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Dave Grohl
Player Studies

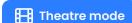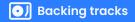✓ Recently viewed   ⓘ

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Drums to guitar
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Guitar drones

Dave Grohl has a very cool way of mimicking the sound of those lush cymbals, using something called a drone. A drone is a note that is constantly there and is laid over the rest of the chords. The important thing here is to be able to work out which drone notes you can use over the chords.
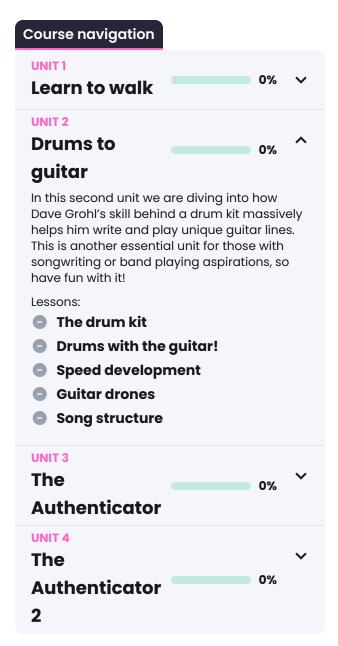
Music harmony!

At this point, a lot of what Franco is referring to is covered in great detail in our Harmony course. At some point, we highly recommend you check that out if you haven't already.
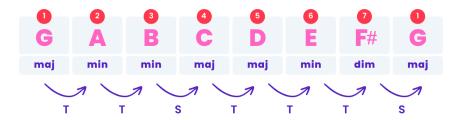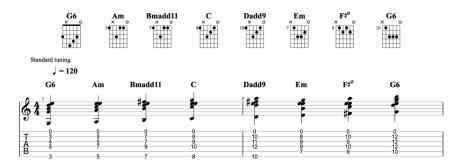

Harmony
Guitar Skills

Let's take the key of G major and E minor. They are the same key to start with, as you'll know from the harmony course. What we want to do is basically

pick a note from that key that is also one of our open string notes. So, let's look at the key of G major:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1
G	A	B	C	D	E	F#	G
maj	min	min	maj	maj	min	dim	maj

T T S T T T S

From those notes that we have available, the G, A, B, D and E are all potential open strings that we can use. You can experiment with all of these, but we'll take the E as it's easiest to do with **the open high E string**. So we can now take those chords in the key and add the high E string to the top of them, this creating these chords:

You'll notice they all have funky names now, as we're adding the E to the top of every chord, but I wouldn't think too hard about that. Instead, just think of them as lush versions of the basic chord sequence, which as a reminder would be simply:

| G Am Bm C | D Em F#mdim G |

So whatever chord

> progression you are using, you can use this idea to change up the sound, the way a lush ride cymbal would open up the sound. Remember also that not every key would work like this, but G major certainly does! If the key doesn't work with open strings, pop a capo on!
>
> **Franco**

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