rockschool®

BASS GRADE 5

BASS

GRADE 5

9 Tracks for GRADE 5

The Original ROCKSCHOOL ~ EST. 1991 ~



R&I

HAL•LEONARD

Songs from

THE POLICE, JAMIROQUAI, DUA LIPA,
QUEEN, GRETA VAN FLEET, STEVIE WONDER

PDF Viewing Advice

PC or Mac

For the best viewing experience on PC or Mac, use Adobe Reader or Adobe Acrobat (***https://getacrobat.com/***) and use the following settings:

View > Page Display > Two Page View
View > Page Display > Show Cover Page in Two Page View

This will help to minimise page turning and approximate the display of a hardcopy edition of the book.

Tablet or Phone

On tablet or phone, use single-page view in your app and view in portrait orientation.

'Blank' pages in PDF editions

Blank pages, or more accurately, pages containing only the page number and folio (book title), are necessary to ensure a pagination that minimises page turning in hardcopy books and when viewed on a computer monitor using the settings specified above.

rockschool®

BASS

Grade 5

Performance pieces, technical exercises, supporting tests
and guidance for Rockschool contemporary music examinations

ISBN 978-1-78936-519-1

RSL Awarding the Contemporary Arts

Exclusively Distributed By
HAL•LEONARD®

For all works contained herein:
Unauthorized copying, arranging, adapting, recording, internet posting, public performance,
or other distribution of the music in this publication is an infringement of copyright.
Infringers are liable under the law.

Visit Hal Leonard Online at
www.halleonard.com

World headquarters, contact:
Hal Leonard
7777 West Bluemound Road
Milwaukee, WI 53213
Email: info@halleonard.com

In Europe, contact:
Hal Leonard Europe Limited
Dettingen Way
Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, IP33 3YB
Email: info@halleonardeurope.com

In Australia, contact:
Hal Leonard Australia Pty. Ltd.
4 Lentara Court
Cheltenham, Victoria, 3192 Australia
Email: info@halleonard.com.au

Acknowledgements

© 2024 by RSL Awards Ltd. and Hal Leonard Europe Ltd.
All Rights Reserved
Catalogue Number: RSK200243
ISBN: 978-1-78936-519-1
Initial Release | Errata details can be found at *www.rslawards.com/errata*

SYLLABUS
Syllabus director: Nathan Theodoulou
Syllabus consultants: Jono Harrison, Steven Joseph Hickey
Repertoire consultants: Nathan Theodoulou, Jono Harrison, Steven Joseph Hickey, Oscar York, Jenna Scaramanga, Diego Kovadloff
Composers/Arrangers: Jono Harrison, Nathan Theodoulou, Steven Joseph Hickey, Andy Robertson, Pete Riley
Supporting tests: Stuart Clayton, Noam Lederman, James Uings
Syllabus advisors: Pete Riley, Andy Robertson, Alex Forryan, Nat Martin

PUBLISHING
Music engraving and book layout: Simon Troup
Fact files / Recommended listening: Oliver Goss, Steven Joseph Hickey, Jono Harrison, Chris Lamont
E-book production: Oliver Goss
Music editing: Jono Harrison, Simon Troup
Cover design: Neil Hart
Additional photography: Harrison Boileau, Rob Blackham
The Rockschool guitar, bass and drum book covers, feature students from The Rhythm Studio, XYZ Music Academy, BIMM Birmingham and Platinum Academy of Performing Arts.

AUDIO
Production: Jono Harrison, Nathan Theodoulou, Steven Joseph Hickey
Mixing: Ian Caple
Supporting Tests recorded by Duncan Jordan, Kit Morgan

MUSICIANS
Drums: Pete Riley, Sophie Alloway, Steve White, Edith Dell
Guitar: Nat Martin, Steven Joseph Hickey, Jono Harrison, James Davies, Tommy Webb, Woody Wilson
Bass: Jono Harrison, Andy Robertson, Carina Powell, Nathan Theodoulou, Geoff Gascoyne, Neive Taylor
Keys/Synth: Jono Harrison, Nathan Theodoulou
Vocals: Amy Webber, Nikki Simmons, Marcello Vieira, Stefan Mahendra, NT Martin
Horns: Vijay Prakash, Jack Courtney, David Robinson, Norton York

DISTRIBUTION
Exclusive distributors: Hal Leonard

CONTACTING RSL AWARDS
www.rslawards.com
Telephone: +44 (0)345 460 4747
Email: *info@rslawards.com*

EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS
Tim Bennett-Hart, Norton York

RSL Awarding the Contemporary Arts

Exclusively Distributed By HAL•LEONARD®

Table of Contents

INTRODUCTIONS & INFORMATION

1 Title Page
2 Acknowledgements
3 Table of Contents
4 Welcome to Rockschool Bass Grade 5

PERFORMANCE PIECES – HIT TUNES

7 'For Once in My Life' ..... Stevie Wonder
11 'Black Smoke Rising' ..... Greta Van Fleet
15 'Keep Yourself Alive' ..... Queen
19 'Canned Heat' ..... Jamiroquai
25 'Levitating' ..... Dua Lipa
31 'Every Little Thing She Does Is Magic' ..... The Police

PERFORMANCE PIECES – ROCKSCHOOL ORIGINALS

36 'Flight Check'
39 '7th and 42nd'
42 'Down at the Abbey'

TECHNICAL EXERCISES

45 Scales, Arpeggios & Riff

SUPPORTING TESTS

48 Sight Reading
49 Improvisation & Interpretation
50 Ear Tests
51 General Musicianship Questions

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

52 Marking Schemes
53 Entering RSL Exams
54 Bass Notation Explained
55 Graded Music Shop
56 Upgrade your book to an interactive e-book!

Welcome to Rockschool Bass Grade 5

Welcome to the Rockschool Bass Syllabus 2024. This syllabus is designed to support musicians in their progression from Debut to Grade 8 through an engaging and rigorous pathway, covering all the genres, stylistic elements, techniques and musical skills required for success as a contemporary musician.

All candidates should read the accompanying syllabus guide when using this grade book. This can be downloaded from the RSL website: ***www.rslawards.com***

Rockschool Exams

At each grade you have the option of taking one of two different types of examination:

- **Grade Exam**

  A grade exam is made up of the following components:

Grade Exam Overview		Available Marks
Performance Pieces	*Piece 1*	20
	Piece 2	20
	Piece 3	20
Technical Exercises	*Scales*, *Arpeggios (guitar and bass)*, *Rudiments (drums)* and *Technical Studies*	15
Supporting Tests	**(Debut)** *Sight Reading* **only** **(Grades 1–5)** Choice of *Sight Reading* **or** *Improvisation & Interpretation* **(Grades 6–8)** *Quick Study Piece* **only**	10
	(All grades) *Ear Tests*	10
	(All grades) *General Musicianship Questions* (5 questions)	5
	TOTAL	**100**

- **Performance Certificate**

  For a Performance Certificate you are required to perform five performance pieces only.

Performance Certificate Overview		Available Marks
Performance Pieces	*Piece 1*	20
	Piece 2	20
	Piece 3	20
	Piece 4	20
	Piece 5	20
	TOTAL	**100**

There are various face to face and digital exam options available. Please visit ***www.rslawards.com/graded-music-exams*** for further information.

Book Contents

All elements required to participate in a Rockschool exam can be found in this grade book. These are as follows:

Performance Pieces

Nine specially commissioned pieces, arranged and benchmarked for each grade:

- Three new Rockschool pieces ('Rockschool Originals') composed exclusively for the syllabus, and written to explore the stylistic features and techniques that encompass a variety of contemporary music styles.
- Six 'Hit Tune' arrangements of songs in popular music styles, arranged for the grade. Each of these is preceded by a Fact File, containing a short biography and photo of the artist, along with recommended listening information.

Technical Exercises

Exercises should be prepared within the indicated parameters and tempo (or tempo range). Pay careful attention to text in this section, some exercise options are chosen by the candidate, others are chosen by the examiner.

Supporting Tests

There are three types of supporting tests in the exam, listed below. For these tests, you will be required to show a variety of musical skills in response to a previously unseen example shown to you by the examiner. Examples of each type of test are given in the book.

- *Sight Reading* (Debut)
  Sight Reading **or** *Improvisation & Interpretation* (Grades 1–5)
  Quick Study Piece (Grades 6–8)
  These tests focus on candidates following a score or lead sheet presented by the examiner. At Grades 1–5, you may choose either a Sight Reading test or an Improvisation & Interpretation test. At Grades 4 and 5 the Sight Reading tests contain a small degree of improvisation, and the Improvisation & Interpretation tests contain a small degree of sight reading. At Grades 6–8 you must perform a mandatory Quick Study Piece which contains a combination of sight reading and improvisation and interpretation skills.

- *Ear Tests*
  These tests focus on candidates being able to recall rhythmic and melodic examples, and (at certain grades) identify an example from a score.

- *General Musicianship Questions*
  In this last section you will be asked five questions by the examiner, relating to your choice of piece performed in the exam. Details of these questions can be found in this grade book.

General Information

You will find information on exam procedures, including online examination entry, marking schemes, information on Free Choice Pieces and guidance around interpretation and improvisation.

All candidates should read the accompanying syllabus guide when using this grade book. This can be downloaded from the RSL website: ***www.rslawards.com***

Audio

In hardcopy books, all accompanying audio can be downloaded using the unique download code and URL found on the title page (page 1) of the book. In digital editions the audio is included in the download.

Shared Repertoire

RSL's Shared Repertoire are songs featured across each grade level in our guitar, bass, and drums syllabuses. They provide candidates with the opportunity to play our music with other musicians of a similar level in a live band setting, using our benchmarked repertoire to make music together.

Look for the  symbol at the top of the page to see which songs are Shared Repertoire.

Fingering/Sticking Annotation

Any fingering (guitar and bass) or sticking (drums) annotation is given as a guide only, and will not be assessed.

Interpretation

The assumed starting point in an exam is that notation will be performed as written. However, it is fine to alter the written notation, personalising the content by way of interpretation. In this event, it is important to ensure that such adaptation is technically of equivalent demand and stylistically appropriate. It is important to ensure the interpreted bars do not amount to (or run the risk of appearing to be) a simplification of the written part. Any simplification will be reflected in the marks.

Notes:

- If interpreting, ensure this is not so wide-ranging that the performance loses the basis of the original. Up to 50% would be considered the maximum permitted amount.
- Where pieces contain performance indications to, e.g., solo, *ad lib.*, improvise, develop, etc., these are stipulated opportunities to also develop personalised content. Candidates are strongly recommended to take advantage of these opportunities.
- Interpretation can include a small degree of physical adaptation to suit the candidate. For example, where hand stretches do not facilitate the required notated parts.
- For the avoidance of doubt in the exam, we recommend candidates inform the examiner at the beginning of the exam where, and to what extent, any parts have been interpreted.
- If in doubt you can submit any adaptation enquiries to ***info@rslawards.com***

E-book Upgrade

Upgrade your learning experience! The interactive e-book gives you the ability to jam along with, slow down and loop tricky passages of your favourite pieces, whilst receiving automated instantaneous feedback* so you can achieve your goals with confidence. Visit ***www.rslawards.com/downloads*** for further details.

** Instantaneous feedback currently available for guitar and bass only.*

Inspiring sounds from Rockschool and IK Multimedia

Rockschool has partnered with IK Multimedia to bring you a range of guitar and bass tones, that match perfectly with your book. In fact, we have created tones that match every song, across all nine graded books in this edition of the Guitar and Bass syllabus. The tones are available for the AmpliTube software, ToneX pedals and iRig interfaces. This means you can take great sounds with you wherever you go. You can even access them with your smartphone or tablet.

The best bit...? All the presets are free to download. You can even use the free version of AmpliTube to access the tones.

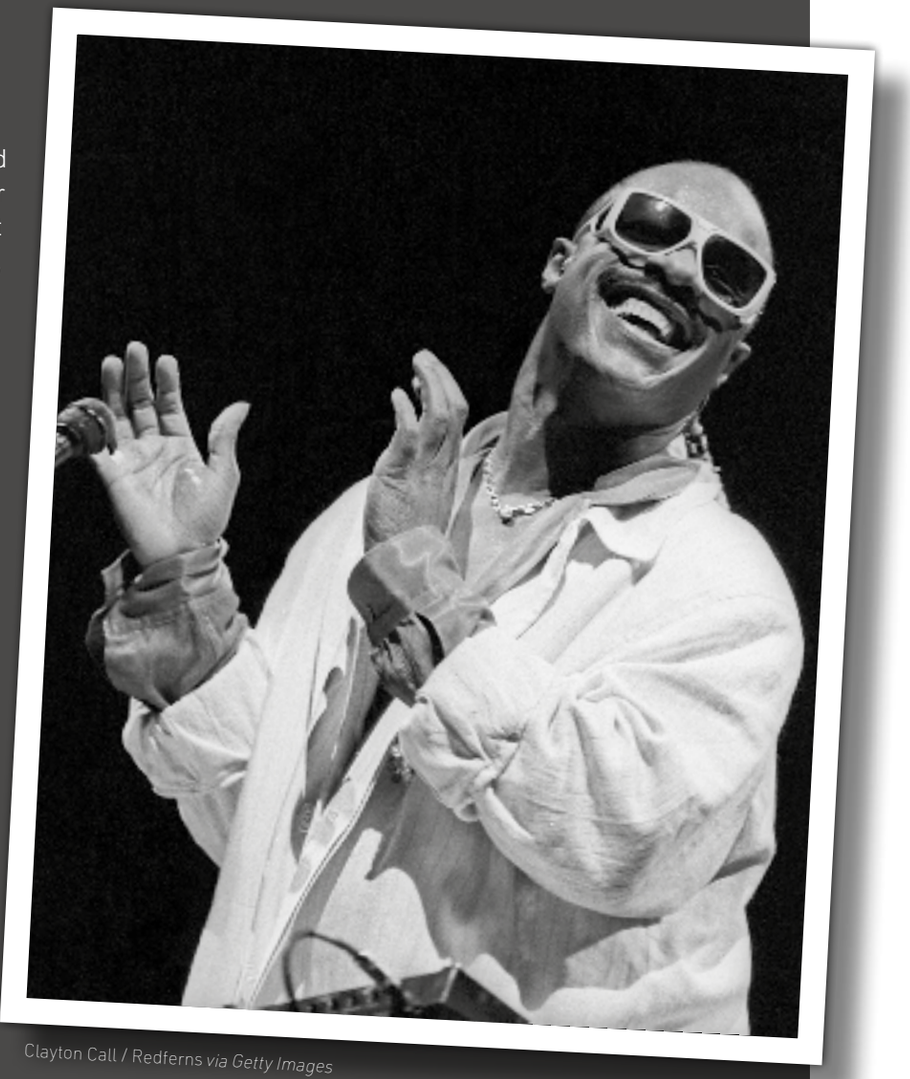
Visit ***www.rslawards.com/ikmultimedia*** to get started or scan the QR code below.

For Once in My Life

Artist: Stevie Wonder
Source: *For Once in My Life* (Album, 1968)
Genre: Soul

'For Once in My Life' was written and composed by Motown Record's Ron Miller and Orlando Murlen. A slow piano ballad, it was recorded by several Motown singers, such as Connie Haines, Jean DuShon and The Temptations, making it one of Motown's most covered songs. A definitive version was eventually recorded and released by Stevie Wonder, with a far more upbeat and positive feel. The song went on to peak at number 2 on the US Billboard Hot 100.

