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Acoustic Fingerstyle

LEVEL 1 • Guitar Skills



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Folky Fingerstyle

UNIT 2 • LESSON 1 << PREVIOUS NEXT >>

Lesson notes Interactive tab Diagrams

Inversions

To get started in this unit, we need to introduce the concept of inversion, otherwise known as "Slash chords". That doesn't mean the chords that Slash likes to play... Sorry, couldn't resist that one! 😂 Let's look quickly at the theory of a slash chord. The idea is simply that you take the same chord triad (for example, D major has a D F# and A in the triad) and you **start from one of the other notes in the chord**, rather than the root. So, if we take D major as an example, the D major chord is this:

D major = D, F# & A

D/F# = F#, A & D

Notice how this is exactly the same set of notes, just in a slightly different order!

Now for the moment, we won't go too deep into the ins and outs of the order of the notes, the most important aspect is realising that the basic concept of an inversion is that you take the same chord and **switch the first note to one of the other from that chord!** Simple as that! Here are two slash chords

Course navigation

UNIT 1

4, 5 & 6 Strings

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UNIT 2

Folky

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Fingerstyle

In Unit 2 we take it up to the next gear by bringing in chord inversions and embellishments to our fingerstyle patterns. We focus on a full folk style track that really encapsulates the sound of this wonderful genre.

Lessons:

- Inversions
- Folky Fingerstyle
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UNIT 3

Hip Hop

Fingerstyle

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UNIT 4

Poppy

Fingerstyle

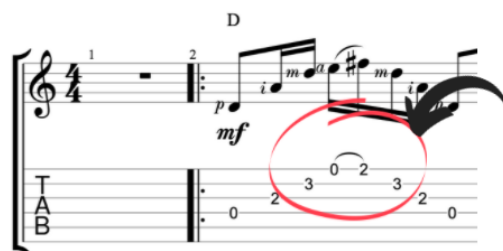
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that we will be using in this unit, and probably two of the most common slash chords you will come across!

Hammer-Ons

We'll also start to practice a cool new technique that you can use with a lot of open chord shapes. If you've never done a hammer-on before, the idea is simply to "throw" your finger down onto the fretboard rather than place it and pick it with your right hand. It's an awesome technique, and Thomas guides you through it very skilfully in the video using the D major and G major chords.



The little arched line here depicts the hammer on from the open string to the 2nd fret. Get used to seeing these on the tabs!

So, let's take a look at the exercise that we need to master before moving onto the next lesson. We are using the D major and G major chords here with the little hammer-ons! Take your time with it, and try to do it with a drum beat!



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