to the note fretted by the fret hand.

**TREMOLO PICKING:** The note is picked as rapidly and continuously as possible.

**VIBRATO BAR DIVE AND RETURN:** The pitch of the note at chord is dropped a specified number of steps (in rhythm) then returned to the original pitch.

**VIBRATO BAR SCOOP:** Depress the bar just before striking the note, then quickly release the bar.

**VIBRATO BAR DIP:** Strike the note and then immediately drop a specified number of steps, then release back to the original pitch.

**GRACE NOTE BEND:** Strike the note and bend up as indicated. The first note does not take up any time.

**Palm Muting:** The note is partially muted by the pick hand lightly touching the strings just before the bridge.

**SHIFT SLIDE:** Same as legato slide, except the first note is struck.

**PINC H HARMONIC:** The note is fretted normally and a harmonic is produced by adding the edge of the thumb or the tip of the index finger of the pick hand to the normal pick attack.

**NATURAL HARMONIC:** Strike the note while the pick-hand lightly touches the string directly over the fret indicated.

**FILL**

- Label used to identify a brief melodic figure which is to be inserted into the arrangement.

**N.C.**

- No Chord

- Repeat measures between signs.

- When a musical section has different endings, play the first ending only the first time and the second ending only the second time.

**Additional Musical Definitions**

- Accent
- Staccato
- D.S. al Coda
- D.C. at Fine
- Fermata

- Play the note short
- Go back to the sign (8), then play until the measure marked "To Coda"; then skip to the section labeled "Coda."
- Go back to the beginning of the song and play until the measure marked "Fine" (end).

- Label used to identify a brief melodic figure which is to be inserted into the arrangement.

- Repeat measures between signs.

- When a musical section has different endings, play the first ending only the first time and the second ending only the second time.
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