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Metal Essentials

LEVEL 2 • Guitar Skills

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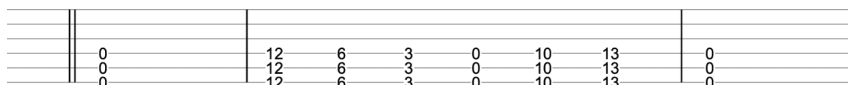
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Metal Toolbox

UNIT 3 • **LESSON 2** << PREVIOUS NEXT >>

Drop A tuning continued

At this point it's important to talk about why we choose to use a tuning like drop A! First up, the really good news is that the actual basic guitar function and intervals between strings stay the same as drop D. So any chord shape that you play like you would in drop D will still sound the same (except a lot lower). For example if you played this riff from VHS, it would still sound right, just a lot lower... Give it a try now whilst in Drop A:



“ Every chord you now play is still in itself the same structure, but overall the pitch will be 5

Course navigation

UNIT 1

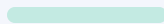
The Modes of Metal

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UNIT 2

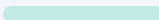
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UNIT 3

Metal Toolbox

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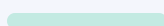
In this unit, whilst you're still working with that awesome song, we'll be diving into a massive toolbox of metal techniques, ideas and songwriting concepts to get you understanding the genre even further.

Lessons:

- Drop A Tuning
- Drop A tuning continued
- 7 Core Metal Techniques
- Solo Writing Process
- Metal Tones!

UNIT 4

Savage

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semitones

lower, so

a 4th

degree

lower. So

that big

open D

first chord

is now a

big open

A. This

makes

the tuning

really

workable!

Claire



But why?!

The reason is simple, to be more heavy! Metal started way back in the 70's and 80's and at that point they were getting a heavy sound by simply using E standard or Eb standard tuning. Those classic heavy riffs that you know and love never strayed too far from that tuning. As metal progressed drop D became popular, allowing for an even deeper, heavier sound. With the world of modern metal, the guitar players and band were looking for **something even richer, even heavier, and so the tuning got lower and lower**. Of course, this all leads into 7 and 8 string guitars that allow us to go even lower, but more on that in another course!



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