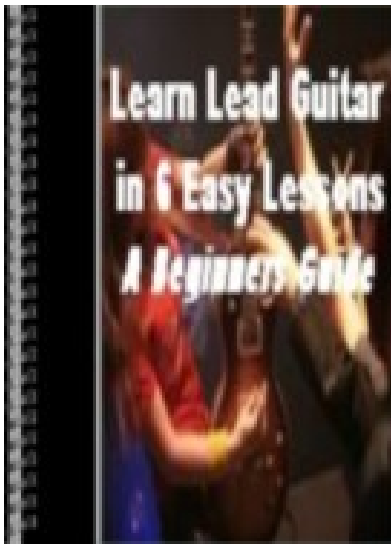


Learn to Play Lead Guitar in 6 Easy Lessons

**A Step-by-Step Beginners Guide to Lead Guitar Basics,
Reading Tabs, and How to Play Songs**



This free guide is courtesy of The Guitar Players Toolbox and Jamorama Lead Guitar

www.guitar-players-toolbox.com

www.jamoramalead.com

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Introduction and Lesson Guide Overview

Hello there! Welcome to “**Learn to Play Lead Guitar Tabs in 6 Easy Lessons**”. This step-by-step guide will show you how the basic of playing lead guitar, how to read guitar tabs, some cool lead skills, and step-by-step instructions on how to play a popular song, “The House of the Rising Sun”.

This guide is based on lesson content from the proven guitar learning method [Jamorama Lead Guitar](#) coupled with the practical “how to” resources of [The Guitar Players Toolbox](#). By reading and practicing the material in each chapter you’ll progress to the point that you will be able to play a full song (House of the Rising Sun) by yourself. Plus you get suggestions on additional songs with easy guitar tabs to put your skills to good use.

Fair Notice: At several points in this guide, you will be reminded to check out the Jamorama Lead Guitar Learning Kit. Since this guide is based on some lesson material from Jamorama, and it’s free, it’s only fair to include some mentions of the product. Although we hope you do check the full course out, feel free to just make use of the useful learning content in this free guide!

Here’s what you’ll learn in this guide:

Lesson 1 -- Introduction to the Lead Guitar and How to read TAB

- Getting into Position. Information that every beginner should know before they start out!
- Using a pick . One of the most important things you must know if you want to progress.
- Introduction to TAB. The basis of a lot of guitar music notation.

Lesson 2--Fingering and Learning 'C Shape' Pattern

- How to use your fingers correctly.
- Warm up exercises. One of the most important things you will ever learn about playing the guitar!
- 'C Shape'. How to know which notes to play.

Lesson 3--The “Tools of the Trade”

- Single note lines. This is the first tool to learn.
- 'Hammer ons'. This tool will blow you away.
- House of the Rising Sun. Looking at the first part of the song.

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Lesson 4--Developing Your Skills

- Learning the 'pull off'. This next tool will have you sounding like the professionals in no time!
- Combining the tools. Things are starting to get tricky.
- House of the Rising Sun. Looking at the second part of the song using all the tools so far.

Lesson 5 -- Playing "House of the Rising Sun".

- A quick warm up.
- House of Rising Sun. The final section
- Song sections 1, 2, 3 all together. Let's break it down!
- Playing up the octave. This is something really very cool!

Lesson 6 -- Play Along with the Full *Jamorama* Band

- You can download a full version of the song that you are going to learn by [clicking here!](#)

APPENDIX -- Additional Resources

- Guide to songs with easy guitar tabs
- Free song lessons with tabs and video
- More tools and tips

While this guide will give you some basic lead guitar skills and get you playing a song, it can't possibly teach you everything you need and want to know.

If you already know you want a more comprehensive system to learn lead guitar, Jamorama put everything into its course, ***Jamorama Lead Guitar Learning Kit!*** It's got a lot more than this free guide. It's packed with cutting edge material to help you fast track your guitar learning. You'll learn how to play almost any song you hear by ear. Click on the link below to see exactly how you can cost-effectively learn to play guitar:

www.jamoramalead.com

Lesson 1 -- Introduction to the Lead Guitar and How to read TAB

Today's lesson is covering the basics. Even if you have some experience under your belt, take some time to make sure you have these basics down.

Getting into Position

Sitting Positions

There are two sitting positions for holding the guitar; classical and casual. Even though it's an acoustic pictured below the same principles apply for electric.

1. Pick up the guitar and make sure that the guitar body is supported by your leg.
2. Position yourself at the edge of your chair.
3. Ensure that your back is relaxed but straight.
4. Lean the guitar back towards you slightly.



Casual position



Classical position

Standing Position

1. Pick up the guitar and place the strap over your shoulder. Adjust the strap so that the guitar is positioned mid-body.
2. Use your left hand to support the neck of the guitar.
3. Rest your right hand over the bridge of the guitar.

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Hand Positions

It is important that you relax your wrists and hands. Straining them can cause injury.

Front View



Rear View



Warning! Make sure that you *never* position your hand like this:



Your thumb should never be placed this low on the neck of the guitar as it puts unnecessary strain on your wrist and thumb.

Fretting

When you play the guitar, you use your left hand fingers to press down the strings on the fret board of the guitar and use your right hand to pluck or strum the strings at the bridge end of the guitar. Using your left hand to press the strings on the fret board is called fretting. Here are some tips you will need to know:

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1. Short fingernails are essential.
2. Use only the tips of your fingers to press the strings.
3. When making a chord, be sure that each fingertip is placed within the frets.
We will cover chords in lesson one.
4. Check each string that it rings clearly and is not muted or buzzing.

As a beginner guitarist, it may hurt your fingers to play. This is normal. Every guitarist starts this way for the first couple of weeks. With practice, you will develop guitar fingers (hard skin on your fingertips).

Holding the Pick

Position the pick between thumb and index fingers like in the diagram below:



Time to take a break. Well done, you've just completed the first part of this guide, covering the basics. Next we're going to have a look at the guitar neck and what the parts are.

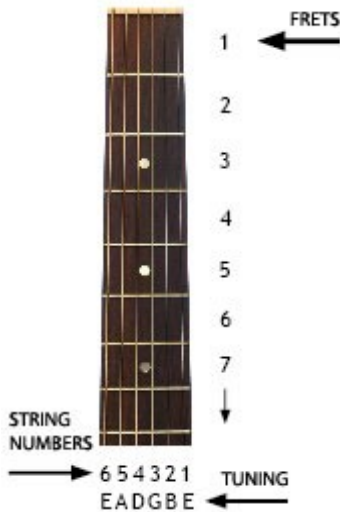
Now you are ready to start your first lesson. We are going to look at the guitar neck and then how to read guitar TAB.

Remember! It is more beneficial for you to practice several times during a week than to practice for one long session. This is because your brain processes information in chunks at a time and it can only hold a certain amount in short term storage.

For example, with phone numbers, it is very difficult to remember any more than 7 digits at a time. Yet if you give yourself time between practicing, even if it is just 10 minutes, you'll find that your brain is much more efficient at turning your short term practice into long term knowledge.

Ok. That aside, let's get started on the lesson. To start with, I want you to have a look at the guitar neck diagram below and make note of all the relevant pieces of information.

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Frets

The guitar neck is divided into what we call frets, making a fret board. Most guitars have around 20 frets. In these first lessons, we will focus on the first four, also known as the first position. Notice that we number each fret starting at 1 at the head of the guitar.

