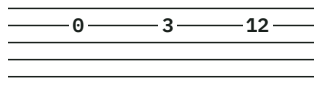


Guitar Tab Symbols Cheat Sheet

Every symbol you will see in guitar tab, with a mini example and how to play it.

0, 3, 12 Fret numbers

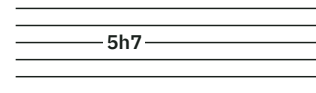
Press that fret (0 = open string).



h

Hammer-on

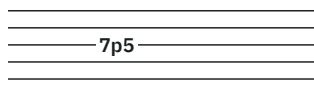
Pick the first note, then tap the next fret down hard without picking.



p

Pull-off

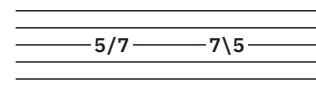
Pick the higher note, then flick that finger off to sound the lower one.



/ \

Slide up / down

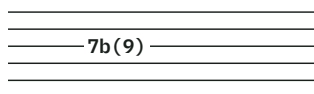
Keep pressure on and slide to the next fret.



b

Bend

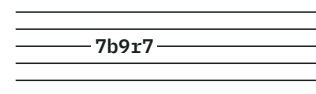
Push the string up until it reaches the pitch of the fret in brackets.



r

Release

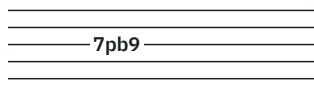
Bend up, then let the string return while it rings.



pb

Pre-bend

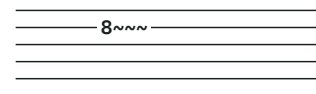
Bend the string before you pick it, then pick.



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Vibrato

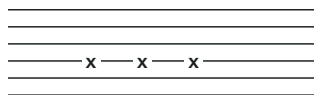
Wiggle the string slightly to make the note sing.



x

Muted note

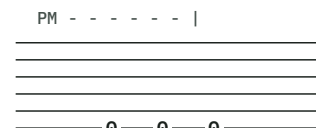
Rest your fretting fingers on the string and pick: a percussive click.



PM

Palm mute

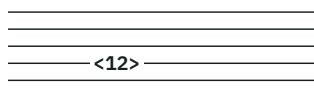
Rest the side of your picking hand on the strings near the bridge.



<12>

Natural harmonic

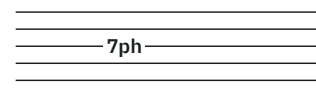
Touch the string lightly right over the fret and pick.



ph

Pinch harmonic

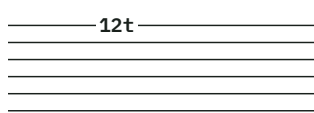
Catch the string with your thumb as you pick for a squeal.



t

Tap

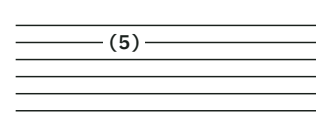
Hammer onto the fret with a finger of your picking hand.



()

Ghost note

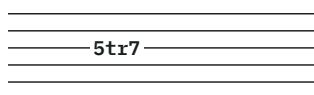
Play the note very quietly, or it is optional.



tr

Trill

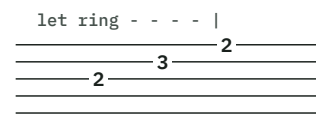
Hammer on and pull off between two notes as fast as you can.



let ring

Let ring

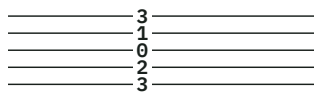
Hold the notes down so they sustain over each other.



Stacked

Chord

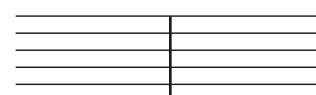
Numbers in a vertical line are played together.



|

Bar line

Separates bars (measures). Count the beats in each bar.



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