A blind former child prodigy, Stevie Wonder started his music career by recording and performing for Motown in the '60s. He went on to produce an extensive catalogue of albums and singles, with his releases in the '70s being highly regarded to this day, thanks to hugely popular hits such as 'Sir Duke', 'Superstition' and 'Higher Ground'. He has sold over 100 million records worldwide, making him one of the best-selling artists of all time. Wonder has also been highly commended for his work in the US civil rights movement, having been given the title of United Nations Messenger of Peace and receiving a Presidential Medal of Freedom from Barack Obama in 2014.



Clayton Call / Redferns *via Getty Images*

Recommended Listening



Marvin Gaye *What's Going On* (1971)
Marvin Gaye's *What's Going On* is one of his most acclaimed records, thanks to stellar songwriting, polished music production and an overarching album concept that has helped to retain its significance as an influential album in R&B and soul music.
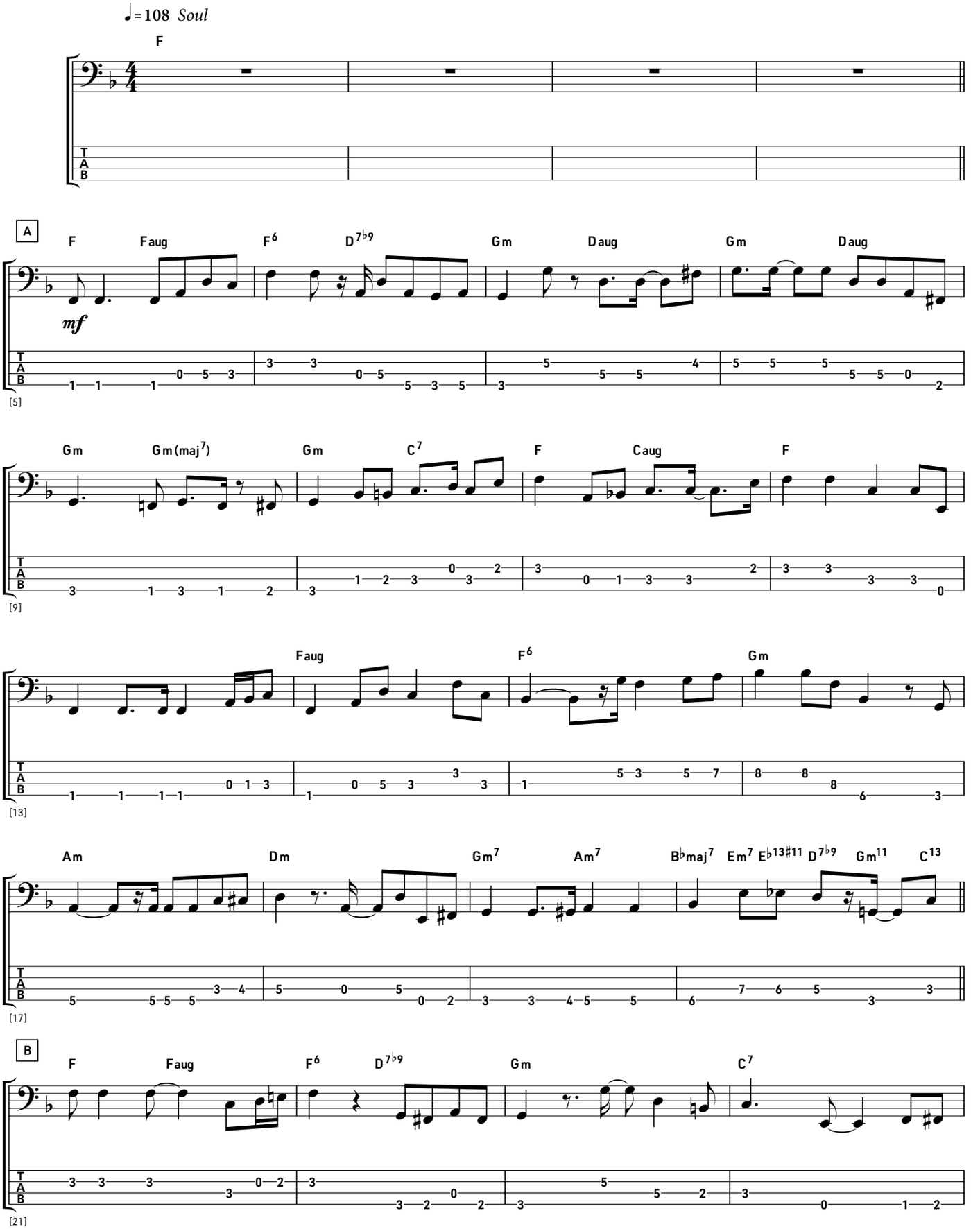


Aretha Franklin *Aretha Now* (1968)
Nicknamed the "Queen of Soul", Aretha Franklin's top-selling *Aretha Now* contains some of her most popular songs, with emotive and powerful vocals on hits such as 'I Say a Little Prayer' and 'Think' solidifying her status within the soul canon.

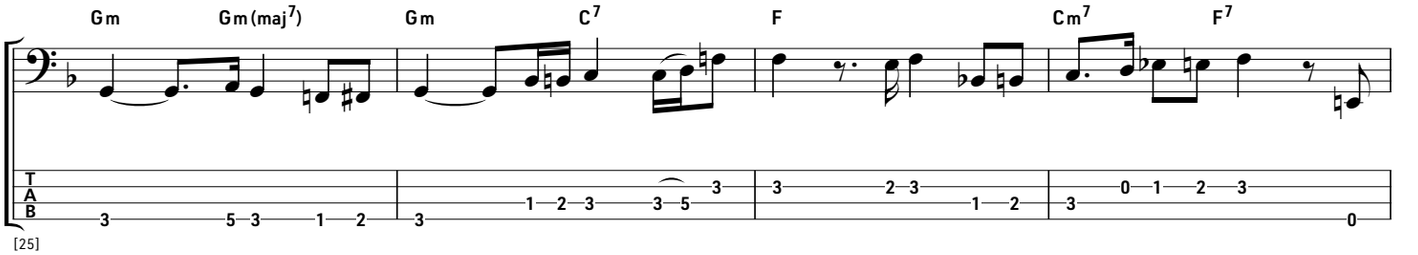
For Once in My Life

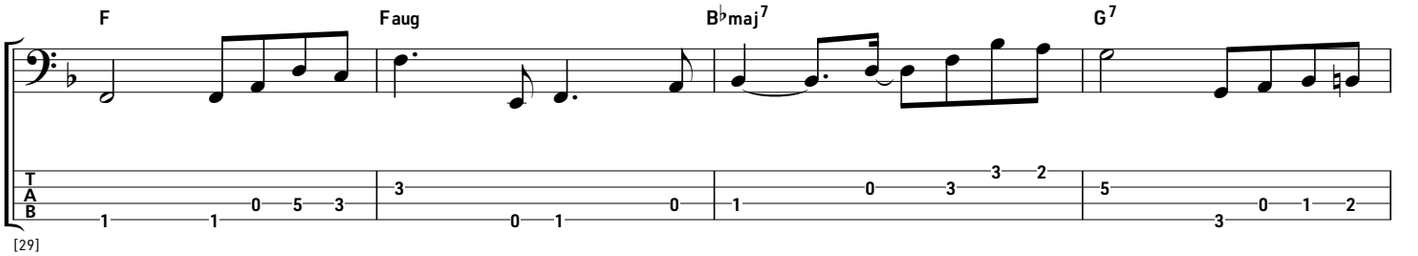
Words by Ronald Miller
Music by Orlando Murden

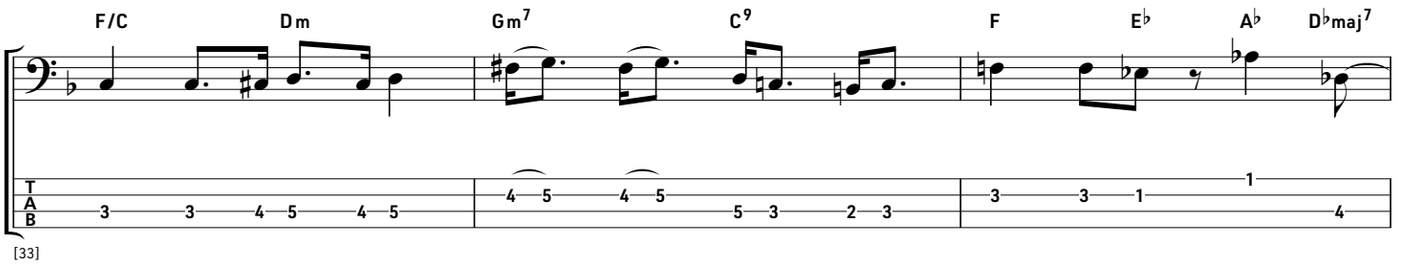
Stevie Wonder

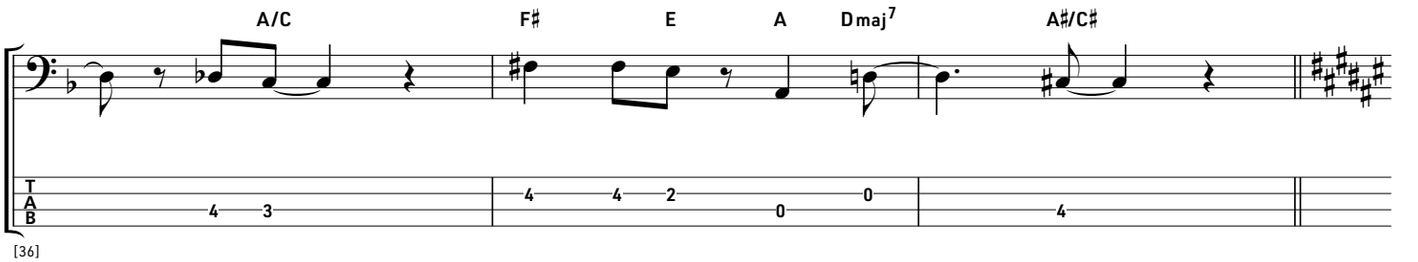


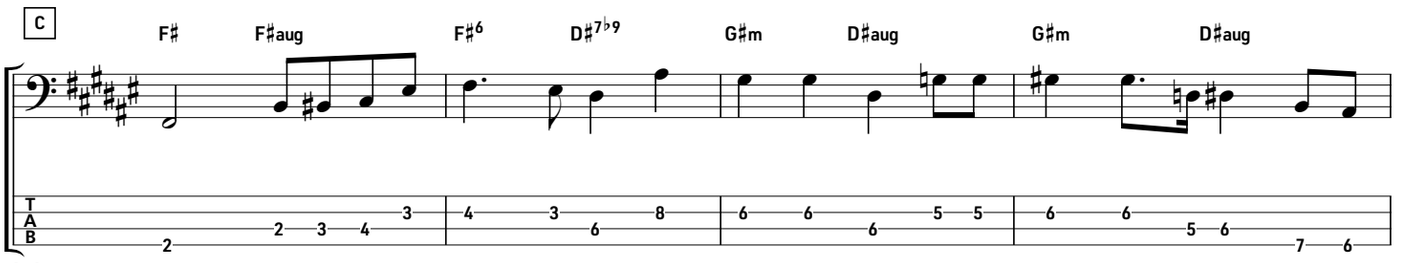
Copyright © 1965 Jobete Music Co., Inc. and Stone Diamond Music Corp.
Copyright Renewed
All Rights Administered by Sony Music Publishing (US) LLC, 424 Church Street, Suite 1200, Nashville, TN 37219
International Copyright Secured All Rights Reserved

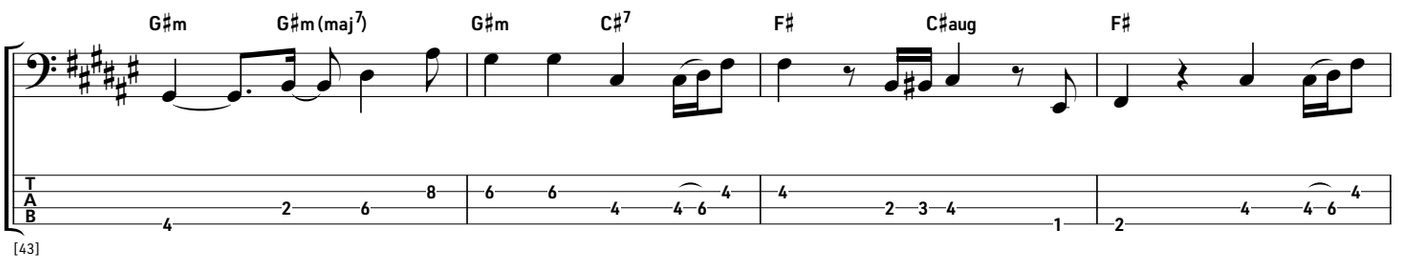

Gm
Gm(maj7)
Gm
C7
F
Cm7
F7
[25]
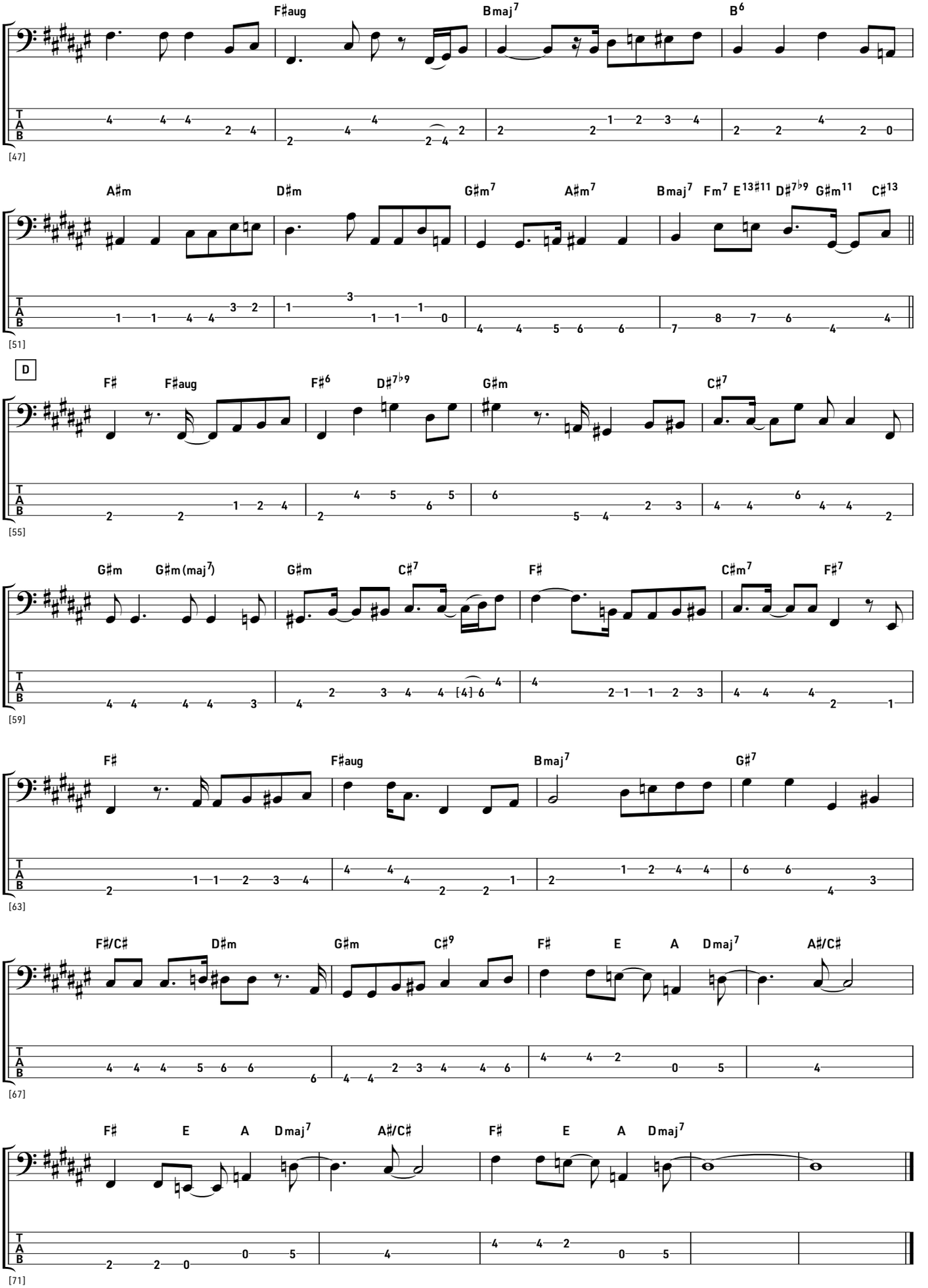

F
Faug
B♭maj7
G7
[29]


