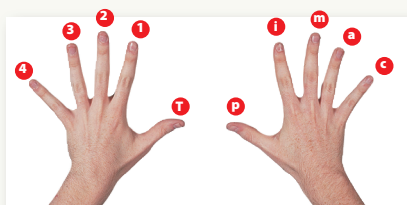


# GT USER GUIDE

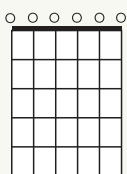
You can get more from GT by understanding our easy-to-follow musical terms and signs...

## RELATING TAB TO YOUR FRETBOARD



### HAND LABELLING

Here are the abbreviations used for each finger:  
Fretting hand: 1, 2, 3, 4, (T) Picking hand: p (thumb), i (index), m (middle), a (annular), c (little finger)



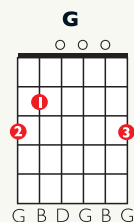
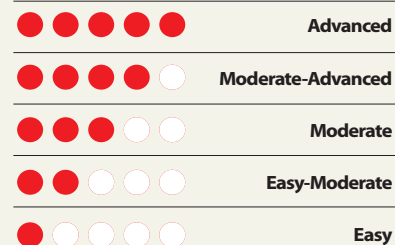
### NUT & FRETBOARD

The fretboard diagram above represents the fretboard exactly, as seen in the accompanying photo. This is for ease of visualising a fretboard scale or chord quickly.



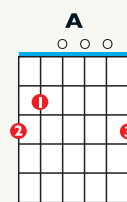
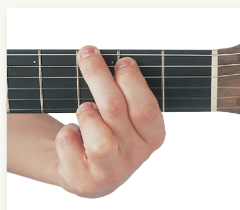
## OUR RATING SYSTEM

Every transcription or lesson in GT is graded according to its level of difficulty, from Easy to Advanced. We'll also let you know what aspect of your playing will benefit by attempting a lesson.



### CHORD EXAMPLE

The diagram represents the G chord in the photo. The 'O' symbol is an open string, and a circled number is a fretting finger. Intervals are shown below.



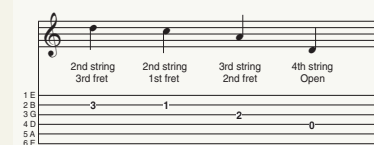
### CHORD EXAMPLE (WITH CAPO)

The blue line represents a capo – for this A chord, place it at fret 2. Capos change the fret number ordering – here, the original fret 5 now becomes fret 3, fret 7 now fret 5, etc.



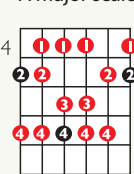
## READ MUSIC

Each transcription is broken down into two parts...



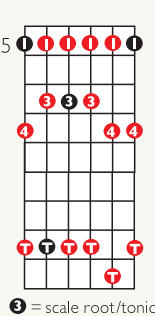
**MUSICAL STAVE** The five horizontal lines for music notation show note pitches and rhythms and are divided by bar lines.

### A major scale

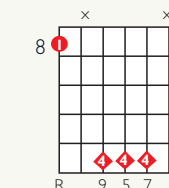


### SCALE EXAMPLE

The diagram shows the fret-hand fingering for the A major scale (root notes in black). The photo shows part of the scale being played on the 4th string with fingers 1, 3 and 4.

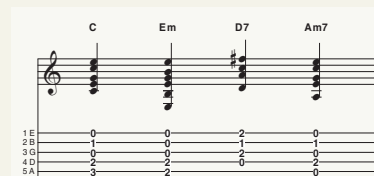


③ = scale root/tonic



### TAPPING & HARMONICS

The left box shows an A minor pentatonic scale with added tapped notes signified by 'T's. Above shows a Cmaj9 (no 3rd) with harmonics at the 12th fret.



**TABBING** Under the musical staff, Tab is an aid to show you where to put your fingers on the fretboard. The six horizontal lines represent the six strings on a guitar – the numbers on the strings are fret numbers. The two stave and tab examples show 4 notes and 4 chords; C (C major), Em (E minor), D7 (D dominant 7) and Am7 (A minor 7).

## GUITAR TECHNIQUES: HOW THEY APPEAR IN WRITTEN MUSIC...

### PICKING VARIATIONS AND ALTERNATIVES

#### Up and down picking



The first note is to be down-picked and the last note is to be up-picked.

#### Tremolo picking



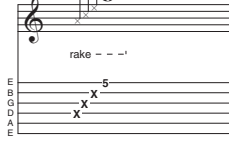
Each of the four notes are to be alternate picked (down- & up-picked) very rapidly and continuously.

#### Palm muting



Palm mute by resting the edge of picking-hand's palm on the strings near the bridge.

#### Pick rake



Drag the pick across the strings shown with a single sweep. Often used to augment a rake's last note.

#### Applegate chord



Play the notes of the chord by strumming across the relevant strings in the direction of the arrow head.

