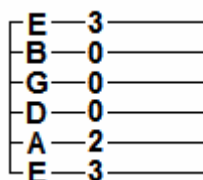


APPENDIX -- TIPS ON READING GUITAR TABLATURE

The transcriptions in this book are written in guitar tablature (tab) and standard musical notation using a software program called TabEdit. I've included both formats so that guitarists who read notation but not tablature can use the book and so that it might be useful for fiddlers and mandolin players who want to play the tunes. Also, chords are included for each of the tunes and are located above the tablature. For those who are new to tablature or to the symbols used by TabEdit, below is a brief introduction to reading guitar tablature in TabEdit format.

Each line of tablature represents a guitar string, with the bass strings at the bottom and the treble strings at the top (just as they appear when the player is looking down at the fingerboard). To assist you, TabEdit provides the names of the strings at the left side of the tab for each piece. (All the tunes in this book are played in standard tuning.) Each number represents the fret where the string is pressed down with the left hand fingers or thumb. A zero represents an open string. This is a standard G chord:



TabEdit provides vertical lines under the notes that help indicate where the notes fall against the beats. This piece is in 4/4 time (four beats to a measure), with a note falling on each beat:

- Open 4th string
- 2nd fret, 4th string
- 4th fret, 4th string
- Open 3rd string

The image shows a musical score for a piece in 4/4 time. The top staff is a treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. Below it is a guitar tablature with six strings labeled E, B, G, D, A, E from top to bottom. The tablature shows notes on the 4th string: an open string (0), 2nd fret (2), 4th fret (4), and an open string (0). Vertical lines connect these notes to the corresponding notes on the treble clef staff.

This simplified version of a phrase from Salt Creek shows how quarter notes (one per beat in 4/4) and eighth notes (two per beat in 4/4) appear in tablature:

The image shows a musical score for a guitar phrase. The top staff is a treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. The first measure contains four quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, and C5. The second measure contains two eighth notes (G4, A4), followed by a quarter note (B4), and then two eighth notes (C5, B4). Below the staff is a six-line guitar tablature. The strings are labeled E, B, G, D, A, E from top to bottom. The first measure has fret numbers 0-0-0-0-0-0. The second measure has fret numbers 2-0-2-0-1-1.

Here's a short example to show how six common techniques are designated in tab:

- Hammer-on from the open 2nd string to the 2nd fret
- Pull-off from the 2nd fret of the 2nd string to the open string
- Slide from the 2nd fret of the 1st string to the 4th fret
- Strum or brush down on the top three strings
- Bend a note played on the 1st string, 3rd fret
- Play an arpeggio or "roll" on an E chord

The image shows a musical score for a guitar phrase with various techniques. The notation is in 4/4 time, showing quarter notes and eighth notes. The tablature shows fret numbers for the strings: E, B, G, D, A, E. The techniques are labeled above the tablature: Hammer-on (H), Pull-off (Po), Slide (Sl), Brush, Hammer-on (H), Bend (1/4), Pull-off (Po), and Harmonics. The first measure has fret numbers 0-2-0-0-0-0. The second measure has fret numbers 2-0-0-0-0-0. The third measure has fret numbers 2-4-0-0-0-0. The fourth measure has fret numbers 0-2-0-0-0-0. The fifth measure has fret numbers 0-2-0-3-0-0. The sixth measure has fret numbers 2-0-0-0-0-0. The seventh measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The eighth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The ninth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The tenth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The eleventh measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The twelfth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The thirteenth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The fourteenth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The fifteenth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The sixteenth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The seventeenth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The eighteenth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The nineteenth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The twentieth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The twenty-first measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The twenty-second measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The twenty-third measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The twenty-fourth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The twenty-fifth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The twenty-sixth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The twenty-seventh measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The twenty-eighth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The twenty-ninth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The thirtieth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The thirty-first measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The thirty-second measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The thirty-third measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The thirty-fourth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The thirty-fifth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The thirty-sixth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The thirty-seventh measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The thirty-eighth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The thirty-ninth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The fortieth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The forty-first measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The forty-second measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The forty-third measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The forty-fourth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The forty-fifth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The forty-sixth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The forty-seventh measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The forty-eighth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The forty-ninth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The fiftieth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The fifty-first measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The fifty-second measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The fifty-third measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The fifty-fourth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The fifty-fifth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The fifty-sixth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The fifty-seventh measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The fifty-eighth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The fifty-ninth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The sixtieth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The sixty-first measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The sixty-second measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The sixty-third measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The sixty-fourth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The sixty-fifth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The sixty-sixth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The sixty-seventh measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The sixty-eighth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The sixty-ninth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The seventieth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The seventy-first measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The seventy-second measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The seventy-third measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The seventy-fourth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The seventy-fifth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The seventy-sixth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The seventy-seventh measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The seventy-eighth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The seventy-ninth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The eightieth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The eighty-first measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The eighty-second measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The eighty-third measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The eighty-fourth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The eighty-fifth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The eighty-sixth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The eighty-seventh measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The eighty-eighth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The eighty-ninth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The ninetieth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The ninety-first measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The ninety-second measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The ninety-third measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The ninety-fourth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The ninety-fifth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The ninety-sixth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The ninety-seventh measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The ninety-eighth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The ninety-ninth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0. The hundredth measure has fret numbers 12-0-0-0-0-0.

When notes are sustained across the bar line between measures, the notes reappear in the second measure as being "tied" to those in the previous measure. Be sure to hold the notes rather than playing them a second time. This excerpt from "John Hardy" shows that the tune ends on an arpeggiated G chord, with the first four notes held over into the next measure, where the high G is played.

In fingerstyle playing, the thumb and fingers often play different notes at the same time. Below is an excerpt from a simplified version of A.P. Carter's Cannonball Blues. (Note that in this example, as in the rest of the book, the rhythm chord is shown between the tab and notation staves.) The bass alternates between the 5th string and the 3rd string. Those notes are designated with a "T" for "thumb" under the tab. In the first two measures the melody notes line up with the bass notes; in the last two measures some of the melody notes fall between the bass notes in more of a syncopated fashion.