Note: Each string on the guitar is numbered. When you hold your guitar as you would when using the casual playing position, the 1st string is at the bottom and the 6th string is at the top.

Notice also the term, 'Tuning' at the bottom of the above diagram. Tuning refers to the notes that the guitar strings are tuned to. In the above diagram shows a very common tuning called standard E tuning that consists of the notes E, A, D, G and B. Strings 1 and 6 are both tuned to the note E. The open 6th string is called low E. The open 1st string is called high E as it is two octaves higher than the 6th string open E. This guide will explain notes and octaves to you later, but for now, you only need to know the names of the notes in standard open E tuning.

Now make sure that your guitar is tuned to **standard E tuning** (the most common tuning). If you don't know how to tune your guitar, then download a free guide to tuning your guitar from: <http://www.jamorama.com/tuning/tuning.pdf>.

Also, a variety of online tuners are available for free: <http://www.guitar-players-toolbox.com/online-guitar-tuner.html>

****Note:** To open the above tuning.pdf file you'll need a copy of Adobe Acrobat Reader. You can download a free copy of this from: <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>

We will stick to standard E tuning throughout this guide but you can find other tunings to play with in our member's area at www.jamoramalead.com.

How to Read Guitar Tablature

TAB or tablature is the most common method of writing out music for the guitar. It is different from standard music notation in that: TAB uses ordinary numbers and keyboard characters as opposed to standard musical notation which uses symbols. Because of this format, anyone with a computer can write or read TAB making it the most user friendly way to read and communicate guitar music. Also TAB relates directly to the fret board of your guitar meaning that you may easily see where you put your fingers.

In the full version of *Jamorama Lead*, both standard musical notation and tablature are used. But for this guide, we will only use TAB. The reason for this is that tablature is very easy to read and you should have no problems learning TAB in a few short minutes of reading.

TAB has some weak points, the worst of which is that rhythm can't be easily indicated. This shouldn't pose a problem though, as the rhythm for each exercise will be shown using the strum indicators that were introduced in lesson one.

OK. To start, look at your guitar and you will clearly see that it has six strings going from thickest to thinnest. On a TAB diagram, the thinnest string, (or 1st string as its most commonly called) is at the top - The thickest (or 6th string) is at the bottom. This is clearly demonstrated in the 1st example below.

The following diagram shows you how tablature relates to the guitar fret board:



Some of you may notice that this guitar seems upside down in relation to how you play. This is simply the way that guitar music is generally written. Now if you transfer this same model to a written format you will get TAB, which can be seen below.

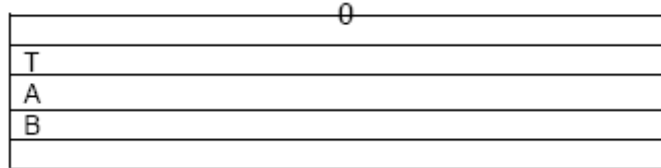
Tablature score:

	1
T	2
A	3
B	4
	5
	6

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So the lines above indicate the strings on a guitar. The top line of the TAB being the thinnest string of the guitar, and the bottom line on the TAB chart indicating the thickest string of the guitar. Now if you look at your guitar you will see metal bars that rise up from the neck of the guitar called frets. TAB uses numbers to show you which one of these frets to press down and play.

For example, look at the tab diagram to the right and you can see that the 1st string (thinnest string) is being played. The number refers to the fret that you should press down. In this case the number zero is displayed. This means that you shouldn't press down anything.



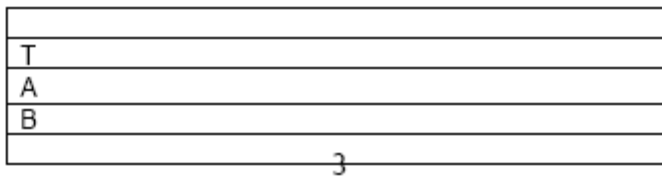
So if you were to play the above piece of TAB on your guitar, you would pick the thinnest string once with your plucking hand and do nothing with your fret hand.

Tip: If you are having trouble with this concept, you can download a video example of the above exercise to see and hear it for yourself. The download links are below (right click on the link and select "save as"):

Video Available:

[QuickTime - Exercise 1 \(1.35 MB\)](#)

Now let's see if we can start pushing down some strings. Look at the next example below and try and play the note that the TAB chart displays.



If you pressed down the thickest string at the 3rd fret then you played the exercise correctly. If you are still unsure whether you are doing the right thing or not, refer to the video below.

Tip: The download links are below (right click on the link and select "save as"):

Video Available:

[QuickTime - Exercise 2 \(1.04 MB\)](#)

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Let's try another one. Play the following piece of TAB:

	1
T	
A	
B	

This TAB diagram above indicates the 2nd string (second thinnest) and you should be pressing down on the first fret.

Tip: Once again, there is video available for this example. The download links are below (right click on the link and select "save as"):

Video Available:

[QuickTime - Exercise 3 \(1.11 MB\)](#)

■

Congratulations on getting through your first lesson. Consider this: you have the power to transform your guitar playing, even if you don't believe it now. That's because learning guitar is easy when you are in the right frame of mind and have the right materials. If you transform your attitude towards learning and motivation, you can achieve an amazing level of skill. **Guitar fluency begins with you!**

In Lesson 2 we will review the '**C Shape**' patterns. The lesson will be no problem because TAB is now easy to read and easy to use for you.

Each lesson will follow on from the last so you'll need to practice.

[Take Your Lead Guitar Playing to the Next Level. Low cost. 100% Risk-free!](#)

Lesson 2-- Fingering and Learning 'C Shape' Pattern

Before we get into Lesson 2, I would like to introduce you to some warm up exercises for your fingers.

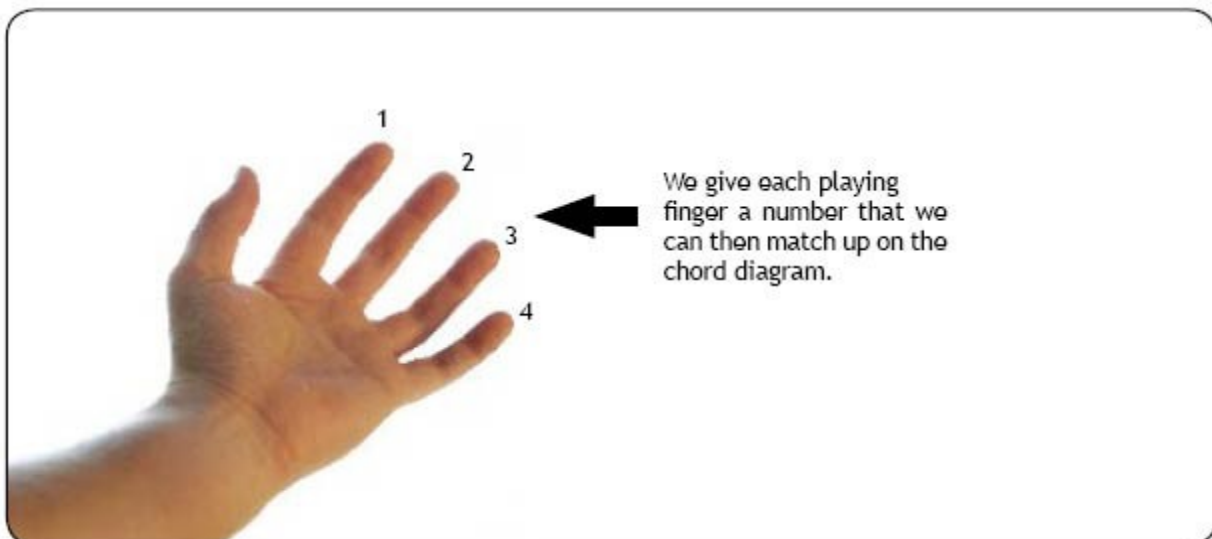
Warm Ups

By now you will have come across some of the difficulties and pain that come with learning the guitar. For most of you, just pressing down the strings and trying to play chords will have caused some moderate pain. Most of this pain will be in your fretting hand (left hand for right handed players). This pain is normally felt in a few places; pain in your fingertips, sore wrists, stiff forearms and pain between your thumb and your fingers. Most of this pain is inevitable and will pass with time.

