



RHYTHM GUITAR

NOTE: These stand-alone lessons were developed to explore specific areas of study. As a student, you can work through these lessons in any order you choose. Enjoy!

1) Developing Rhythmic Meter

Lesson one works on the basic development of rhythmic meter. This session involves the study of developing feel for a recurring groove. Topics will include; timing, strum attack, strum feel and strum direction. The examples will use common open chords.

2) Intermediate Rhythmic Meter

Explores more intricate rhythm patterns including 8th and 16th note syncopation, ties, rests, scratch (ghost) hits and more. Four examples, cover unique rhythms and over a dozen new moveable chord patterns. A bonus video demonstrates the strum hand.

3) Rhythm Parts & Connecting Lines

Chord progressions will often contain connecting lines that operate in and around chord punches. It is vital for a rhythm player to learn how to perform these ideas. This lesson explores several ways to add these elements across a progression.

4) Time Signatures & Chord Voicings

Study how to work through rhythm guitar ideas as performed across different types of time signatures. The lesson also studies how to expand the use of chord voicings with each exercise using two sets of chord pattern voicings on the fingerboard.

5) Dynamics: Stress & Accent of Time

Rhythm players need to be able to feel different stress points across measures of a progression. Once we can learn how to accent those areas we will have more control over dynamics. This lesson examines several ways to apply those elements.



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6) Feeling Simple & Compound Time

Develop the feel for simple and compound time signatures. Simple time includes; 2/4, 3/4, 3/8, 4/4 and 2/2. Compound works on the time signatures of; 6/8, 9/8, 12/8 and 6/4. In the lesson, we study the most common feels of 4/4, 6/8, 2/2, and 12/8.

7) Blues and Rock Rhythms

Practice the rhythmic skills involved with performing in the Blues and Rock rhythm guitar style. This lesson covers ideas that involve; accented 8th-notes, the Rock and R&B shuffle groove, slow 'solo' Blues (6/8 Blues), and the Blues triplet shuffle.

8) Hard Rock & Heavy Metal

Study how to feel and play through the various rhythms applied in today's hard rock and heavy metal. Learn the "Gallop" rhythm, plus variations on the sixteenth feel. Includes application of eighth-note triplet rhythms and mixed beats used in rock & metal.

9) Soul, Funk & Reggae

Study the fusion of the key ingredients of soul rhythm guitar, along with funk groove. This style combination applies open space, accented ideas with quick shots & duration. Reggae is also included with emphasis upon its unique back-beat chord chops.

10) Spanish and Latin Rhythms

Explore the rhythmic styles of Spanish and Latin grooves like the; Tango, Merengue, and Samba. Learn the specific harmonies & feel of Afro-Cuban and Caribbean music based upon strong stresses & accents upon the push of unique meters.

11) Jazz Rhythm Guitar

Jazz rhythm guitar consists of using a great deal of syncopation. In this lesson we'll study some of the most standard jazz grooves. These will include the Charleston, recurring dotted quarter-notes, and the single and double measure up-beat feel.



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12) Country Strum Patterns

Country rhythm guitar teaches a collection of rhythmic grooves that covers everything from ballad strumming, to waltz feel, basic eighth-notes and up-tempo fast rhythms. In this lesson you'll have the chance to study all of these rhythms and more!

13) Folk Strumming (no pick)

Folk rhythm strumming requires that a guitar player develop a solid sense of performing rhythm patterns based on recurring 8th and 16th note sequences. This lesson explores these types of patterns in both the 4/4 and 2/4 time signature.

14) Pop & Contemporary

Develop the rhythm patterns and strumming, along with the technique and feel used in pop and adult contemporary music. This lesson includes examples in the styles of; Blues-Soul, Dance, Hip-Hop, R&B, Progressive Pop and Adult Contemporary.

15) Creating Rhythms (Rock)

This is the first of our final classes of Rhythm Guitar. These sessions will breakdown "creating rhythms." In lesson 15 our focus will be on creating "Rock" rhythms. We'll study; even 8th's rock, syncopated rock, 16th-note gallop and British blues-rock.

16) Creating Rhythms (Blues)

Study and create rhythms that are popular to the style of Blues. This lesson covers classic blues ideas like the popular shuffle feel and compound meter groove in 6/8. Dominant chord harmony is abundant along with the 16th note (Stevie Ray) rhythm.

17) Creating Rhythms (Country)

Country strum patterns are important to learn since they are widely applied across many other styles including old-time rock, folk and songs of the 60's and 70's pop era. This lesson focuses on the; back-beat. shuffle and faster 16th-note grooves.



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18) Creating Rhythms (Soul /R&B)

This “creative development” rhythm guitar lesson is focused on the “Soul /R&B” style. There are four inspirational grooves and four exercises where you can create your own rhythms. Studies everything from Slow-Soul grooves to Motown-Funk.

19) Creating Rhythms (Ska & Reggae)

Study the unique grooves found in the styles of Ska and Reggae music. Learn about Ska’s “Skank” guitar groove, and the Reggae feels of Double /Single hit along with the famous Reggae “One-Drop.” There’s also a section on playing ‘3rd-wave Ska-Punk.’

20) Creating Rhythms (Jazz)

In our final lesson of the Rhythm Guitar program we’ll work on creating rhythms in the Jazz style. We’ll cover “Folk-jazz (Gershwin)” and the strong down-beat feel of the “Freddie Green” style. Plus, we’ll explore “Latin” and faster Jazz /Blues variations.