

The Creative Guitar Mastery Series

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The Alphabet and the Guitar Fretboard

A Creative Guitar Mastery™ supplement

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Directions:

This is a supplemental set of notes containing material the learner needs to have memorized. Practice visualizing this stuff regularly and in a very short time and you will have mastered it second nature! This will lead to the next level, a higher synthesis of the more important ideas, like tonal color, tonal organization, and how this all relates to mood.

These are the basics. Lay this foundation first to make it manageable. Then build from here. Also, another great way to learn this stuff is to practice writing it out. Plus this is fun! Let me know if you have problems, questions, comments or suggestions!

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The Natural Alphabet

Notes are named after first 7 letters of Alphabet:

A B C D E F G

After G it repeats, either way:

... G A B C D E F G ...

Basic Intervals

Intervals = spaces

2 we are concerned with:

whole step = space of 2 frets (up or down)

half step = space of 1 fret (up or down)

The Natural Notes and Basic Intervals

... G A B C D E F G ...
 \ / \ / \ / \ / \ / \ / \ / \ /
 W W $\frac{1}{2}$ W W $\frac{1}{2}$ W

The Notes on the Guitar

1	E	-F-	---	-G-	---	-A-	---	-B-	-C-	---	-D-	---	-E-	]F-	---	-G-	---	-A-	---	-B-	-C-	---	-D-
2	B	]C-	---	-D-	---	-E-	-F-	---	-G-	---	-A-	---	-B-	]C-	---	-D-	---	-E-	-F-	---	-G-	---	-A-
3	G	]---	-A-	---	-B-	-C-	---	-D-	---	-E-	-F-	---	-G-	]---	-A-	---	-B-	-C-	---	-D-	---	-E-	-F-
4	D	]---	-E-	-F-	---	-G-	---	-A-	---	-B-	-C-	---	-D-	]---	-E-	-F-	---	-G-	---	-A-	---	-B-	-C-
5	A	]---	-B-	-C-	---	-D-	---	-E-	-F-	---	-G-	---	-A-	]---	-B-	-C-	---	-D-	---	-E-	-F-	---	-G-
6	E	]F-	---	-G-	---	-A-	---	-B-	-C-	---	-D-	---	-E-	]F-	---	-G-	---	-A-	---	-B-	-C-	---	-D-

Fret 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |

You should be able to see this in your mind's eye, even without your guitar in your hands. This is attainable with very little effort. Only a little regular practice at visualizing this and you will have it down second nature!

Don't forget to practice improvising using these shapes/sounds. This is the real meat-and-potatoes. Explore various patterns within this big pattern to become familiar with all areas of the fretboard. Again, let me know if you have problems, questions, comments or suggestions!

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The Creative Guitar Mastery™ Series (ISSN 1545-8385 print, ISSN 1545-8407 Audio CD, ISSN 1545-8393 Online Electronic Version) of college-level learning geared toward that special learner trying to nurture your unique creative voice through the guitar. This learning offers top-down, thorough, and practical knowledge leading toward a complete mastery of the guitar as a creative instrument. Modal Improvisation 101 (ISBN 0-9743571-0-3 print version, ISBN 0-9743571-1-1 Audio CD, ISBN 0-9743571-2-X electronic version) - More than an introduction to developing lead solos over modes, this book and Audio CD lays down a foundation for complete mastery of the entire fretboard in a very fluid, and natural way. Includes innovative support through the Internet. This reads like a course, for the price of a Book and CD!

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