F/C
Dm
Gm7
C9
F
E♭
A♭
D♭maj7
[33]


A/C
F♯
E
A
Dmaj7
A♯/C♯
[36]


C
F♯
F♯aug
F♯6
D♯7♭9
G♯m
D♯aug
G♯m
D♯aug
[39]


G♯m
G♯m(maj7)
G♯m
C♯7
F♯
C♯aug
F♯
[43]

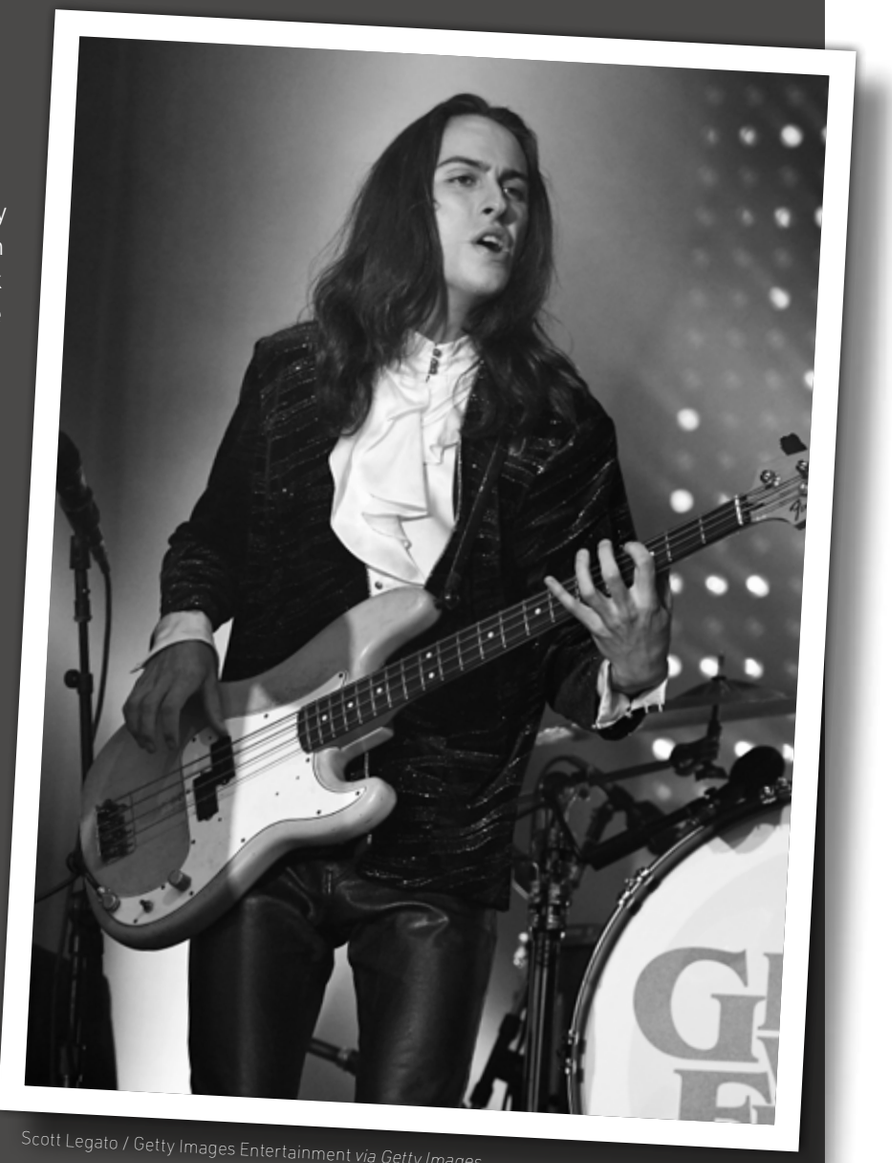

F♯aug
B maj7
B6
[47]
A♯m
D♯m
G♯m7
A♯m7
B maj7
Fm7
E13♯11
D♯7♭9
G♯m11
C♯13
[51]
D
F♯
F♯aug
F♯6
D♯7♭9
G♯m
C♯7
[55]
G♯m
G♯m (maj7)
G♯m
C♯7
F♯
C♯m7
F♯7
[59]
F♯
F♯aug
B maj7
G♯7
[63]
F♯/C♯
D♯m
G♯m
C♯9
F♯
E
A
D maj7
A♯/C♯
[67]
F♯
E
A
D maj7
A♯/C♯
F♯
E
A
D maj7
[71]

Black Smoke Rising

Artist: Greta Van Fleet
Source: *Black Smoke Rising* (EP, 2017)
Genre: Hard Rock

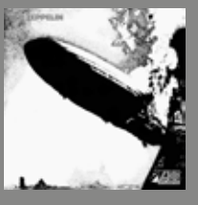
Inspired by childhood memories spent by bonfires in the summer, the title track from Greta Van Fleet's debut EP is another hard rock influenced piece delivered in the signature style that made the band famous. After its initial release, the song was later featured in a second 2017 EP titled *From the Fires*, which won the Grammy award for Best Rock Album.

Retro-rock four-piece Greta Van Fleet wear their influences on their sleeves, channeling the energy of '70s hard rock acts; most notably Rush and Led Zeppelin. The band formed in 2012, achieving widespread acclaim in 2017 after the release of their debut single 'Highway Tune', which topped the US Mainstream Rock Chart. As of 2024, they have released three studio albums and remain active touring and releasing music. Their most recent album *Starcatcher* was released in 2023.

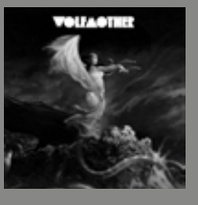


Scott Legato / Getty Images Entertainment *via Getty Images*

Recommended Listening



Led Zeppelin *Led Zeppelin* (1969)
Greta Van Fleet are frequently compared with Led Zeppelin, both in terms of their sound and their aesthetic. The classic rock giants had a profound effect on the future of rock music, courtesy of Jimmy Page's innovative blending of blues, folk and rock in his riffs, combined with frontman Robert Plant's instantly recognisable high-pitched vocals.
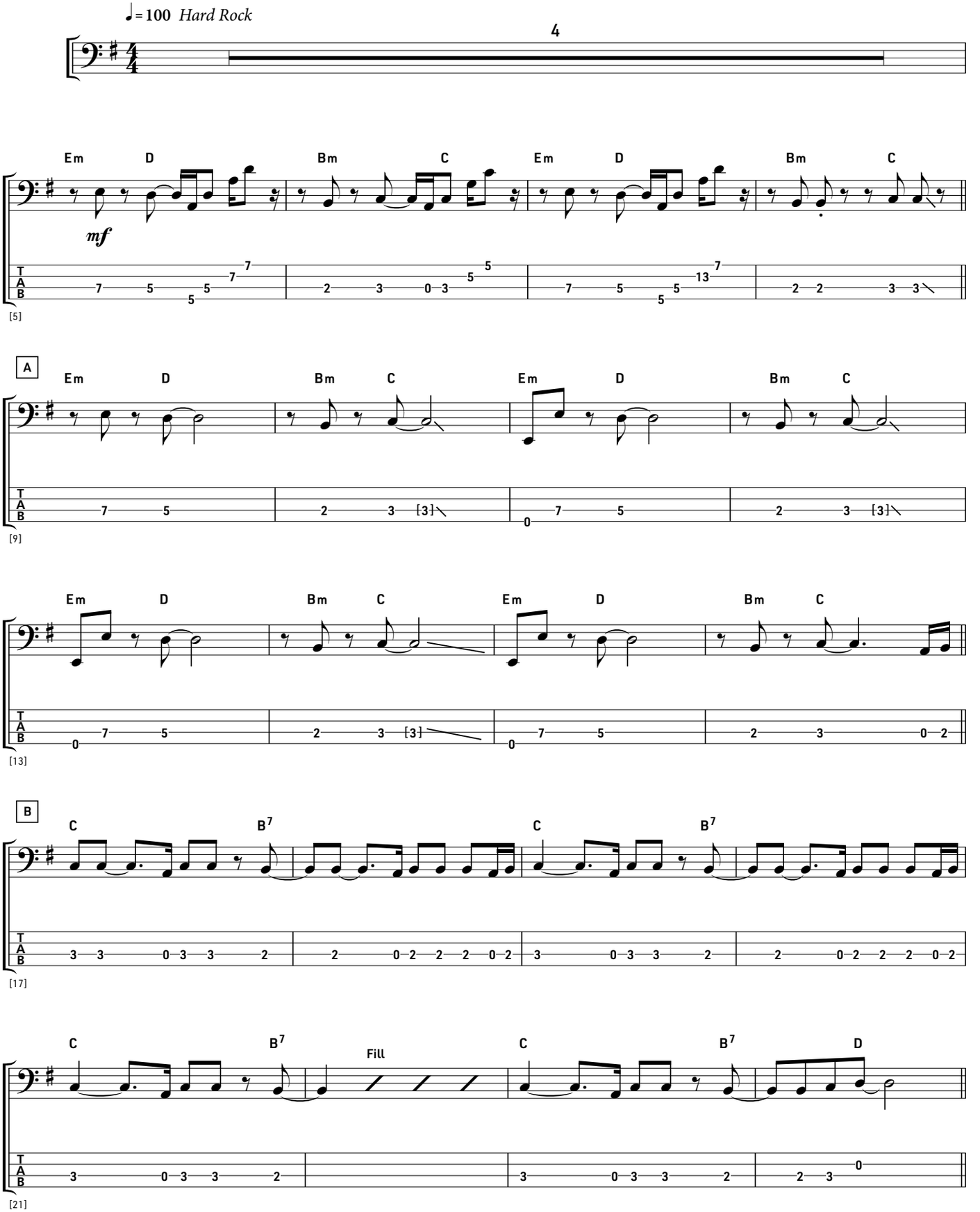


Wolfmother *Wolfmother* (2005)
During the 2000s, Australian band Wolfmother grew a large fanbase through their retro-rock music style, with a healthy dose of Led Zeppelin and Black Sabbath influence. Songs such as 'Woman' and 'Joker and the Thief' are still mainstays on radio stations and playlists.
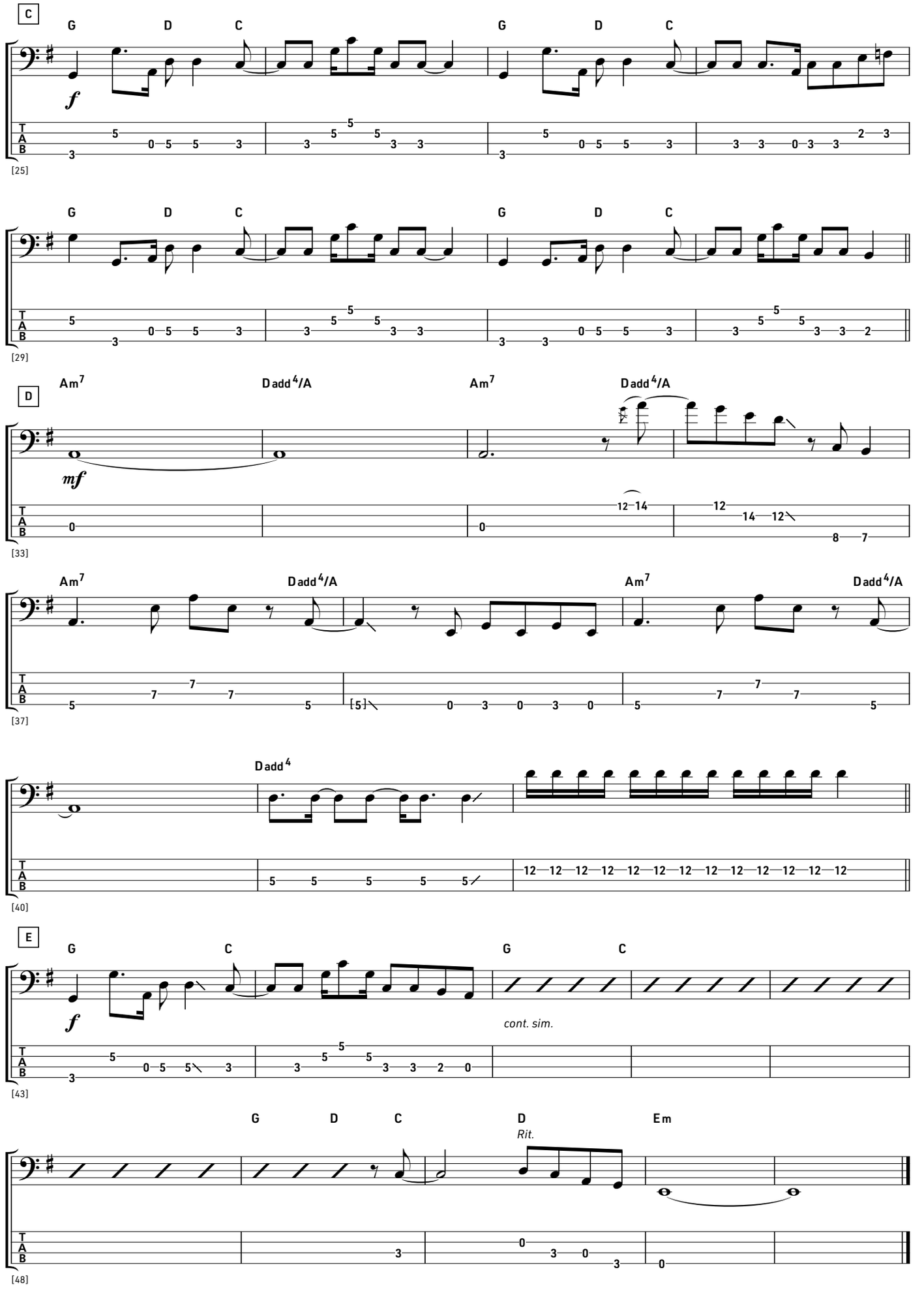
Black Smoke Rising