If you have serious continued pain in your hands then you should contact a health care professional. Repetitive Strain Injuries (R.S.I) and carpal tunnel syndrome are the most common serious problems that guitarists encounter. However for the vast majority of players these problems are not an issue.

The best way to avoid pain when you are playing the guitar is to dedicate some time to warming up. There are many ways you can warm up and every guitar player has a different method. In this lesson we'll show you some basic warm up techniques. These techniques will also help you build hand strength and a little bit of speed.

In this first warm up exercise you'll get used to using particular fingers. If you look at the diagram below you will see that each finger is numbered. Your index finger is 1, your middle finger is 2, your ring finger is 3 and your pinky is 4.

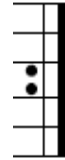


Learn to Play Lead Guitar in 6 Easy Lessons

The following exercise is excellent for warming up, improving hand strength and increasing co-ordination. You will notice that I have tabbed out some single notes for you to play. Above the TAB are some numbers. These numbers indicate the fingers to use when doing the exercise.

Before we move on, let's introduce a musical symbol that we will be using from now on:

The symbol on the right is called a repeat sign. When you see this symbol, you go back to the start of the piece of music you are playing and play it over again.



Fingering	1	2	3	4		4	3	2	1
	5	6	7	8		8	7	6	5
T									
A									
B									

Video Available:

[QuickTime - Exercise 1 \(2.45 MB\)](#)

As you can see, this is just a simple ascending and descending pattern on the 1st string (thinnest string). First, you use your index finger, then your middle finger, then your ring finger and finally your pinky. The second part is just the same thing but in reverse.

This second exercise involves three strings; the 1st, 2nd and 3rd. It is important to notice the fingering used. This may feel a little awkward and frustrating at first but this is the correct way to play the guitar. Getting in the habit of using correct fingering will pay massive dividends as you progress with your guitar playing. Once again, play this exercise with down strokes only...

Learn to Play Lead Guitar in 6 Easy Lessons

Fingering 1 3 4 2 4 1 2 4

T				5				7	4	5	7
A	4	6	7								
B											

Video Available:

[QuickTime - Exercise 2 \(1.04 MB\)](#)

The two exercises shown above are excellent for warming up your hands and increasing your dexterity. If you are having severe pain when you are playing. STOP! It is much better to rest your hands and forearms for the next day's practice than to force yourself to injury. Work hard on the exercises shown in this lesson.

Now, let's get on with the lesson...

'C' Pattern and Scales

It's time to look at some theory. Don't get scared, this is going to unlock some amazing secrets to playing lead guitar.

This guide is based on a vital pattern which we will have you master - the 'C' Shape pattern. By mastering this pattern you will be able to play all of the notes you need to play the song, 'House of the rising sun'. To understand this pattern it's important to practice it and refer back to it often. In the full [Jamorama lead course](#) you will learn more patterns and how to play the whole guitar fret board giving you access to all the notes you'll ever need!

OK, to teach you about the 'C' pattern we need to take a look at scales. Have you ever seen your favorite band or guitarist improvise a solo that sounded note for note perfect and left the crowd in awe and then think how on earth did he do that? The answer? Talent? Sure talent is part of it, but a more important aspect is scale knowledge. You see, whether it's Jimi Hendrix, Kirk Hammet or Stevie Ray Vaughan, they all knew which notes harmonized well over thier chords to make it the solo wail.

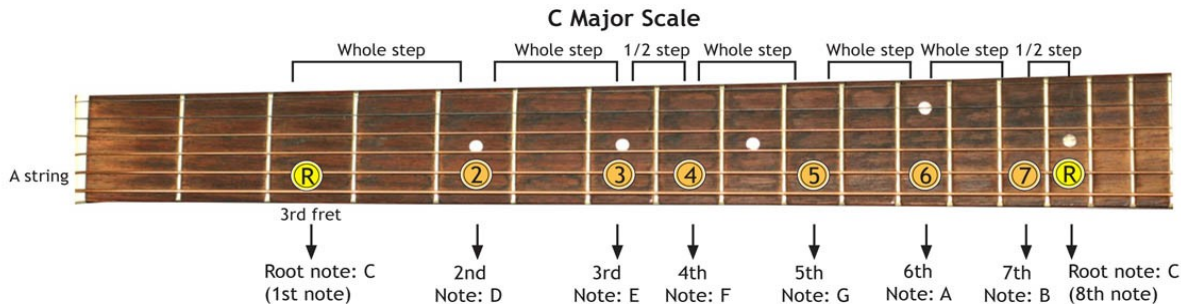
Stop! Aren't scales like boring Do, Re, Mi, Fa, So that we learned in school? Well, yes they are but what if I told you that they're also the Stairway to Heaven solo, Van Helen's Eruption or the famous solo in Hotel California? You might see them in a new light.

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In learning scales you increase your chances tenfold of playing a lead guitar solo or melody that will sound awesome. So what exactly is a scale?

- A scale consists of 7 different notes with the 8th note being the octave higher.
- Scales are built up of half steps and whole steps between notes and this determines what type of scale it is.

What does this mean? The diagram below of a major scale in the key of 'C' helps explain it.



- The “Root” or “Tonic” decides what the rest of the notes in the scale are going to be. In the above example we see the root is ‘C’ and the rest of the notes in the ‘C’ major scales are D,E,F,G,A,B.
- All major scales follow a pattern of whole step, whole step, half step, whole step, whole step, whole step, half step. Major scales are going to be the main focus of this course for this is what has created the majority of popular music. '

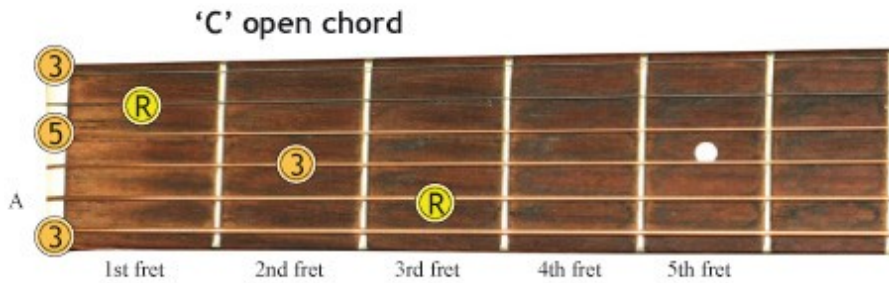
This stuff is important to learn as we are going to use it when learning the patterns in the song 'House of the Rising Sun'.

