



# Classic Guitar Riffs 1

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A *guitar riff* is simply a repeated sequence of notes. They are often heard at the very beginning of a song, and are usually very memorable. The riffs shown here are all played on just one string, and you should aim to play them from memory eventually. When you can do this, perhaps try *making up your own!* Also, don't forget to listen to the original recordings if possible. You may find YouTube is an excellent resource for this.

## Smoke on the Water

This is a very famous riff, from a song by the group Deep Purple. Try playing this on the 3rd string (this is the same key as the recording), and then try it on the remaining strings. This is a great way to improve the co-ordination between your left and right hands.

3rd string — 0 3 5 — 0 3 6 5 — 0 3 5 — 3 0 —

## Peter Gunn Theme

Written by Henry Mancini, and recorded by American guitarist Duane Eddy. This tune was also heard in the 1980 film, *The Blues Brothers*. Try playing this on the low 6th string.

6th string — 0 — 0 — 2 — 0 — 3 — 0 — 5 — 3 —

## Seven Nation Army

A riff by The White Stripes. This one you may find a little harder, as there are no open strings. Play this on the 5th string.

5th string — 7 — 7 — 10 — 7 — 5 — 3 — 2 —

## Another One Bites the Dust

Finally, a great riff by Queen! Try using your 1st and 3rd fingers for this. And like all the riffs here, once you have mastered it, for extra practice try and play it on different strings.

6th string — {5 3} 0 — 0 — 0 — 0 — 0 — 0 — 3 — 0 — 5 —