Words and Music by Daniel Wagner, Joshua Kiszka,
Samuel Kiszka and Jacob Kiszka

Greta Van Fleet



Copyright © 2017 Yankee Springs Publishing (BMI)
All Rights Administered by Bluewater Music Services Corp.
International Copyright Secured All Rights Reserved

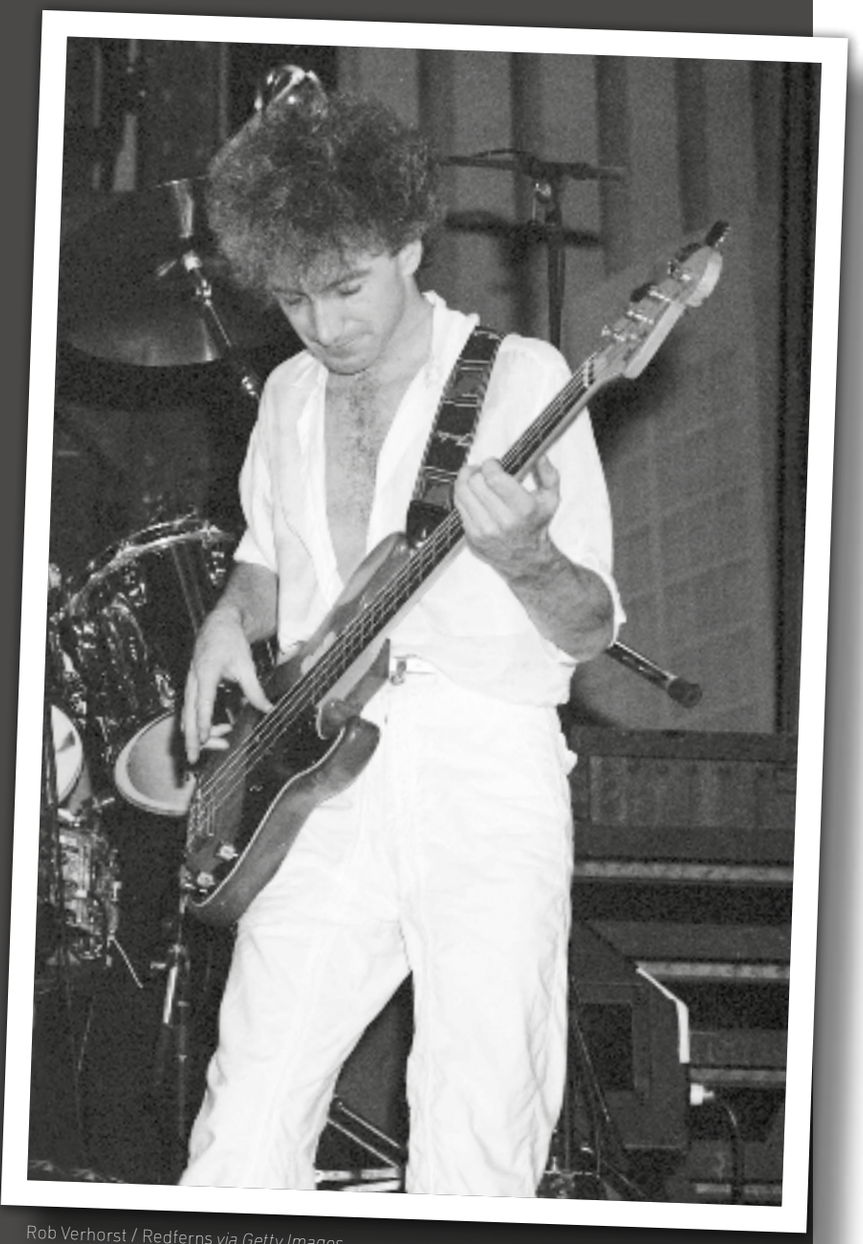

C
G D C G D C
f
[25]
G D C G D C
[29]
D
Am7 Dadd4/A Am7 Dadd4/A
mf
[33]
Am7 Dadd4/A Am7 Dadd4/A
[37]
Dadd4
[40]
E
G C G C
f
cont. sim.
[43]
G D C D Em
Rit.
[48]

Keep Yourself Alive

Artist: Queen
Source: *Queen* (Album, 1973)
Genre: Hard Rock / Glam Rock

The first single Queen ever released, 'Keep Yourself Alive', takes the first spot on the track listing of their eponymous debut album. Now considered to be one of their defining hits, the song features their signature driving rhythm section and bluesy guitar licks, mixed with Freddie Mercury's harmonised vocals and uplifting melodies in the chorus. The single was generally ignored by critics and radio stations upon its initial release, but it eventually became a fan favourite, and was regularly played at live concerts.

The classic rock band Queen were (and still are) a global phenomenon. They are still cited as a significant influence for countless contemporary musicians across many genres. Their ability to blend styles such as funk, disco, jazz, and rock brought them worldwide acclaim, and yielded a wide range of iconic songs that are still popular today. These range from chantable stadium anthems like 'We Will Rock You' and 'Another One Bites the Dust' to long-form classical-inspired suites such as 'Bohemian Rhapsody'. The band released over ten studio albums (including posthumous recordings) and became one of the best-selling acts of all time, selling over 300 million records.

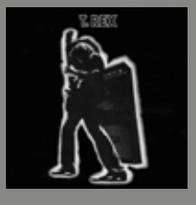


Rob Verhorst / Redferns *via Getty Images*

Recommended Listening



Led Zeppelin *IV* (1971)
In the fourth, untitled studio album by British hard rock pioneers Led Zeppelin, we continue to hear elements of what gave the band a special place in rock history, such as Jimmy Page's bluesy and folksy riffs, and John Bonham's electrifying energy on the drum kit.
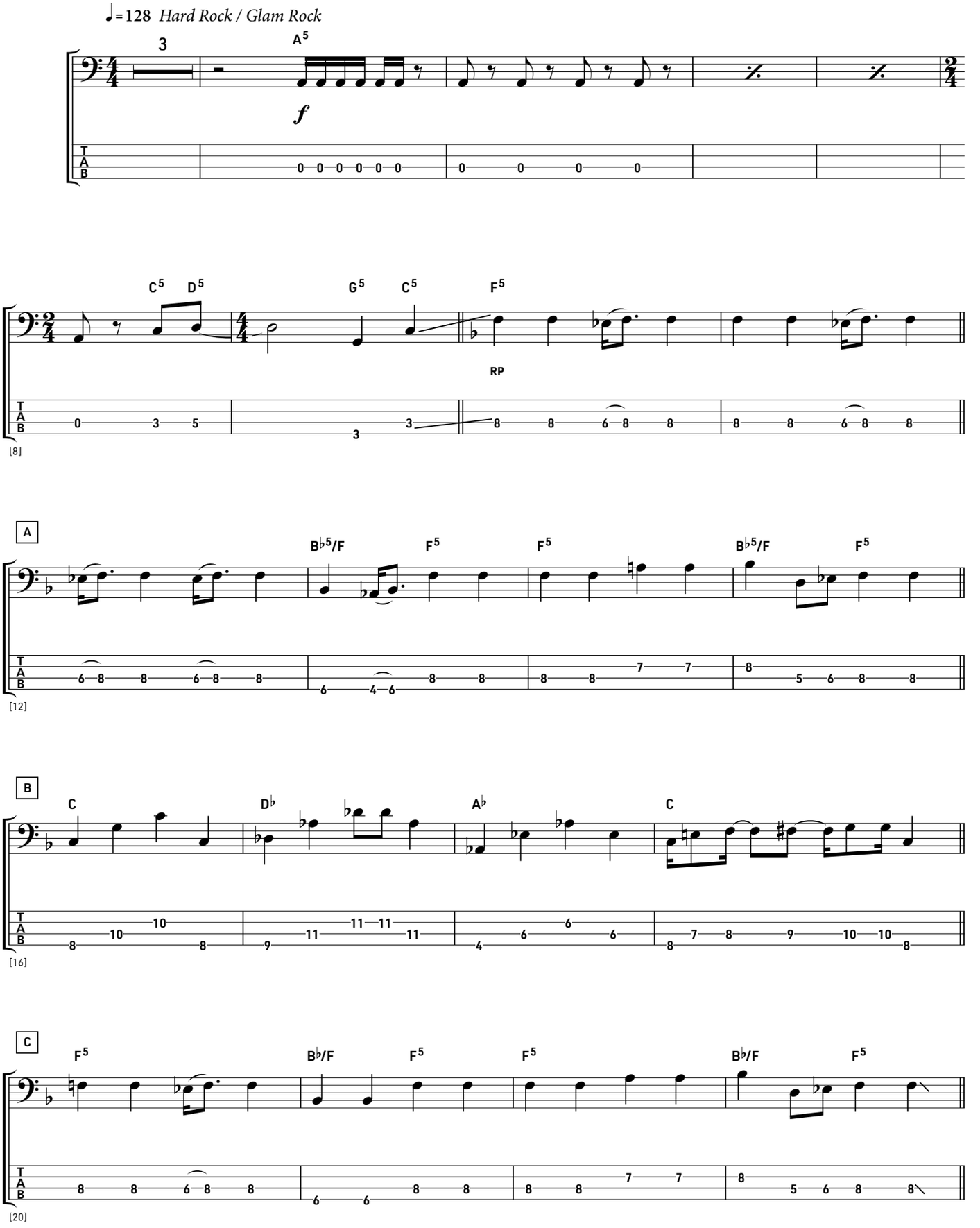


T. Rex *Electric Warrior* (1971)
One of the earliest adopters of UK glam rock was the charismatic and sharply dressed frontman Marc Bolan. His band T. Rex went on to become pioneers of this style, with catchy riffs and singable choruses, both of which are delivered in spades on their chart-topping single 'Get It On'.
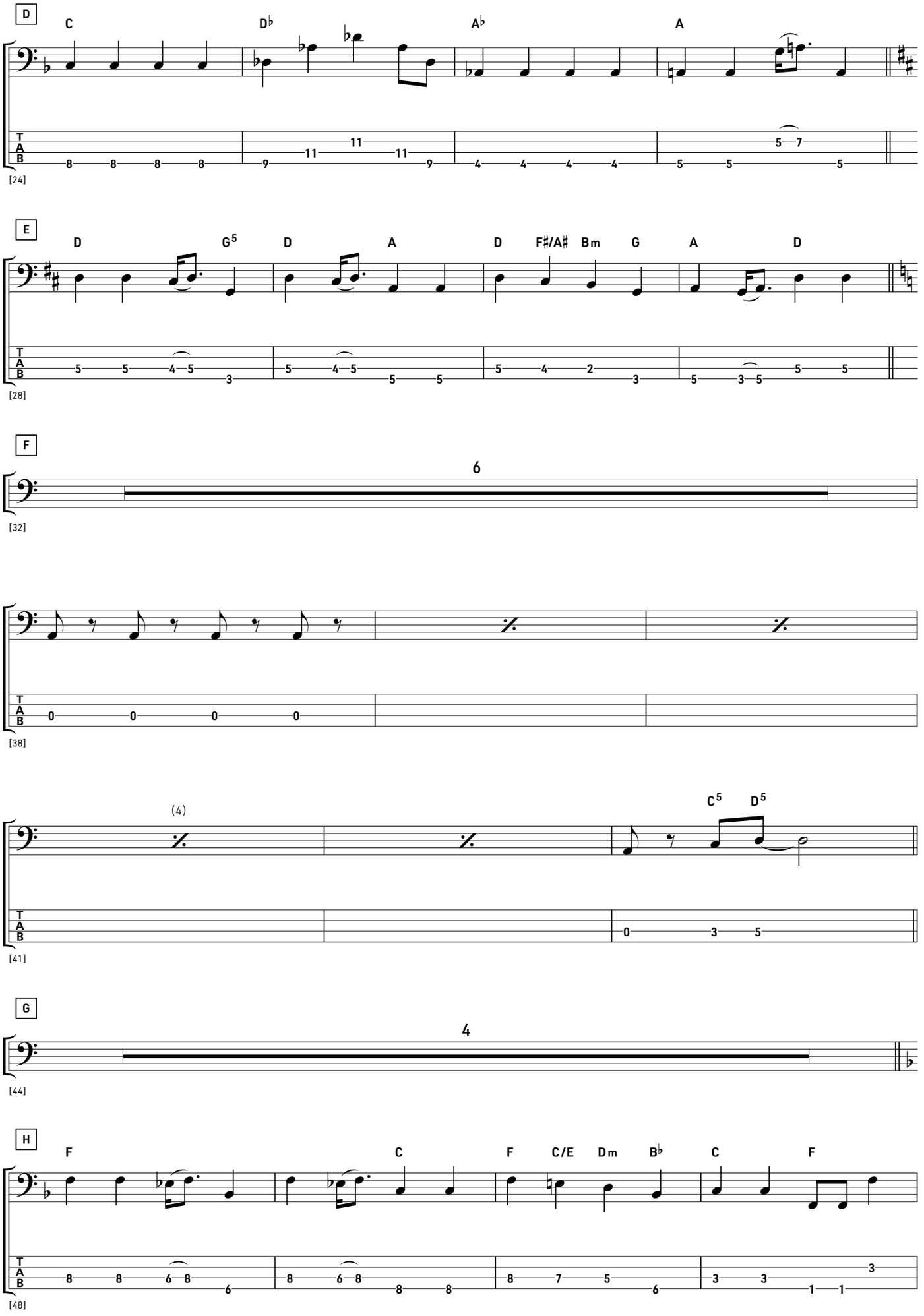
Keep Yourself Alive
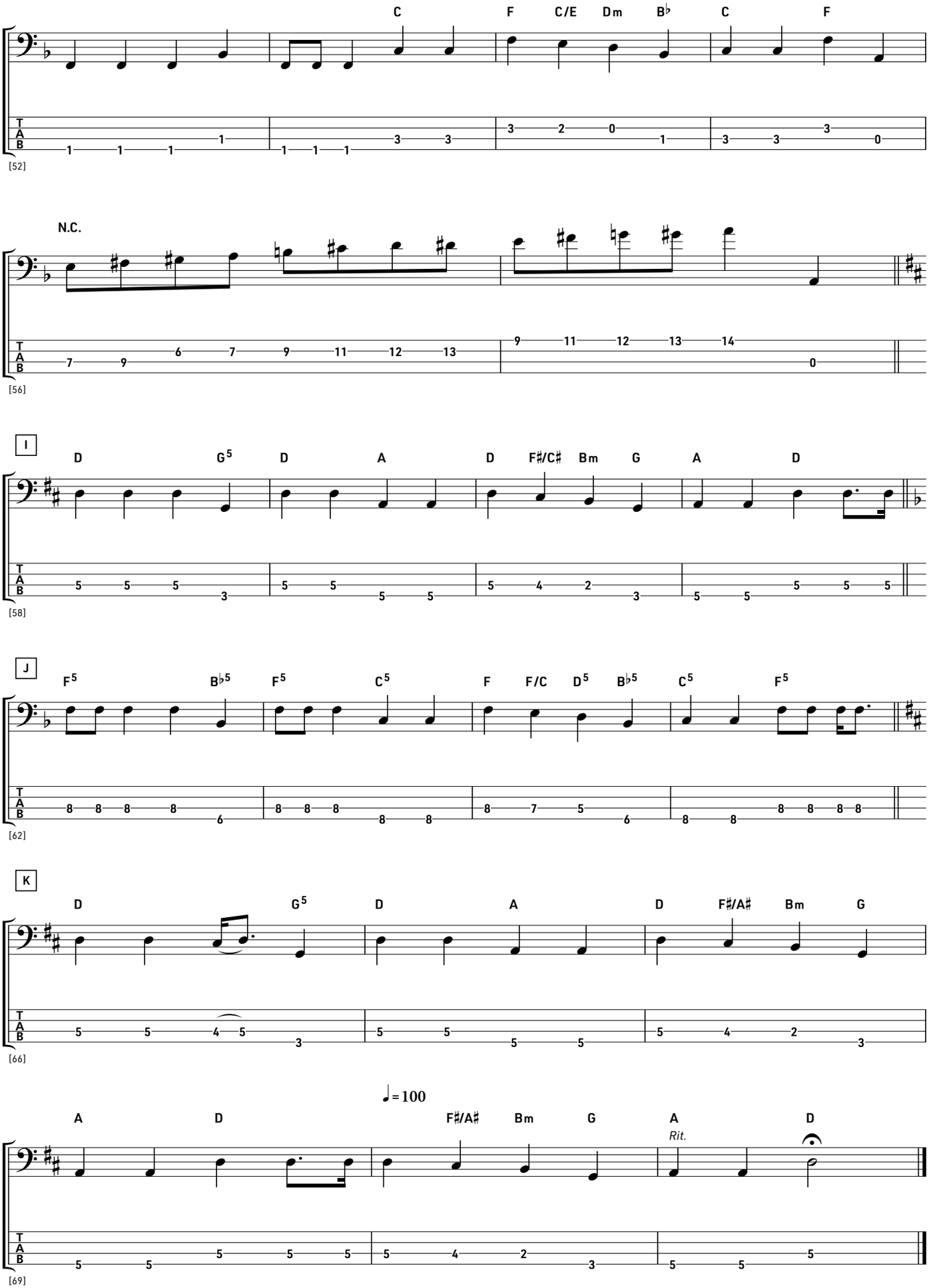
Words and Music by Brian May