Find the 'C Shape'

It's called the 'C shape' because it is based around the open C chord.

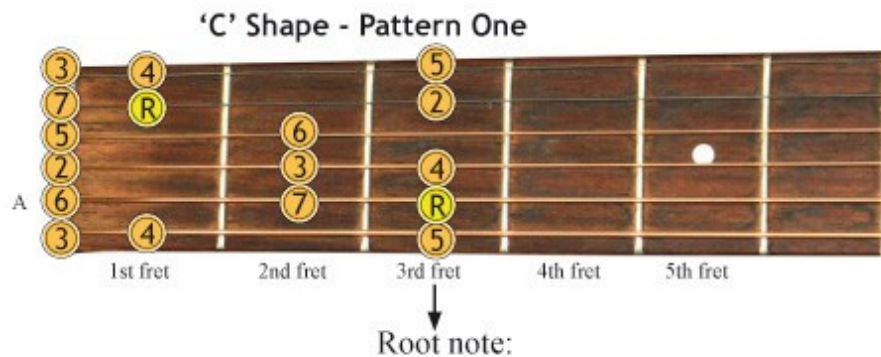
Below you will see a simple C major chord. You can see the chord and its relative notes in the scale on the fret board. All major chords are made up of the root the 3rd and 5th note of the major scale (not always in that order). When you highlight the root note, 3rd and 5th in pattern one, it outlines an open 'C' major chord. The diagram below emphasizes this point. The C Major chord is made up of root notes, 3rds and 5ths. As you can see in the diagram:

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The '**C Shape**' (or pattern) takes its name from the open C chord. If you look closely you can see the C major chord in the pattern. That's why we call this pattern the '**C shape**', because using the C major chord is a good reference point to learning the pattern and its notes.

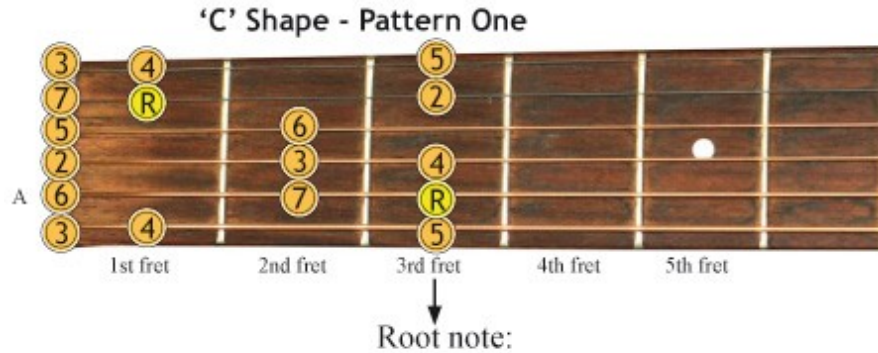
Here's the 'C Shape'



You can see the C major chord by looking at the root notes: "R", the 3rds: "3", and the 5ths: "5". This is important because its from these notes that we will learn how to play the song and use lead playing "tools".

Here's the 'C Shape' again but this time underneath you will notice the notes written out in TAB form so you can see how the shape works.

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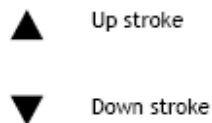


Strum: ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼

Fingering: 0 1 3 0 2 3 0 2 3 0 2 0 1 3 0 1 3

Introducing Picking

There are two methods of picking the guitar string. These are up stroke and down stroke. Throughout this mini course these strokes will be notated as follows:



When you play a stroke, you pick across the strings just in front of the bridge of the guitar with the pick in your strumming hand. When strumming a chord, make sure that you play all of the necessary strings in the chord. The stroke direction will depend on which stroke is indicated; up or down as shown above.

Now try playing the scale again but this time descending.

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Strum: ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼

Fingering: 3 1 0 3 1 0 2 0 3 2 0 3 2 0 3 1 0

Video Available:

[QuickTime - Exercise 3 \(744 KB\)](#)

It's important to become familiar with the notes in this scale because its these notes we're going to use to play the song.

This has been a big lesson for you. Go over it if you need to, some of the ideas are quite complicated to get straight away but remember to be patient with your learning.

Don't forget, the Jamorama Lead Guitar Learning Kit which includes step-by-step written lessons, video lessons, audio lessons and sophisticated software games to accelerate your guitar learning. Visit Jamoramalead.com to find out more.

If you've made it this far in the guide, you realize that getting to where you want to be with guitar requires quite a lot of quality time and quality information. To help you, some fantastic time saving tools and software to are included to accompany the lessons in the ***Jamorama Lead Guitar Learning Kit!***

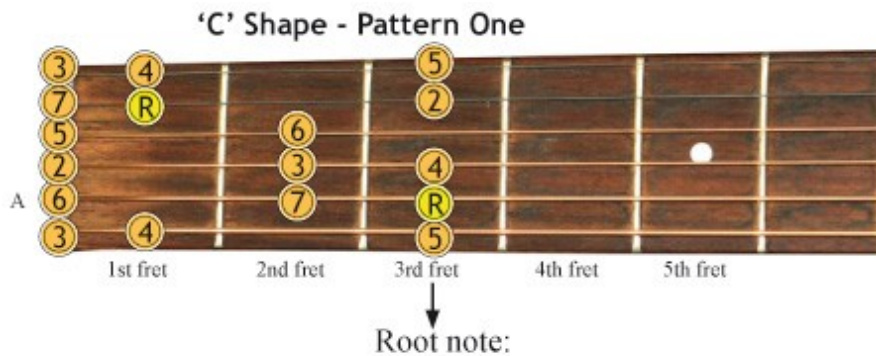
In the next lesson we will look at the first part of the song you will learn, "House of Rising Sun" and we'll introduce you to the lead playing secrets of the "bend".

[Take Your Lead Guitar Playing to the Next Level. Low cost. 100% Risk-free!](#)

Lesson 3--The “Tools of the Trade”

This lesson continues on from Lessons 1 and 2. In Lesson 1 you learned about the guitar and reading TAB. In the second lesson you were shown the 'C Shape' and the notes you will need to know to play the song 'House of the Rising Sun'. We're going to break the song down into three sections for you to learn. This lesson will be similar to the second part of lesson two, however, we're going to look at the first section of "House of Rising House".

So far you've had a look at the C major scale and the 'C Shape' pattern. All of the notes that are played in "House of the Rising Sun" are found in the 'C Shape'. Let's take a look at it again.



Tools

In this short guide we're going to learn three of the many lead guitar 'tools' covered in the main course. The tools you will learn in this course are single note lines, hammer ons and pull offs.

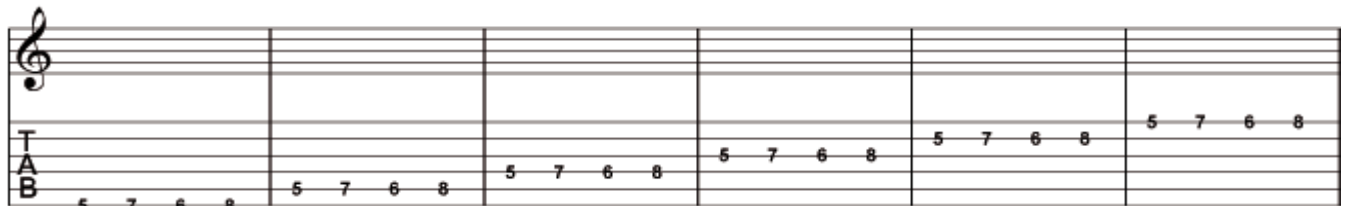
Tool: Single Note Lines

Every lead player uses single note lines, in fact without them many famous solos would not exist.