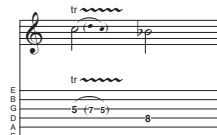
## FRETTING HAND

### Hammer-on & Pull-off



■ Pick 1st note and hammer on with fretting hand for 2nd note. Then pick 3rd note and pull off for 4th note.

### Note Trills



■ Rapidly alternate between the two notes indicated in brackets with hammer-ons and pull-offs.

### Slides (Glissando)



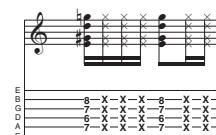
■ Pick 1st note and slide to the 2nd note. The last two notes show a slide with the last note being re-picked.

### Left Hand Tapping



■ Sound the notes marked with a square by hammering on/tapping with the fretting-hand fingers.

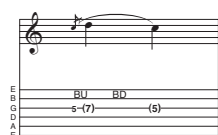
### Fret-Hand Muting



■ X markings represent notes muted by the fretting hand when struck by the picking hand.

## BENDING AND VIBRATO

### Bend up/down



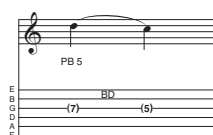
■ Fret the start note (here, the 5th fret) and bend up to the pitch shown in the brackets, then re-pick the note, before releasing.

### Re-pick bend



■ Bend up to the pitch shown in the brackets, then re-pick the note while holding the bent note at the new pitch.

### Pre bend



■ Bend up from the 5th fret to the pitch of the 7th fret note, then pick it and release to 5th fret note.

### Quarter-tone bend



■ Pick the note and then bend up a quarter tone (a very small amount). Sometimes referred to as blues curl.

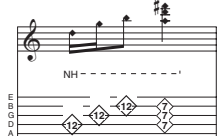
### Vibrato



■ The fretting hand vibrates the note by small bend ups and releases. The last example uses the vibrato bar.

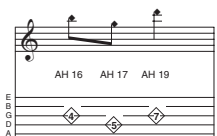
## HARMONICS

### Natural harmonics



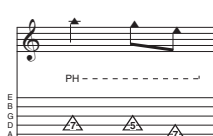
■ Pick the note while lightly touching the string directly over the fret indicated. A harmonic results.

### Artificial harmonics



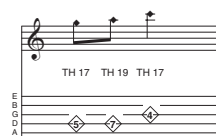
■ Fret the note as shown, then lightly place the index finger over 'x' fret (AH 'x') and pick (with a pick, p or a).

### Pinched harmonics



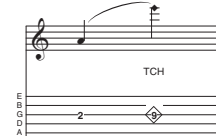
■ Fret the note as shown, but dig into the string with the side of the thumb as you sound it with the pick.

### Tapped harmonics



■ Fret the note as shown, but sound it with a quick right-hand tap at the fret shown (TH17) for a harmonic.

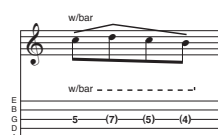
### Touch harmonics



■ A previously sounded note is touched above the fret marked TCH (eg TCH 9) to sound harmonic.

## VIBRATO ARM (AKA WHAMMY BAR)

### Vibrato arm bends



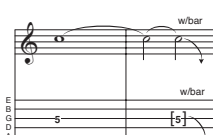
■ The note is picked, then the whammy bar is raised and lowered to the pitches shown in brackets.

### Scoop & doop



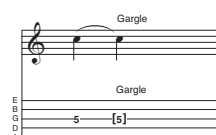
■ Scoop - depress the bar just before striking the note and release. Doop - lower the bar slightly after picking note.

### Dive bomb



■ Note sustained, then the vib is depressed to slack. Square bracket used if a long-held note has new articulation applied.

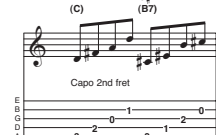
### Gargle



■ Sound the note and 'flick' the tremolo bar with picking hand so it 'quivers'. Results in a 'gargling' sound!

## CAPO

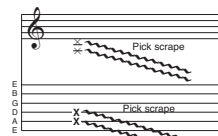
### Capo Notation



■ A capo creates a new nut, so the above example has the guitar's 'literal' 5th fret now as the 3rd fret.

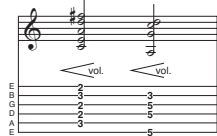
## OTHER TECHNIQUES

### Pick scrape



■ The edge of the pick is dragged down or up along the lower strings to produce a scraped sound.

### Violining



■ Turn volume control off, sound note(s) and then turn vol up for a smooth fade in. Called 'violining'.

### Finger numbering



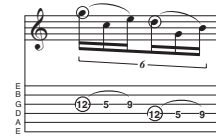
■ The numbers after the notes are the fingers required to play the fret numbers in the tab below.

### Pima directions



■ Fingerpicking requirements are shown at the bottom of the tab notation.

### Right-hand tapping



■ Tap (hammer-on) with a finger of the picking hand onto the fret marked with a circle. Usually with 't' or 'm'.