Queen



Copyright © 1973 Queen Music Ltd.
Copyright Renewed
All Rights Administered by Sony Music Publishing (US) LLC, 424 Church Street, Suite 1200, Nashville, TN 37219
International Copyright Secured All Rights Reserved


D
C
D♭
A♭
A
[24]
E
D
G5
D
A
D
F♯/A♯
Bm
G
A
D
[28]
F
6
[32]
[38]
(4)
C5
D5
[41]
G
4
[44]
H
F
C
F
C/E
Dm
B♭
C
F
[48]


C F C/E Dm B♭ C F
[52]
N.C.
[56]
I
D G5 D A D F♯/C♯ Bm G A D
[58]
J
F5 B♭5 F5 C5 F F/C D5 B♭5 C5 F5
[62]
K
D G5 D A D F♯/A♯ Bm G
[66]
♩= 100
A D F♯/A♯ Bm G A D
Rit.
[69]

Canned Heat

Artist: Jamiroquai
Source: *Synkronised* (Album, 1999)
Genre: Disco

The funky disco beat of 'Canned Heat' combined with frontman Jay Kay's distinctive vocals made the first single off their 1999 album *Synkronised* a standout hit. It reached number 4 on the UK single charts and achieved wider global recognition as part of the soundtrack to the comedy film *Napoleon Dynamite* (2004).

During the '90s, Jamiroquai were at the forefront of a new genre gaining popularity known as acid jazz; a unique combination of jazz, funk, hip hop and soul. Fronted by Jay Kay, their charismatic and outspoken singer is also known for his eccentric headwear. The group gained a notable fan base after the release of their debut album in 1993 and had consistent popularity in the UK during that decade, with several of their records topping the UK album chart. Jamiroquai continue to release and produce music, with a single released in 2021.



CityFiles / WireImage *via Getty Images*

Recommended Listening



Earth Wind & Fire *The Best of Earth Wind & Fire Vol. 1* (1978)
A collection of some of the group's greatest hits, this influential R&B, funk and soul ensemble had a string of hits throughout the '70s and '80s, featuring intricate horn arrangements and infectious disco-style rhythms, epitomised by the classic songs like 'September' and 'Boogie Wonderland'.
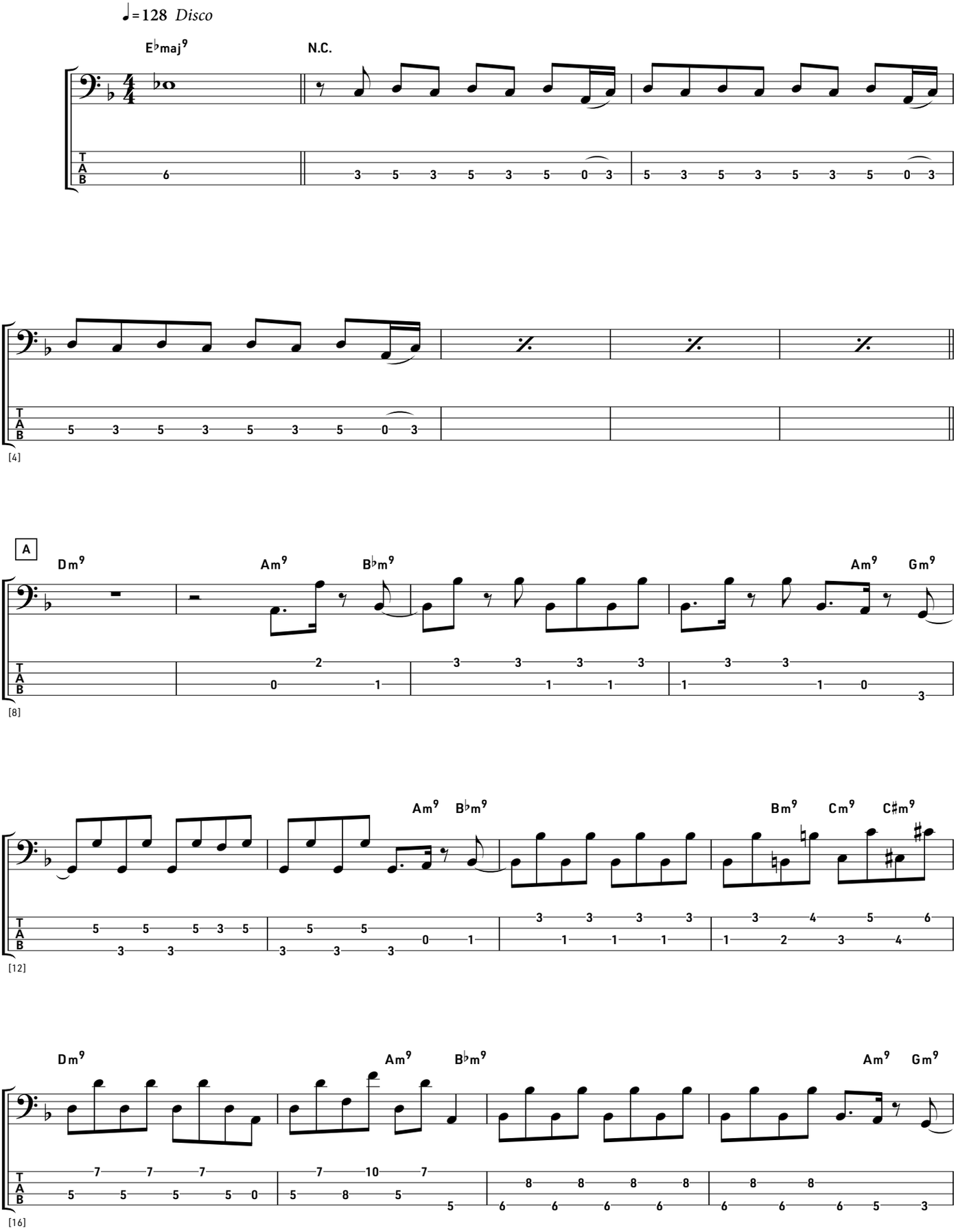


Daft Punk *Random Access Memories* (2013)
With retro funk and disco-influenced hits such as 'Get Lucky', anonymous French duo Daft Punk have carved out their own distinct voice within the music industry, aided by their unique stage presence. After an 18 year career, they announced their split in 2021, having left an indelible mark on the world of dance music.

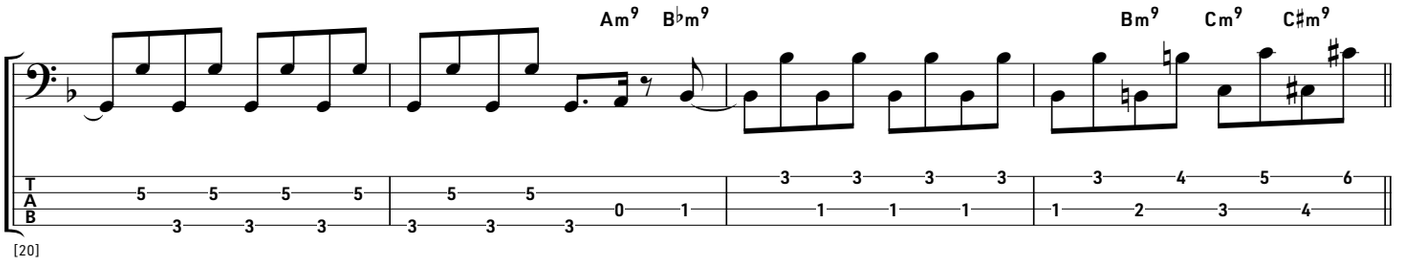
Canned Heat

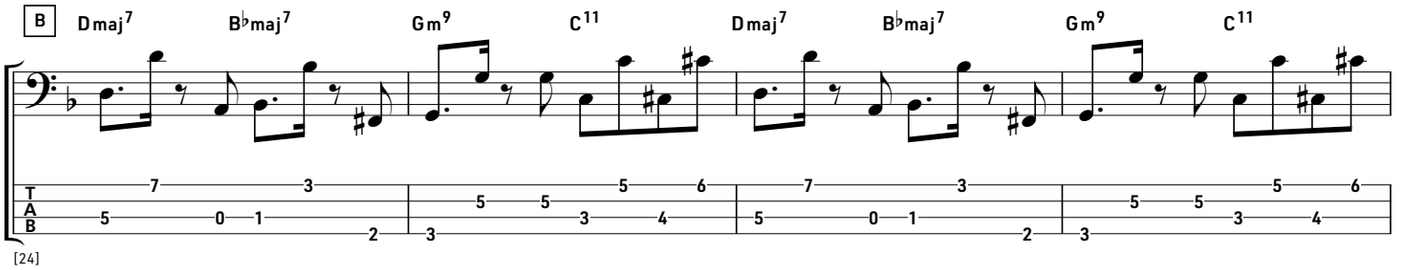
Words and Music by Jason Kay

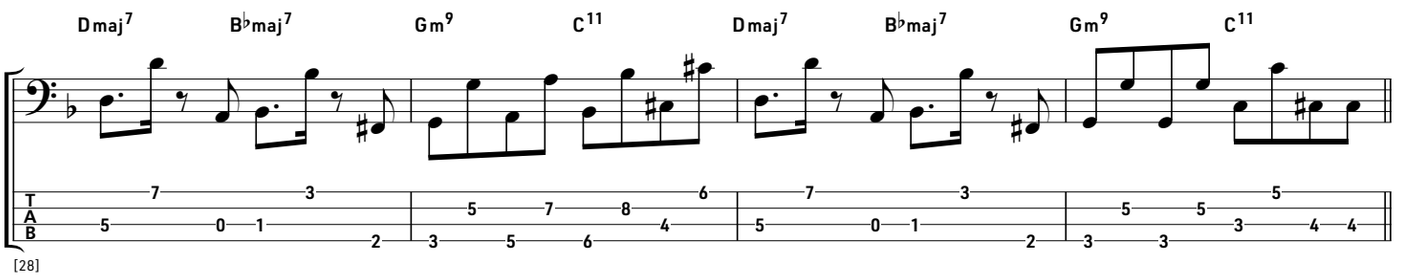
Jamiroquai

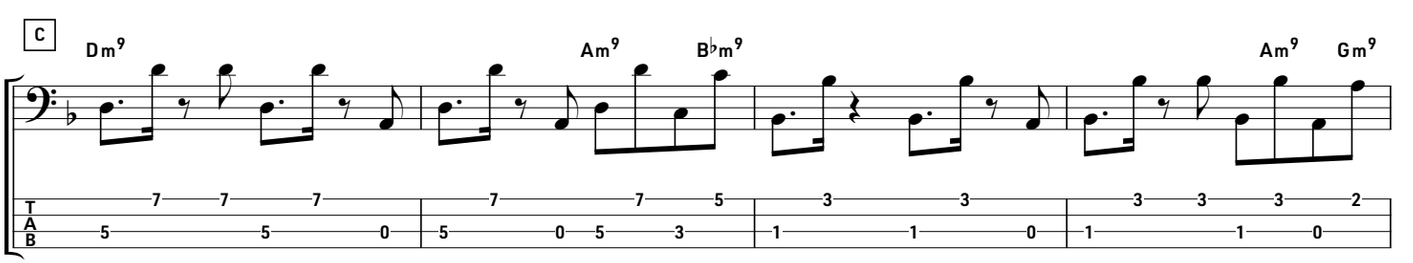


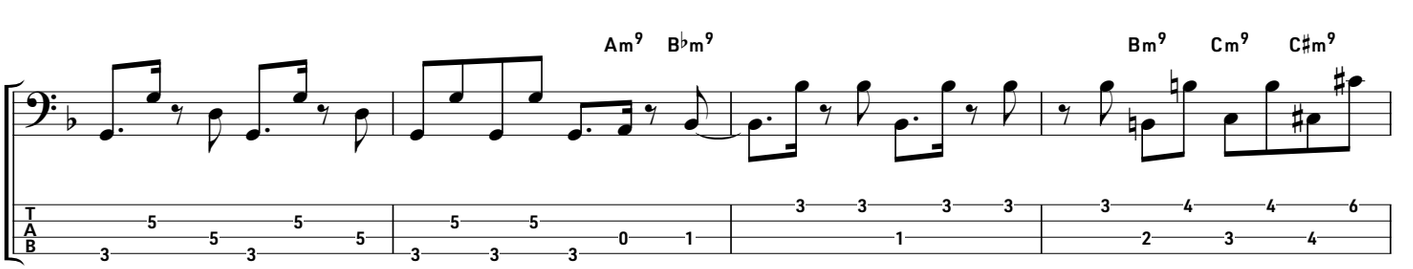
Words and Music by Jason Kay
Copyright © 1999 EMI Music Publishing Ltd.
All Rights Administered by Sony Music Publishing (US) LLC, 424 Church Street, Suite 1200, Nashville, TN 37219
International Copyright Secured All Rights Reserved

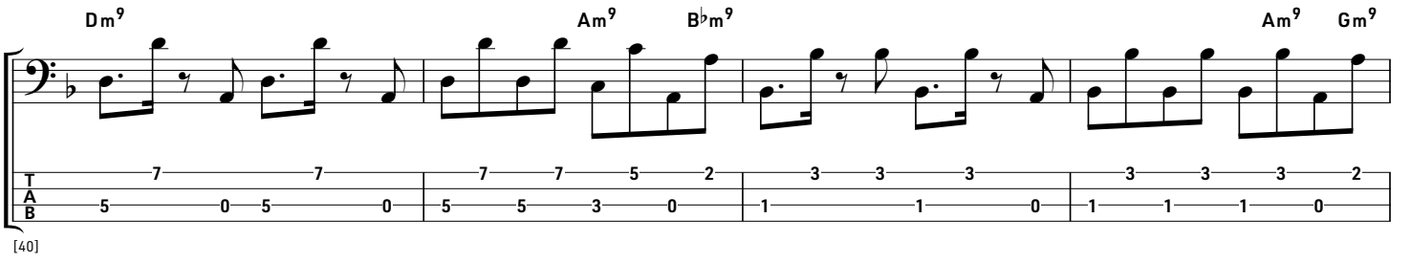

Am9 B♭m9
Bm9 Cm9 C♯m9
[20]