So, how do they work? Basically, you play single notes consecutively either ascending or descending the fret board. Sounds simple? It is!

Try this exercise and watch the video if you've having difficulty. It's also a great way of warming up your hands and fingers.


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Exercise 1, measures 1-6. The notation shows a treble clef, a TAB staff, and a strumming/fingering staff. The TAB staff contains the sequence: 5 7 6 8 | 5 7 6 8 | 5 7 6 8 | 5 7 6 8 | 5 7 6 8 | 5 7 6 8. The strumming staff shows a pattern of downstrokes (▼) and upstrokes (▲). The fingering staff shows the sequence: 1 3 2 4 | 1 3 2 4 | 1 3 2 4 | 1 3 2 4 | 1 3 2 4 | 1 3 2 4.

Strum: ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲

Fingering: 1 3 2 4 1 3 2 4 1 3 2 4 1 3 2 4 1 3 2 4 1 3 2 4



Exercise 1, measures 7-12. The notation shows a treble clef, a TAB staff, and a strumming/fingering staff. The TAB staff contains the sequence: 8 6 7 5 | 8 6 7 5 | 8 6 7 5 | 8 6 7 5 | 8 6 7 5 | 8 6 7 5. The strumming staff shows a pattern of upstrokes (▲) and downstrokes (▼). The fingering staff shows the sequence: 4 2 3 1 | 4 2 3 1 | 4 2 3 1 | 4 2 3 1 | 4 2 3 1 | 4 2 3 1.

Strum: ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▲

Fingering: 4 2 3 1 4 2 3 1 4 2 3 1 4 2 3 1 4 2 3 1 4 2 3 1


Video Available:

[QuickTime - Exercise 1 \(983 KB\)](#)

Section one: House of the Rising Sun

Now we're going to look at the first part to "House of the Rising Sun"

Take your time and look at the part closely. The lyrics are written underneath to prompt you.



First part of "House of the Rising Sun". The notation shows a treble clef, a TAB staff, and a strumming/fingering staff. The TAB staff contains the sequence: 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0. The strumming staff shows a pattern of downstrokes (▼) and upstrokes (▲). The fingering staff shows the sequence: 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1.

Strum: ▼ ▲ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼

Fingering: 1 2 1 1 1 1 1

Keep going over this exercise until you feel comfortable with it then move onto the next part of today's lesson.

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Tool: Hammer On

The next lead guitar tool is the hammer on.

What is a hammer on? To play a hammer on, choose a note on the fret board and pluck it. Now that the note is ringing, use a different finger to strike (hammer) down either 1, 2 or 3 frets higher on the same string. This tool enables you to pick the string once but play two notes. The pitch will always go higher (ascend) when playing hammer ons.

- Tip: Make sure it's a hammer, not a gentle press otherwise you'll kill the sound. Aim for accuracy, smoothness and two clear sounds so as to have even volume.
- It's just as important to focus on the timing of your picking hand when your playing numerous hammer ons.

The hammer on is notated with what looks like a horizontal bracket. It's a small arch that goes from one note to the next as you can see in the exercise below. This means you play a hammer from one to the next every time you see the small arch.

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a 'TAB' label. The staff contains six measures of music. Each measure has a single note on the fifth line of the staff, with a horizontal bracket (arch) connecting it to a second note on a higher line. The notes are labeled with fret numbers: 5, 7, 6, 8. Below the staff, there are two rows of information: 'Strum:' and 'Fingering:'. The 'Strum:' row shows a sequence of downward (▼) and upward (▲) arrows. The 'Fingering:' row shows the finger numbers 1, 3, 2, 4 for each measure.

Strum: ▼ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▲ ▲ ▲ ▲

Fingering: 1 3 2 4 1 3 2 4 1 3 2 4 1 3 2 4 1 3 2 4

Tip: You can download a video example of the above exercise to see and hear it for yourself. The download links are below (right click on the link and select "save as"):

Video Available:

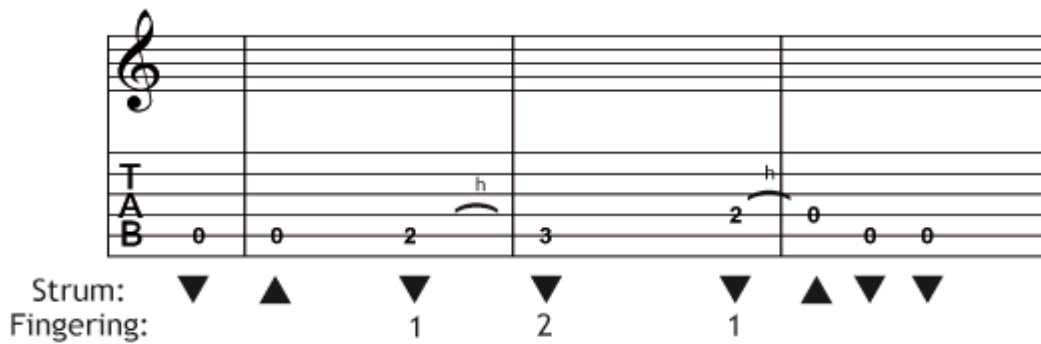
[QuickTime - Exercise 2 \(852 KB\)](#)

Learn to Play Lead Guitar in 6 Easy Lessons

Why

- A hammer-on is beneficial to have in the arsenal of tricks. It gives you a smoother sound between notes and helps you to play a series of notes rapidly. Great for the shredders out there.

Now we're going to go over the same section of "House of the Rising Sun" but this time employing the hammer on tool we've just looked at. Remember to go slowly over the song and every time you see the small arch notation you play the hammer on from one note to the next.



Practice Tips:

- Play every note cleanly - no buzzing!
- Try playing the scale out of sequence.
- Name the notes as you play them.

In the next lesson we have a lot to cover. We're going to look at another 'tool' and more of "House of the Rising Sun". If you followed the lessons carefully you should find these exercises a logical and easy progression from what you have previously done. It's great to have you on board!

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Lesson 4--Developing Your Skills

Remember in the lesson 2 we talked about warming up and using the correct fingering. Before you start this lesson, just try another one of these warm up fingering drills.

This following warm up exercise involves the 6th, 5th and 4th strings (three thickest strings). Take care to use correct fingering when you are playing this. Remember, your index finger is number 1, your middle finger is number 2, your ring finger is number 3 and your pinky is number 4. Play in down strokes and take your time. Try and make each note ring clear. Remember it is better to play slowly and accurately than to sound muddy and unclear.

Fingering 1 3 4 1 3 4 2 3

T								
A							6	7
B				5	7	8		
	5	7	8					

Video Available:

[QuickTime - Exercise 1 \(2.47 MB\)](#)

Now that you have finished that warm up pattern it's time to move onto the main part of the lesson which is some work on the next 'tool' you're going to need.

