

INTRODUCTION TO SLIDE

This technique should not be confused with bottleneck slide technique, which will be covered separately. The slide is a slurring technique where two or more notes are sounded when picking or plucking the string once, continuing the pressure against the fret with the fretting hand and slidding to another fret. Two or more consecutive notes can be performed with the slide, by moving up or down a string to different frets.

If the slide is a distance of two or three frets, you should be able to retain the contact on the back of the neck with the ball of your thumb, pivoting on it. This makes it much easier to retain your orientation on the fretboard. You may be able to retain contact while sliding over three frets, especially if the span of your hand is large and/or if playing on the higher-numbered frets (which are closer together).

Single Note Slide Exercise

1 1 0 0 3 3 0 0 4 4 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 3 3 0 0 4 4 0 0 1

T 4/4 1 2 0 0 3 5 0 0 5 4 0 0 1 2 0 0 1 2 0 0 3 5 0 0 5 4 0 0 2

A 4/4

B 4/4

1 1 0 0 3 3 0 0 4 4 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 1

T 4/4 1 2 0 0 3 5 0 0 5 4 0 0 1 2 0 0 1 2 0 0 2 4 0 0 4 9 0 0 0 0 0 0 7

A 4/4

B 4/4

The slide may be performed on two or more strings simultaneously. Here is an example where the notes are consistently an interval of a fifth apart (equal to five scale tone apart).

Perfect Fifth Slide Exercise

fingers: 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3

1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1

T 4/4

A 4/4 9 12 12 7 7 9 9

B 4/4 7 10 10 5 5 7 7