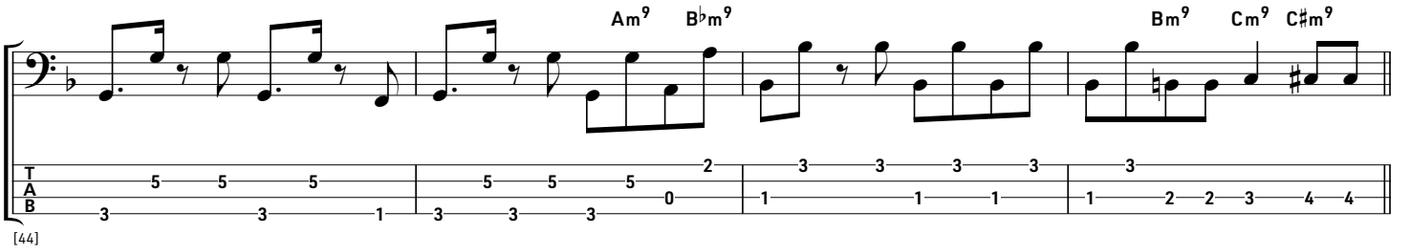

B
Dmaj7 B♭maj7 Gm9 C11 Dmaj7 B♭maj7 Gm9 C11
[24]

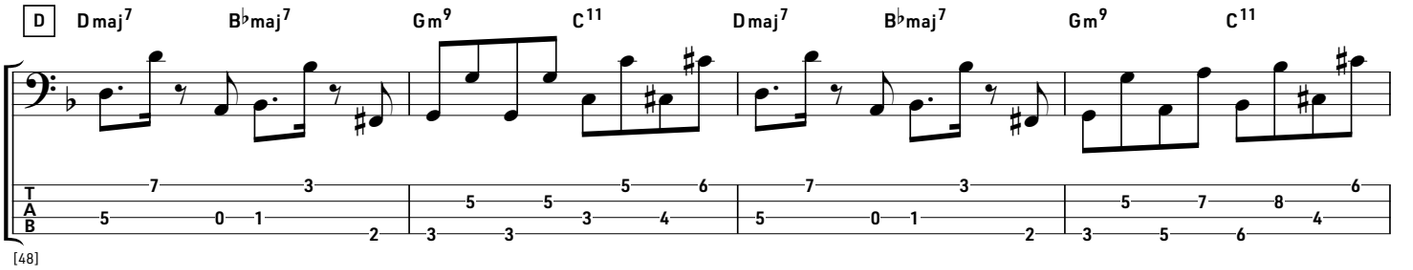

Dmaj7 B♭maj7 Gm9 C11 Dmaj7 B♭maj7 Gm9 C11
[28]

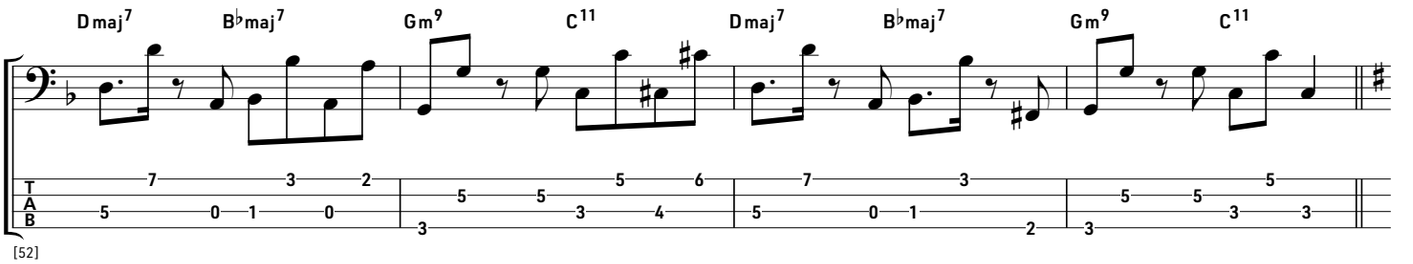

C
Dm9 Am9 B♭m9 Am9 Gm9
[32]

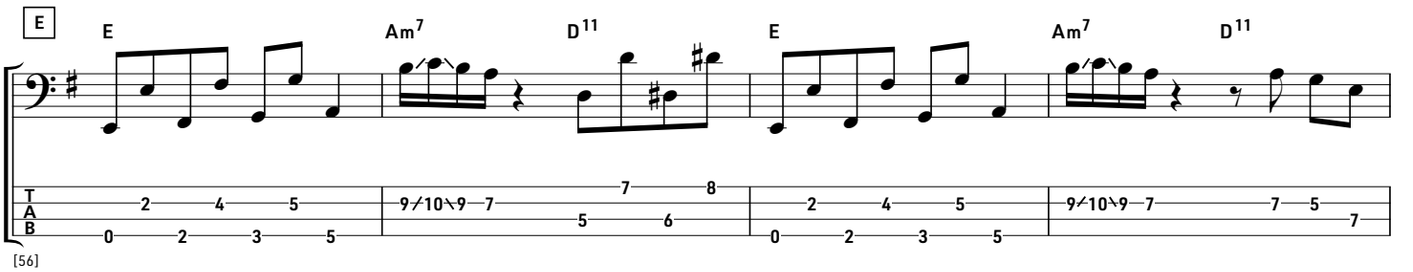

Am9 B♭m9
Bm9 Cm9 C♯m9
[36]

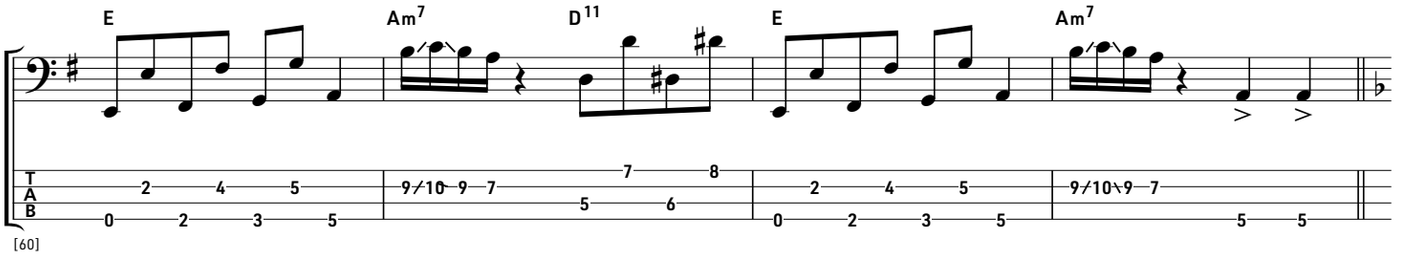

Dm9
Am9
B♭m9
Am9
Gm9
[40]

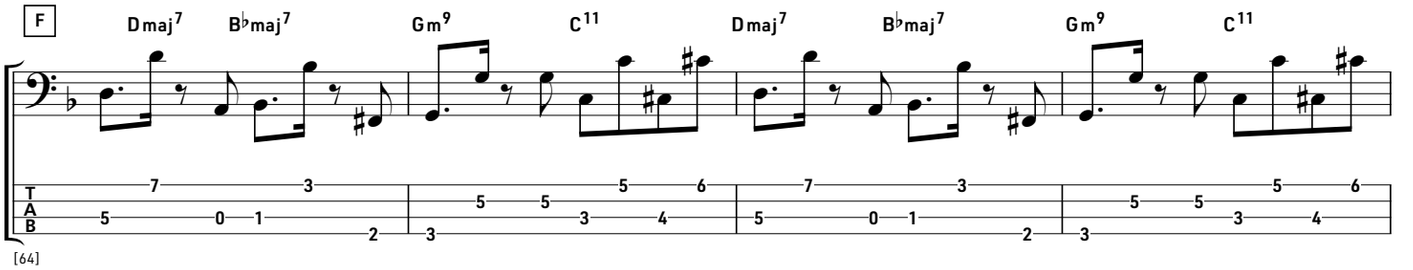

Am9
B♭m9
Bm9
Cm9
C♯m9
[44]

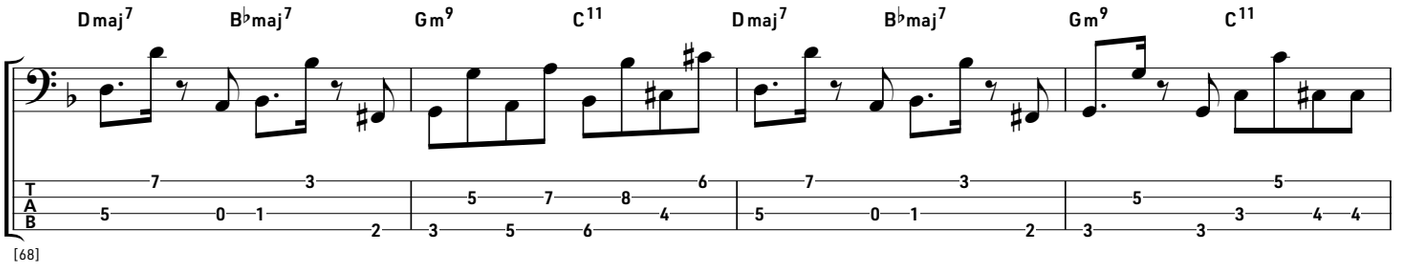

D
Dmaj7
B♭maj7
Gm9
C11
Dmaj7
B♭maj7
Gm9
C11
[48]

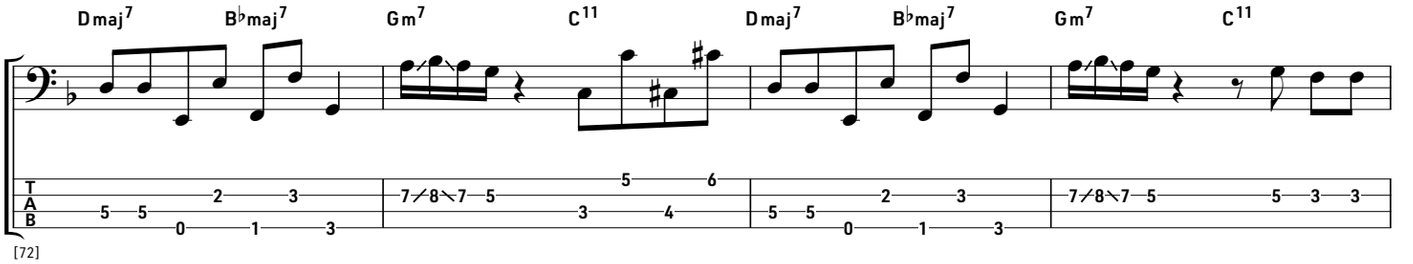

Dmaj7
B♭maj7
Gm9
C11
Dmaj7
B♭maj7
Gm9
C11
[52]

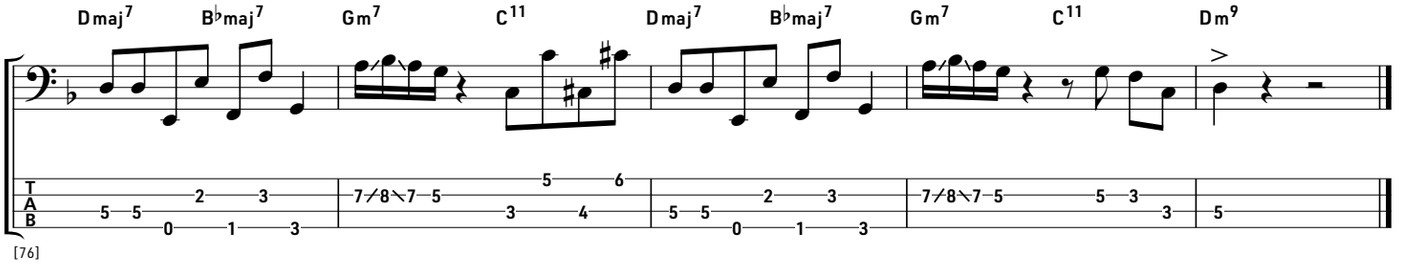

E
E
Am7
D11
E
Am7
D11
[56]


E
Am7
D11
E
Am7
[60]


F
Dmaj7
B♭maj7
Gm9
C11
Dmaj7
B♭maj7
Gm9
C11
[64]


Dmaj7
B♭maj7
Gm9
C11
Dmaj7
B♭maj7
Gm9
C11
[68]


Dmaj7
B♭maj7
Gm7
C11
Dmaj7
B♭maj7
Gm7
C11
[72]


Dmaj7
B♭maj7
Gm7
C11
Dmaj7
B♭maj7
Gm7
C11
Dm9
[76]

Levitating

Artist: Dua Lipa
Source: *Future Nostalgia* (Album, 2020)
Genre: Electro-Disco

Like many songs from her Grammy award winning second album *Future Nostalgia*, 'Levitating' takes its influence from earlier styles of pop and dance music, with noticeable echoes of disco, funk and R&B. Upon release, the song was a critical and commercial hit, reaching number 2 on the US Billboard Hot 100 and number 5 on the UK Singles Chart. A remix of the song in a more EDM style was released by The Blessed Madonna, featuring the legendary Madonna and Missy Elliott.

Dua Lipa was born in London and grew up studying and performing music in school. She signed to Warner Records in 2014, after which followed multiple successful and best-selling singles that charted in many countries worldwide. She has released three studio albums, her most recent being *Radical Optimism*, released in 2024. Outside of music, Dua Lipa works as a model and actor. She featured in the 2023 movie *Barbie*, both as an actor and a singer on the film's soundtrack.