Tool: Pull off

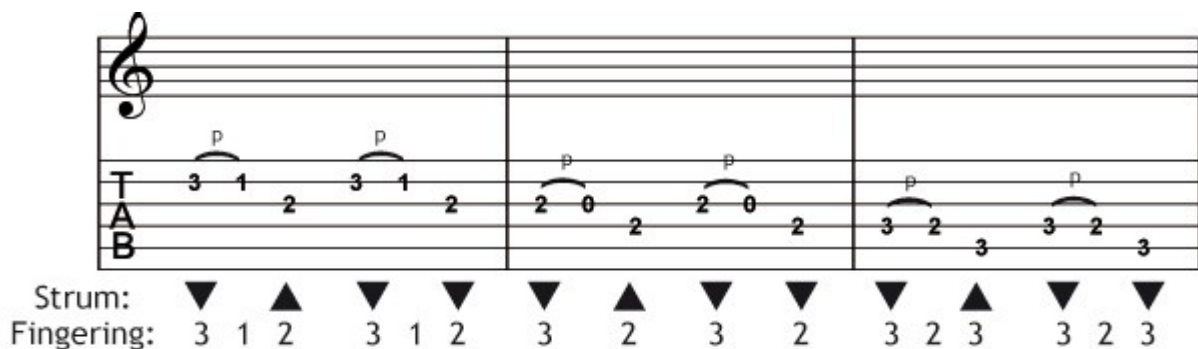
What is a pull off? Answer: A pull off is the reverse of a hammer on. Where a hammer on plays up the fret board, a pull off plays down. An example is fretting your finger on the 7th fret while anchoring another finger below (5th fret) on the same string. Pick the string once and pull off the original fretted finger (7th fret) down towards the floor, leaving the 5th fretted finger on the fretboard. This should create two even sounds. As with the hammer on, you only pick the string once. With a pull off, the pitch will always go down (descend).

Why use pull offs?

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Pull offs have the same purpose as hammer ons. They will help you play a passage faster and give you a smoother sound. Combining these tools, the pull off and hammer will begin to advance the sound and skill level of your playing.

Note: You will see here that Pull-Offs are notated by a 'P' being placed above the TAB. This is to distinguish it from a Hammer-On which will be notated with an 'H'



A guitar TAB exercise consisting of three measures. The first measure contains two pull-off phrases: (3 1) 2 and (3 1) 2, each with a 'P' above the first note. The second measure contains two pull-off phrases: (2 0) 2 and (2 0) 2, each with a 'P' above the first note. The third measure contains two pull-off phrases: (3 2) 3 and (3 2) 3, each with a 'P' above the first note. Below the TAB, strumming is indicated by downward (▼) and upward (▲) triangles, and fingering is indicated by numbers 1, 2, and 3.

Strum: ▼ ▲ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▼

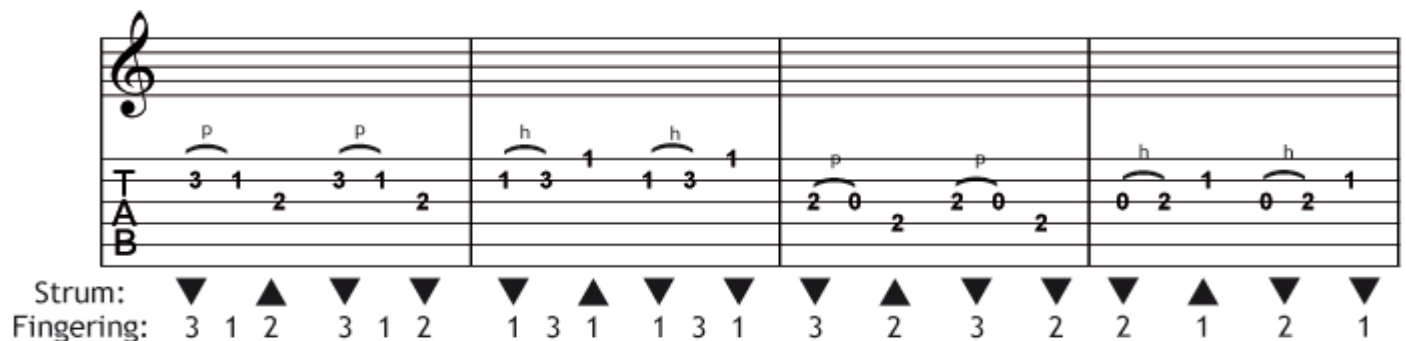
Fingering: 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 2 3 2 3 2 3 3 2 3

Video Available:

[QuickTime - Exercise 2 \(589 KB\)](#)

Pull offs are generally used to descend through a solo or lead line. This means that the notes go down in pitch. The opposite generally happens with hammer ons. Hammer ons usually ascend, going upwards in pitch.

Here's another exercise for you to look at with hammer on's and pull offs together. This is a tricky one. Give yourself time, your fingers will start to learn how it feels as you play the exercise over.



A guitar TAB exercise consisting of four measures. The first measure has two pull-off phrases: (3 1) 2 and (3 1) 2, each with a 'P' above the first note. The second measure has two hammer-on phrases: (1 3) 1 and (1 3) 1, each with an 'h' above the second note. The third measure has two pull-off phrases: (2 0) 2 and (2 0) 2, each with a 'P' above the first note. The fourth measure has two hammer-on phrases: (0 2) 1 and (0 2) 1, each with an 'h' above the second note. Below the TAB, strumming is indicated by downward (▼) and upward (▲) triangles, and fingering is indicated by numbers 1, 2, and 3.

Strum: ▼ ▲ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▼ ▼ ▲ ▼ ▼

Fingering: 3 1 2 3 1 2 1 3 1 1 3 1 3 2 3 2 2 1 2 1

Video Available:

[QuickTime - Exercise 3 \(695 KB\)](#)

Well done on that last exercise. Things are getting pretty tricky now so keep up the good work, you're learning some of the skills that the best use to really wail.

Section two: House of the Rising Sun

Now we're going to look at the second part of "House of the Rising Sun". Once again, take your time to go through it and make sure you get every note sounding clean. Don't worry if you find it difficult as that is normal. Some of these skills will take time to master.

Play the following piece:

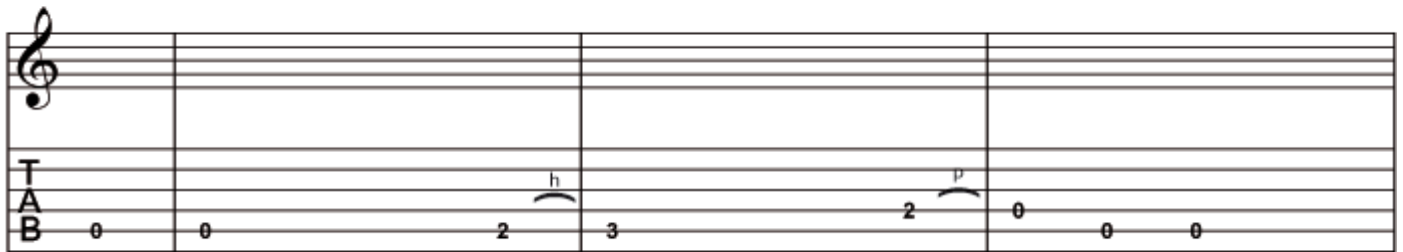
Strum: ▼ ▲ ▼ ▼ ▼
Fingering: 1 1 1 1 1

The next step for us is putting both the sections together with hammer ons and pull offs.

