



GUITAR COURSE COMPENDIUM

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GUITAR TECHNIQUE

Each Guitar Technique Series lesson includes a free downloadable handout. Free TAB charts and MP3 JamTracks are also included, (when applicable to the lesson).

The Guitar Technique Series is accessible to all levels of subscribers to the Creative Guitar Studio website.

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) Drills for Hand Function & Control

Lesson one of “Guitar Technique” focuses on learning a series of drills important to developing better functionality and control between the hands. Areas of study will include; balance, picking variation, note sustain, fretting, string skipping & more.

2) Chord Fingering Control (Basic)

The lesson is divided into two study sections. Part one is dedicated to non-musical fretting discipline with studies involving 2 and 3 note geometrical patterns. Part two shifts into more musical drills with progressions applying 3 & 4 note chord harmony.

3) Phrasing & Slurring (Jazz)

Study how slurring techniques like pull-offs, hammer-ons and slides can be used to add greater dynamics and more interesting phrasing to melodic lines. Learn all of this in the style of Jazz including swing examples and the use of altered phrases.

4) Funk Picking & Slap Bass

Learn the string “snap” technique used by guitarists as a way to add more impact and dynamics. This unique sound generates a snap of the string with the picking hand’s middle or ring finger. The result is a loud ‘pop’ effect that is similar to slap-bass.



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5) Mastering the Melodic Phrase

Melodic phrasing, composed or improvised, can be challenging. The guitarist needs to learn skills for identifying and then playing over many specialized forms of harmony. This includes forms of; minor tonality, modal ideas, dominants, and unique rhythms.

6) Accuracy Drills to Perfect Picking

Accurate single-note lines are an important goal for every guitarist to develop. This lesson studies six accuracy drills for improving control over how the left & right hands synchronize during picking. Each drill is demonstrated in the video.

7) Hybrid Plucking (Pick and Fingers)

The technique of using the guitar pick simultaneously along with the plucking hand's middle, ring and small fingers is called "Hybrid Plucking." This lesson demonstrates several ways that students can both develop and apply hybrid approach.

8) Harmonics (Natural and Tap /Touch)

Performing harmonics on the guitar can be done in a number of unique ways. We can generate them through natural locations on the neck or through a tap or touch method. This lesson covers all of these methods using detailed examples.

9) Developing Smooth Legato

Playing smooth connected lines (one scale tone to another) is called playing "Legato." This technique involves applying a series of hammer-on or pull-off runs connected across notes on a string. This lesson plan explains legato technique in detail.

10) The Art of the String-Slide

String sliding technique allows for very rapid lateral movement between positions on the fingerboard. This movement generates smooth note connections that act as other options for legato. This lesson explains the string slide technique along with exercises.



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11) String Bending Mastery

String bending on the guitar is one of the most widely used techniques applied in nearly every style of music. In this lesson, string bending technique is introduced first through discussion. Then, twelve exercises break-down the most popular applications

12) Left & Right Hand Muting

Techniques like “Palm Muting,” and “String Dampening,” create dynamic string attacks that are highly percussive. They can be applied to both chords, as well as, single note lines. This lesson covers the most common string muting techniques.

13) Two Hand Tapping

Learn how to play tapped notes with the right-hand “Eddie Van Halen style.” This approach is called “Two-Hand Tapping,” and operates using both hands tapping on the frets. The result is a fast legato sound with a mix of arpeggio and scale tones.

14) String Crossing & Skipping

This lesson will help guitarists develop control to play clean licks and riffs using string crossing & skipping. Studies how to shift between adjacent strings, (string crossing), and how to play wide intervals across groups of strings (string skipping).

15) Double & Triple Picking

The method of performing either double or triple picked lines might seem simple enough, however the trick to establishing this technique lies in developing your stamina. This lesson provides four exercises that will help you execute double or triple picked lines.

16) Developing Basic Fingerpicking

Gain control of the basic elements used in performing fingerstyle guitar technique. Develop skill for finger to note tracking. Study ways to enhance performance options used in finger-picked melody. Learn how to include open strings & wide intervals.



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17) Sweep & Rake Picking

Both rake and sweep picking allow guitar players to be able to span several strings very rapidly. When done correctly, each tone (of the rake or sweep) is punctuated clearly. The lesson demonstrates both ideas and includes melodic applications.

18) 3 Note Per String Scales

Performing scales with a large fingerboard span will involve the use of specialized fretting known of as “3 Note Per String.” The application of this idea requires diverse technical scale knowledge of the fret-board. This lesson explains these principles.

19) Note & Chord Vibrato

Master the technique of having a smooth Vibrato on notes and chords. Vibrato revolves around having total control over the waver of the string rocked upon its axis. The lesson focuses on developing “whole-hand” vibrato on both single notes and on chords.

20) Bottleneck Slide Guitar

Study the most relevant principles of the techniques surrounding how to perform Bottleneck Slide Guitar. Six exercises break down the most popular elements of playing slide including; the ‘how to basics’ along with melody and the popular open tunings of “G and D.”