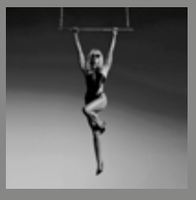


Samir Hussein / WireImage *via Getty Images*

Recommended Listening



Madonna *Confessions on a Dancefloor* (2005)
One of the most successful pop artists of all time, Madonna remains a tour de force in the music industry. She has a vast and eclectic discography, and her 2005 album nods heavily to the dance pop and disco era of the '70s, akin to *Future Nostalgia*.
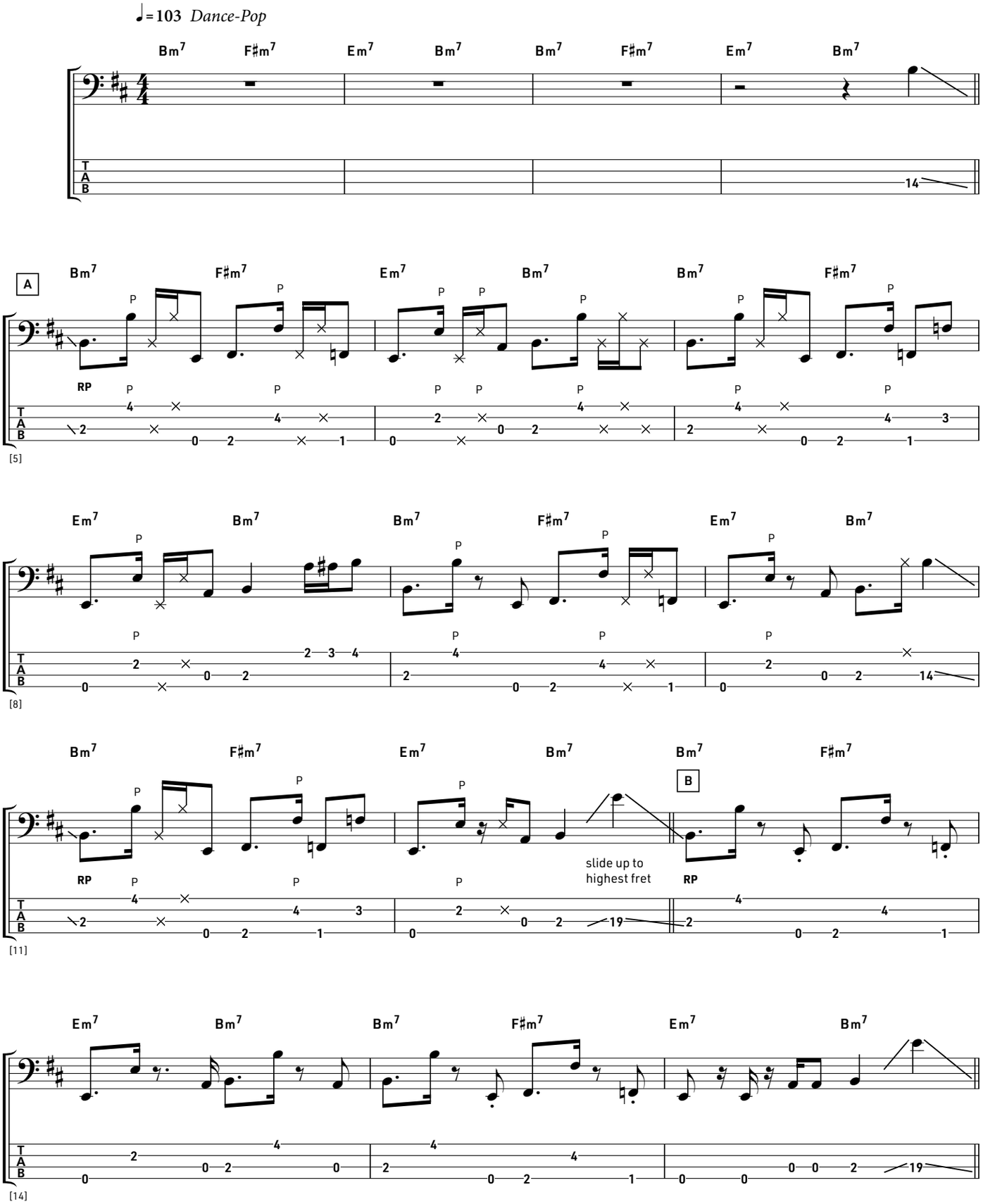


Miley Cyrus *Endless Summer Vacation* (2020)
Another dance pop album by a modern pop idol, *Endless Summer Vacation* has an array of danceable songs with varied influences. The album includes the disco-inspired hit 'Flowers'.
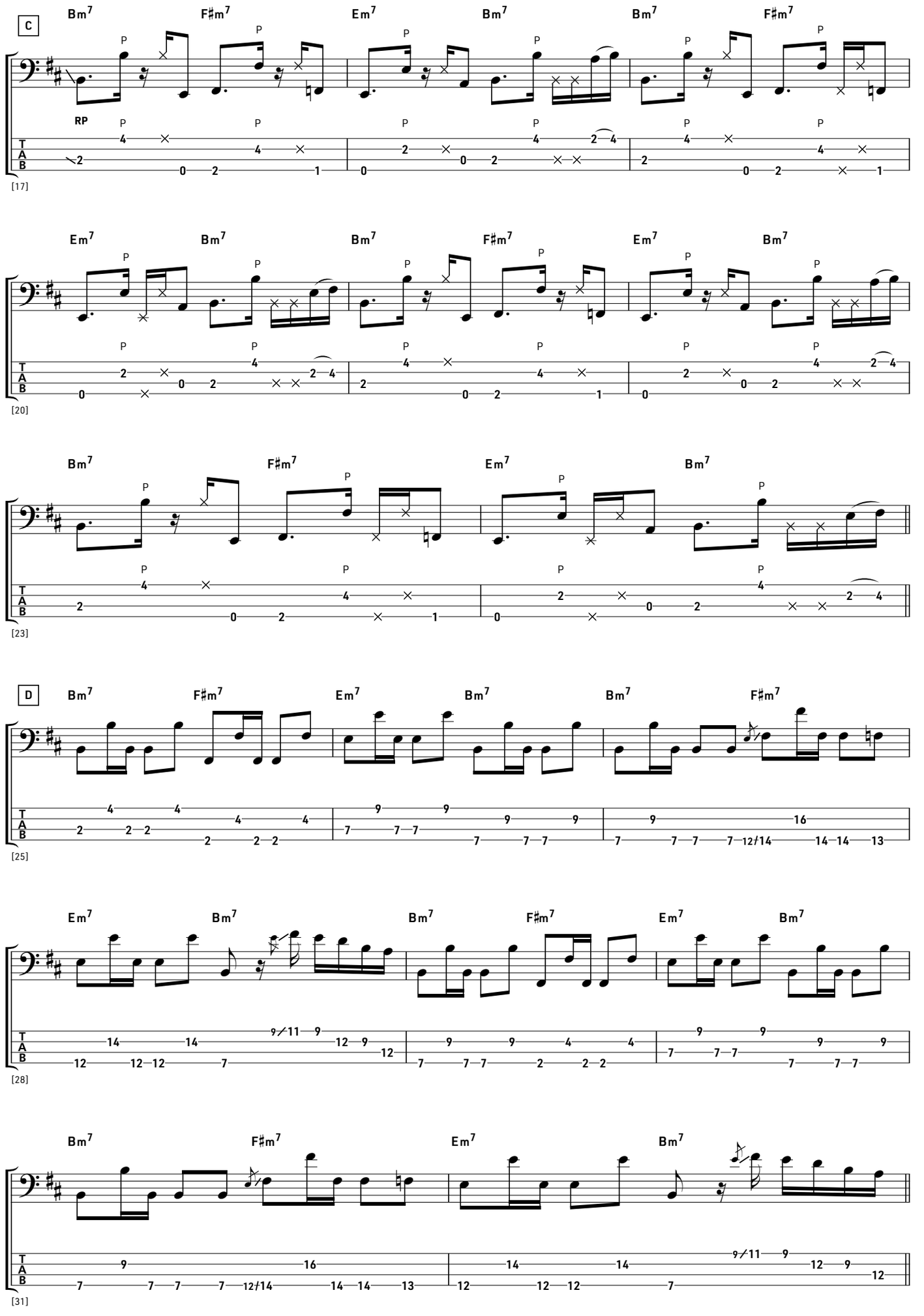
Levitating
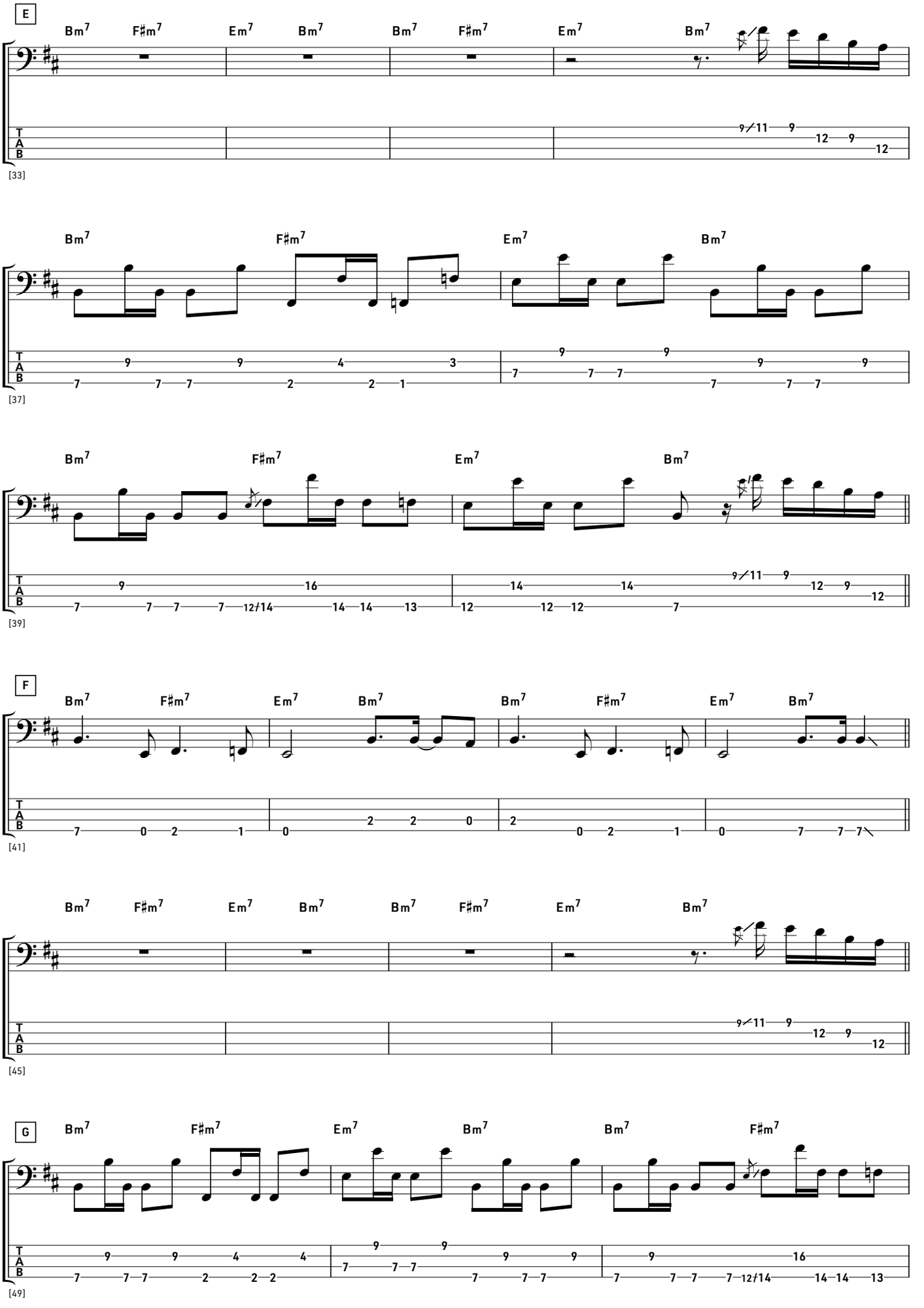
Words and Music by Dua Lipa, Stephen Kozmeniuk,
Clarence Coffee Jr. and Sarah Hudson

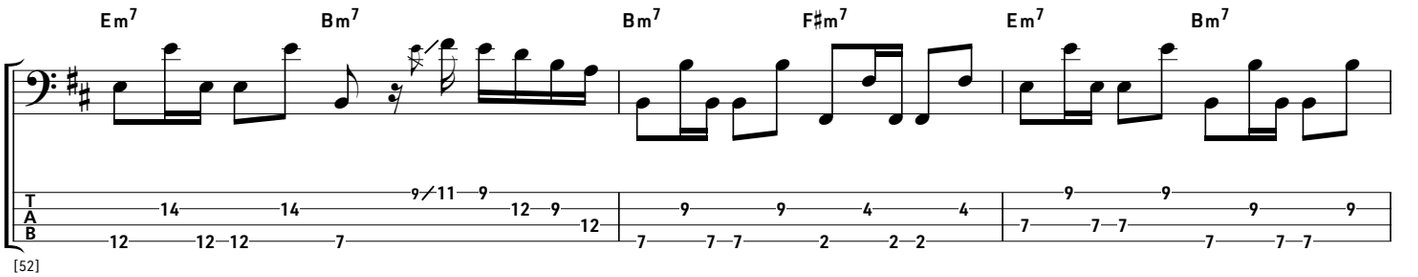
Dua Lipa

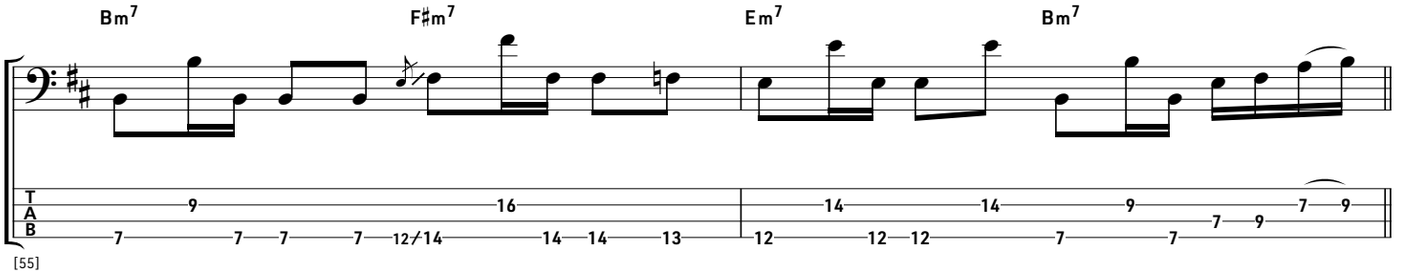


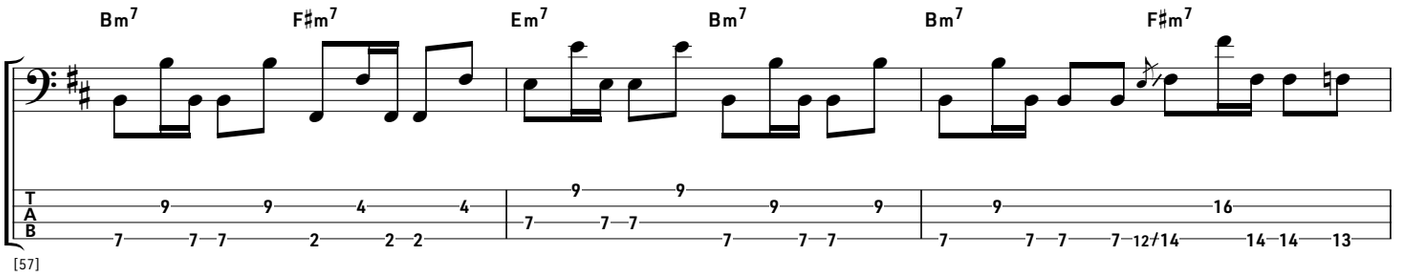
Copyright © 2021 TAP MUSIC PUBLISHING LTD., EMI MUSIC PUBLISHING LTD., NYANKINGMUSIC, BEST COFFEE IN TOWN, PRESCRIPTION SONGS, WC MUSIC CORP., ITALIANS DO IT BETTER and UNSUB PUB LLC
All Rights for TAP MUSIC PUBLISHING LTD. Administered by UNIVERSAL - POLYGRAM INTERNATIONAL PUBLISHING, INC.
All Rights for EMI MUSIC PUBLISHING LTD. and NYANKINGMUSIC Administered by SONY MUSIC PUBLISHING (US) LLC, 424 Church Street, Suite 1200, Nashville, TN 37219
All Rights for BEST COFFEE IN TOWN and PRESCRIPTION SONGS Administered Worldwide by KOBALT SONGS MUSIC PUBLISHING
All Rights for ITALIANS DO IT BETTER and UNSUB PUB LLC Administered by WC MUSIC CORP.
All Rights Reserved Used by Permission