Note: By now you should be getting a 'feel' for your own stroke pattern. We have included the fingering and stroke indicators for the very initial part of this course, however from this point they will be left off the TAB. You should be comfortable with reading TAB and 'feeling' out the best way for you to complete the exercise.

House of the Rising Sun. Part one and two

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Well done on that last exercise. This is really starting to look like a song. Soon you'll be playing "House of the Rising Sun"!

Now you have three different 'tools' at your disposal; 'single note playing', 'hammer on' and 'pull off'. That's great! In the next lesson we're going to use the tools you've learned and the 'C Shape' pattern of notes to play "House of the Rising Sun". You're almost there and well on your way to becoming a complete lead guitar player.

If you have been completing the lessons in full then you are doing well and are probably committed to becoming a good lead guitarist. Keep going! There are only two more lessons to go before you can play the whole song with the *Jamorama* Band.

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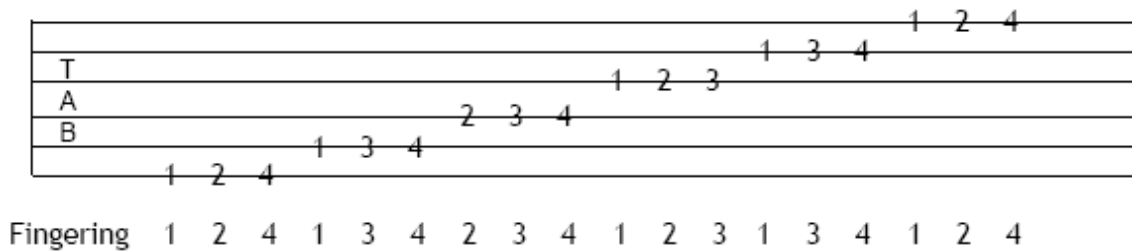
Lesson 5-- Playing "House of the Rising Sun"

Ok, let's pickup where we left off in the last lesson - 'House of the Rising Sun'.

Understanding that this song might not be in the style that you are specifically into, it is a good song to get you started at playing something and using the 'tools' and notes you've learned. Plus, many songs in different styles share similar notes and tools. You will probably start to discover this as your learning progresses. So, don't be worried if this song is not your thing, it's just there to get you up and running, and stringing some notes together.

Today we're going to look at the 3rd and largest part of "House of the Rising Sun". But first, let's do a new warm up pattern. This one will be a touch more difficult than the last few. This pattern starts on the first fret and the sixth string (thickest string). You will play all six strings and use all your fingers. As always with these exercises, focus on using the correct fingering.

Warm up:



Video Available:

[QuickTime - Exercise 1 \(3.35 MB\)](#)

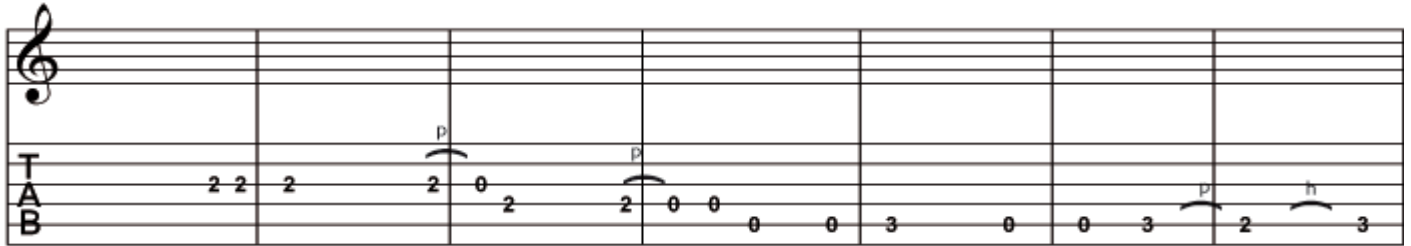
In the above warm-up, you will have noticed that the frets you played have the same numbers as the fingers you use to play them. Knowing that the finger and fret number are the same makes it easy to remember what to play. So, your fingers should be warmed up and ready to play. Let's get on with it...

Section three: House of the Rising Sun

What's important in this lesson is that we're going to put all the parts together. In tomorrow's lesson I will give you a chance to play along with other instruments.

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So, here's the 3rd part for "House of the Rising Sun". Take note and look at where the hammer ons and pull offs are.



Play this over until you think that you've mastered those changes.

The goal of a good lead guitarist is to play clear, crisp nice sounding notes over the chord changes. That's what you're learning to do here today.

Take your time and make sure you've learnt the changes between each chord.

It's important that you learn each section off by heart.

Well done! The next step is putting it all together and playing through it. Now, it's important that you get an idea of the how the song actually sounds so I want you to go through and listen to the track carefully and hear where the notes are. Try and get a feel for the rhyhm of the song as well.

Once you've got a good listen and locked on to what the song should sound like, it's time to give it a go yourself.

Play the song from start to finish: **House of the Rising Sun**

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First system of guitar notation (measures 1-4). The notation includes a treble clef and a TAB line. The TAB line shows fret numbers (0, 2, 3, 2, 0, 0, 0) and includes a hammer-on (h) and a pull-off (P) technique.

Second system of guitar notation (measures 5-8). The notation includes a treble clef and a TAB line. The TAB line shows fret numbers (2, 2, 2, 0, 2, 2) and includes a pull-off (P) technique.

Third system of guitar notation (measures 9-12). The notation includes a treble clef and a TAB line. The TAB line shows fret numbers (2, 2, 2, 2, 0, 2, 2, 0, 0, 0, 0) and includes two pull-off (P) techniques.

Fourth system of guitar notation (measures 13-16). The notation includes a treble clef and a TAB line. The TAB line shows fret numbers (3, 0, 0, 3, 2, 3, 0) and includes a hammer-on (h) technique.

Fifth system of guitar notation (measures 17-18). The notation includes a treble clef and a TAB line. The TAB line shows a double bar line, indicating the end of the piece.

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Well done. When playing through the song it's important to keep going over and over until it becomes familiar. If you do this you'll be on your way to playing like a professional in no time at all.

At this point, you should practice the structure with all the changes in your own time until you feel confident with the piece.

Practice playing along with the track and you will quickly get the hang of the song.

Ok, if you're feeling up to it we can move on. The next step for us now is to play the song again but on different strings. We will play the same notes but this time we will play them at what we call "**up the octave**". Don't worry too much about what that means at this stage. It's more important to just do it at this stage.

Play the following:

House of the Rising Sun "up the octave"

Learn to Play Lead Guitar in 6 Easy Lessons

5

T
A
B

9

T
A
B

13

T
A
B

17

T
A
B

21

T
A
B

Learn to Play Lead Guitar in 6 Easy Lessons

Tip: There is video available for this example. The download links are below (right click on the link and select "save as") This is the audio of the song played out in full. Go over it carefully and track where the sections are.

Video Available:

[QuickTime - House of the Rising Sun](#)

■

Now that you have had a chance to play the song by yourself, you should be getting used to the changes between the notes.

Practice both ways of playing the song. In the next lesson we're going to put both versions together.

You should now be playing along with the audio tracks confidently and you should be getting used to changing between the notes.

In the next lesson we will be playing with the whole band. You won't learn anything new. It will just be a matter of putting together all the elements that we have already learned in the previous lessons.

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Lesson 6 -- Play Along with the Full *Jamorama* Band

Welcome to the 6th lesson and final lesson in this guide. First, let's look at another warm up pattern, before getting into the song and then getting you to play along with the band. This final part should be fun and easy as you have already mastered the song and it should be a matter of just doing what you have already done but with the accompaniment of instruments.

Ok. Let's get into another one of our warm up techniques. This one will once again use all your fingers and all the strings. The following pattern is similar to those already shown, so you should have no problem playing it. Now, as always, use correct fingering. The correct fingering is written out below on TAB.

	4	3	2	1	0		4	3	2	1	0		4	3	2	1	0		4	3	2	1	0		4	3	2	1	0		4	3	2	1	0			
T																																						
A																																						
B																																						

Fingering 4 3 2 1 4 3 2 1 4 3 2 1 4 3 2 1 4 3 2 1 4 3 2 1

You will have noticed that when there is a zero on the above tab there is no fingering indicated. That is because a zero indicates an open fret, therefore you don't need to use a finger to push down on the string. Keep working with this pattern until you feel that you are playing it smoothly.

Ok. Now it's time to put the song together. This should be a lot of fun. Just remember, it's the same as the tab on the last lesson. If you handled that you should get through this no problem at all.

Play the piece by yourself a few times over.

House of the Rising Sun

Learn to Play Lead Guitar in 6 Easy Lessons

First system of guitar notation (measures 1-4). The staff shows a treble clef and a TAB line. The TAB line contains the following fret numbers: 0, 0, 2, 3, 2, 0, 0, 0. A hammer-on (h) is indicated over the 2nd fret in measure 3.

Second system of guitar notation (measures 5-8). The staff shows a treble clef and a TAB line. The TAB line contains the following fret numbers: 2, 2, 2, 0, 2, 2. A pull-off (p) is indicated over the 2nd fret in measure 6.

Third system of guitar notation (measures 9-12). The staff shows a treble clef and a TAB line. The TAB line contains the following fret numbers: 2, 2, 2, 2, 0, 2, 2, 0, 0, 0, 0. A pull-off (p) is indicated over the 2nd fret in measure 10.

Fourth system of guitar notation (measures 13-16). The staff shows a treble clef and a TAB line. The TAB line contains the following fret numbers: 3, 0, 0, 3, 2, 3, 0. A hammer-on (h) is indicated over the 2nd fret in measure 15.

Fifth system of guitar notation (measures 17-20). The staff shows a treble clef and a TAB line. The TAB line contains the following fret numbers: 2, 2, 0, 1, 0. A pull-off (p) is indicated over the 0th fret in measure 19.

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25

0 5 5 5 5 3 0 0

[illegible]

33

1 2 3

Once again here's the video of the song. Once you've mastered it on your own its time to move on to the really fun part - playing with the band!

Video Available:

[QuickTime - House of Rising Sun \(6.47 MB\)](#)

Now that you've got that part sorted it's time to play along with the Jamorama band. This is where all your hard work pays off and you can finally rock out!

Play along with the band on the following JAM track:

Audio

[Audio Backing Band mp3 \(5.34 MB\)](#)

Learn to Play Lead Guitar in 6 Easy Lessons

Did you do it? If you feel like you are not quite getting it completely right, try again. Remember, you can always refer back to the other lessons and the TAB if you forget. Keep working at it and you will get it down.

You will notice that song repeats several times. Every time you see the repeat bar you go back to the beginning. BUT remember, you only play the introduction the first time through the song.

Here is the same song just without the lead guitar so you can play along and fit right in with the band. If you have difficulty just go back to the previous track and check your playing against the lead track.

Audio

[Audio Backing Band without lead guitar mp3 \(5.35 MB\)](#)

If you need a copy of the words, I have written them out below.

House of the Rising Sun

There is a house in New Orleans
They call the 'Rising Sun'
And it's been the ruin of many a young poor boy
And God, I know I'm one

My mother was a tailor
Sewed my new blue jeans
My father was a gamblin' man
Down in New Orleans
Now the only thing a gambler needs
Is a suitcase and a trunk
And the only time he's satisfied
Is when he's on a drunk

Oh, Mother tell your children
Not to do what I have done
Spend your lives in sin and misery
In the House of the Rising Sun
I got one foot on the platform
And the other foot on the train
I'm going back to New Orleans
To wear that ball and chain

Well there is a house in New Orleans
They call the 'Rising Sun'
And it's been the ruin of many a young poor boy
And God, I know I'm one

Learn to Play Lead Guitar in 6 Easy Lessons

Awesome! You have now come to the end of the 6 lesson guide to learning lead guitar.

If you liked this mini-guide, and want to continue learning how to play the guitar you should click on the link below and begin using the ***Jamorama Lead Guitar Learning Kit***. Jamorama comes in three books and includes 84 step-by-step guitar lessons, 54 high-quality video lessons and 16 exclusive Jam Tracks so you can jam along the band. *Jamorama* takes you on a journey from where you are now to an advanced level in your guitar playing.

[CLICK HERE](#) to continue learning with *Jamorama – the Ultimate Lead Guitar Learning Kit!*

What's Next for You?

As a final thought, consider this question:

Where do you see your guitar skills a year from now? Are you going to be the guitarist you really want to be?

Unfortunately not all students accomplish their goals. Many, if not most, give up their dream of becoming a great guitarist. Are YOU going to be one of them?

Are YOU going to become a polished guitarist? Your experience with this free Guide has shown you that while playing the guitar isn't easy, **YOU CAN MASTER GUITAR SKILLS WITH PRACTICE** and good lessons.

You can reach your goal of becoming great guitarist. The question is how can you become a great guitarist in the shortest time possible. There are a LOT of learn guitar courses on the net. They all make claims about learning guitar in three days or a weekend, and promise to teach you to be a great guitarist, but **YOU KNOW** that these claims aren't true. You already spent some time working through this guide, and you made great progress, but ask yourself, "Am I the **ALL THE GUITARIST** I want to be?"

The key to success is **GOOD GUITAR LESSONS** and commitment. By using this guide, you have seen and experienced the Jamorama guitar learning method first hand and **YOU KNOW THAT IT WORKS**. Think of Jamorama as an insurance policy to **MAKE SURE YOU BECOME A GREAT GUITARIST**.

There are a lot of complaints heard from students about the quality of the available guitar learning courses. The Jamorama products are generally recognized as among the best available. Considering the reasonable price-point, this is a very cost effective way to learn guitar!

So, **GO GET YOUR COPY OF JAMORAMA LEAD GUITAR – THE ULTIMATE GUITAR LEARNING KIT!** [Take Your Lead Guitar Playing to the Next Level. Low cost. 100% Risk-free!](#)

Appendix -- Additional Resources

The Guitar Players Toolbox - Practical tools, resources, and tips to become a better guitar player:

www.guitar-players-toolbox.com

Guitar Players Alert - subscribe the monthly e-newsletter from Guitar Players Toolbox:

www.guitar-players-toolbox.com/guitar-newsletter.html

Jamorama Lead Guitar: a complete learning system and the easiest to follow lead guitar learning method available. Jam-packed with information, including 43 powerful video lessons, 29 Jam Tracks, 1000s of lines of tablature, and step-by-step instructions to master lead guitar skills and play songs.

www.jamoramalead.com

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