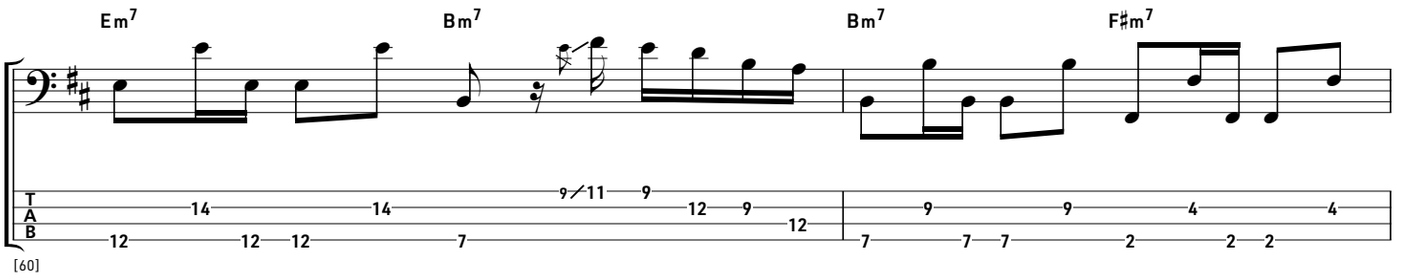

C
Bm7 F♯m7 Em7 Bm7 Bm7 F♯m7
RP
[17]
Em7 Bm7 Bm7 F♯m7 Em7 Bm7
[20]
Bm7 F♯m7 Em7 Bm7
[23]
D
Bm7 F♯m7 Em7 Bm7 Bm7 F♯m7
[25]
Em7 Bm7 Bm7 F♯m7 Em7 Bm7
[28]
Bm7 F♯m7 Em7 Bm7
[31]

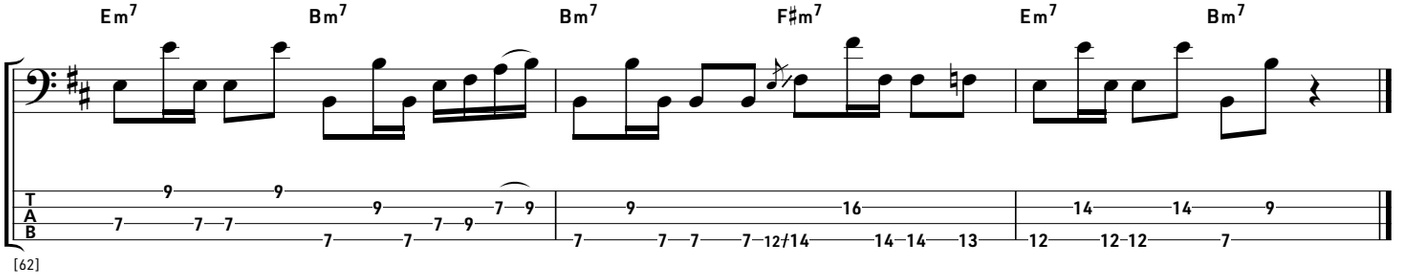

E
Bm7 F♯m7 Em7 Bm7 Bm7 F♯m7 Em7 Bm7
[33]
Bm7 F♯m7 Em7 Bm7
[37]
Bm7 F♯m7 Em7 Bm7
[39]
F
Bm7 F♯m7 Em7 Bm7 Bm7 F♯m7 Em7 Bm7
[41]
Bm7 F♯m7 Em7 Bm7 Bm7 F♯m7 Em7 Bm7
[45]
G
Bm7 F♯m7 Em7 Bm7 Bm7 F♯m7
[49]


Em7
Bm7
Bm7
F♯m7
Em7
Bm7
[52]


Bm7
F♯m7
Em7
Bm7
[55]


Bm7
F♯m7
Em7
Bm7
Bm7
F♯m7
[57]


Em7
Bm7
Bm7
F♯m7
[60]


Em7
Bm7
Bm7
F♯m7
Em7
Bm7
[62]

Every Little Thing She Does Is Magic

Artist: The Police
Source: *Ghost in the Machine* (Album, 1981)
Genre: New Wave

Originally written by Sting in the '70s, 'Every Little Thing She Does Is Magic' went on to become a huge global hit for The Police, with the version on *Ghost in the Machine* being based on a demo recorded by Sting. The song is somewhat out of character when compared against their other discography, partly due to the heavy use of piano played by session pianist Jeff Rousell, which gave the piece a slightly lighter sound.

The Police achieved global superstardom during the '70s and '80s with their unique and innovative blend of new wave, punk and ska/reggae. The band consisted of Andy Summers (guitar), Stewart Copeland (drums) and the charismatic frontman Sting on vocals and bass. They wrote several huge hits during their short career, including 'Every Breath You Take' and 'Message in a Bottle'. They disbanded in 1984 whilst still at their peak, with all three members going on to pursue other music projects and solo careers. They were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2003.

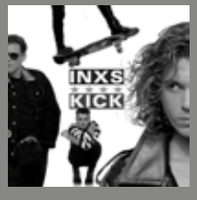


Tom Hill / WireImage *via Getty Images*

Recommended Listening



Genesis *Invisible Touch* (1986)
This iconic '80s album with Phil Collins as frontman became one of their most commercially successful, blending catchy pop hooks with rock elements and the typical synth-driven sound synonymous with music of that decade. The album features hits such as 'Invisible Touch' and 'Land of Confusion'.
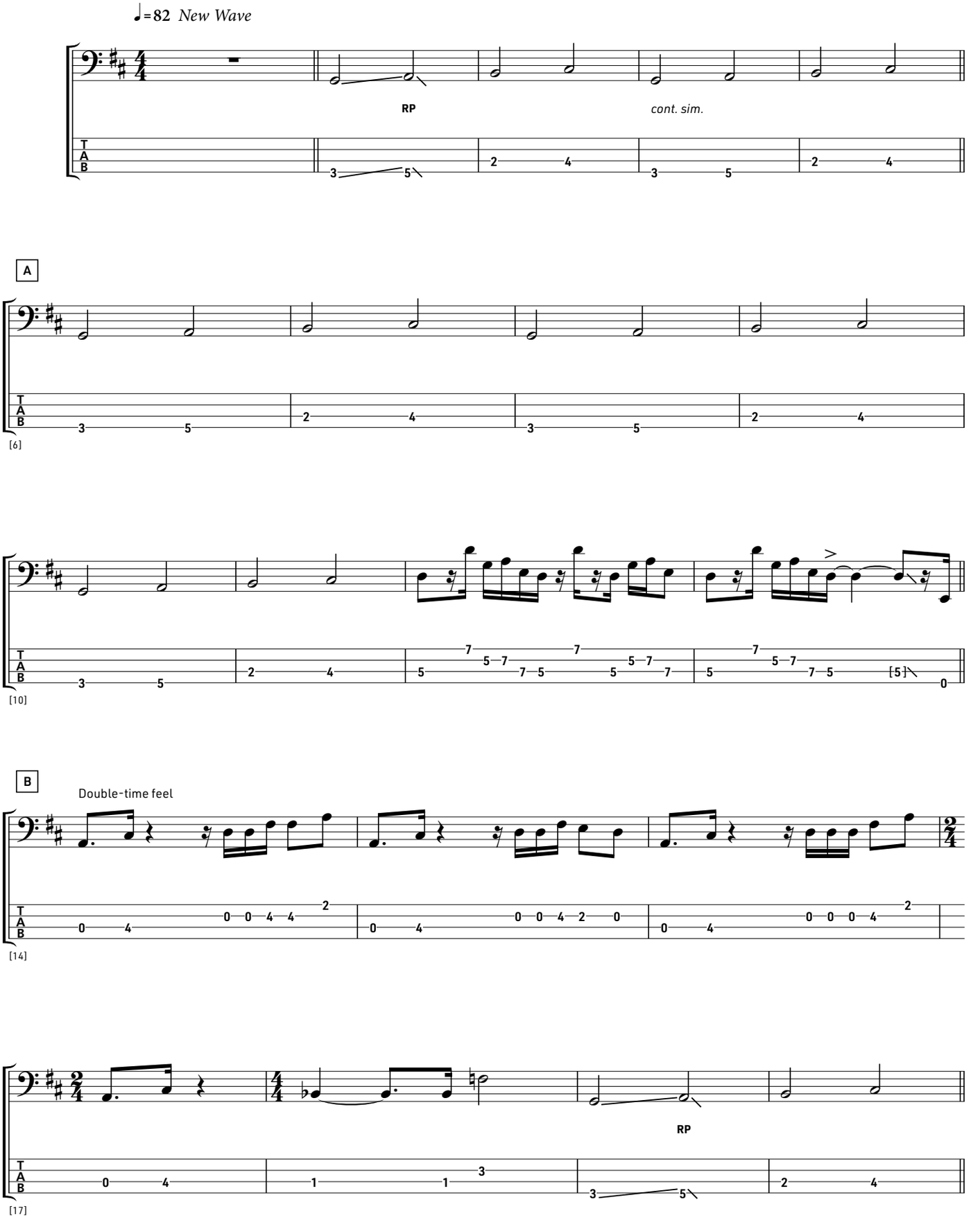


INXS *Kick* (1987)
A standout new wave album from the late '80s. Led by iconic frontman Michael Hutchence, *Kick* is packed with energetic hits like 'Need You Tonight' and 'New Sensation' that blend rock, pop and funk.

Every Little Thing She Does Is Magic

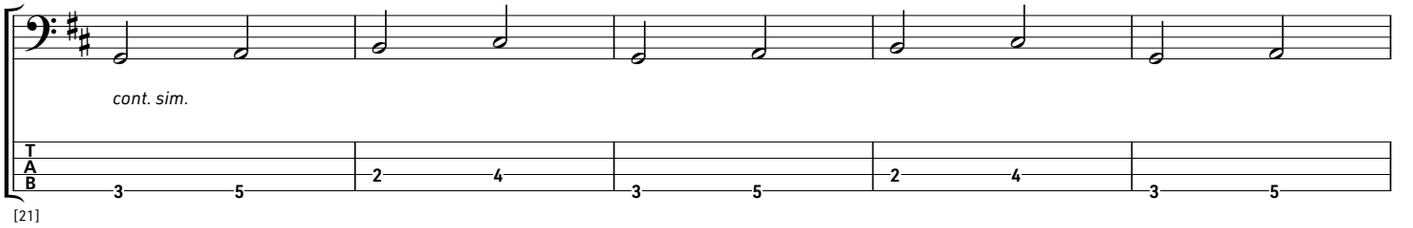
Words and Music by Sting

The Police
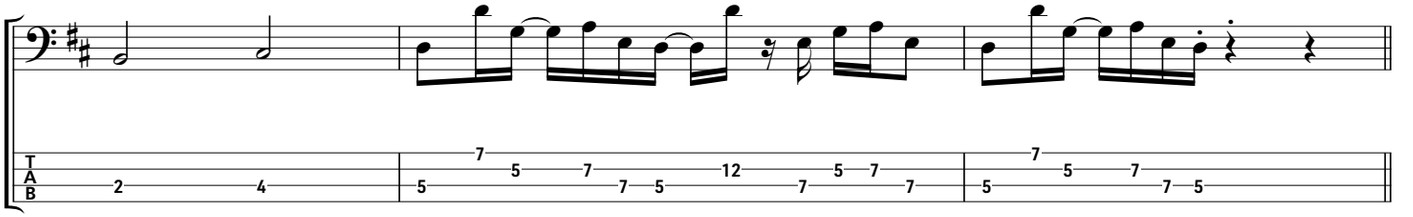


Copyright © 1981 SONGS OF UNIVERSAL, INC.
All Rights Reserved Used by Permission

C
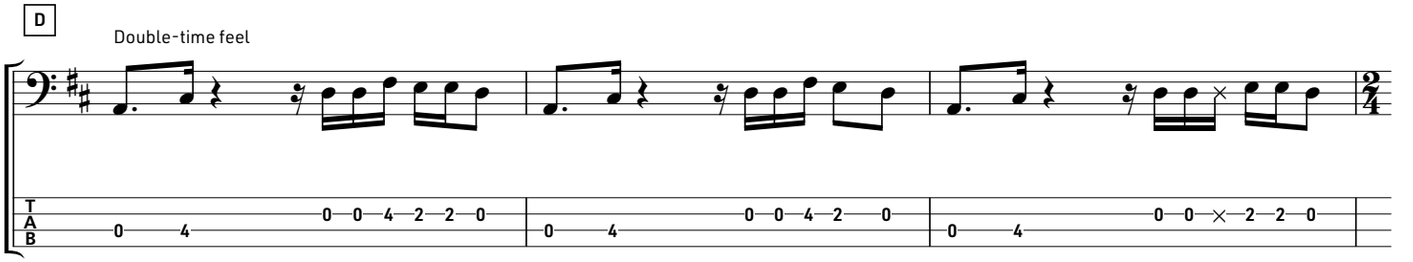


[21]
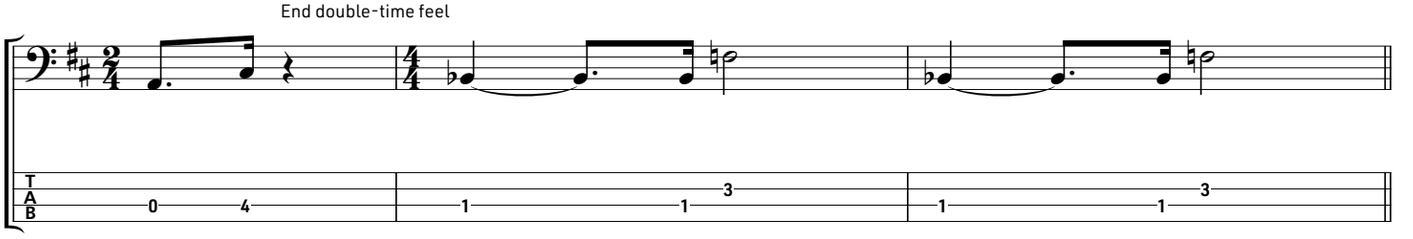


[26]

D
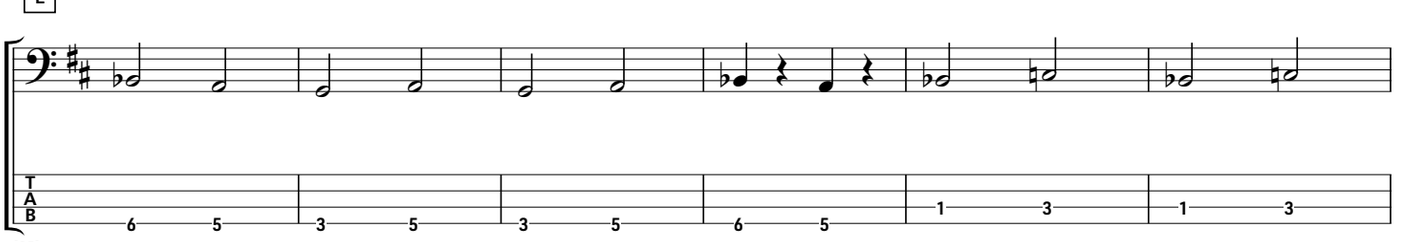


[29]

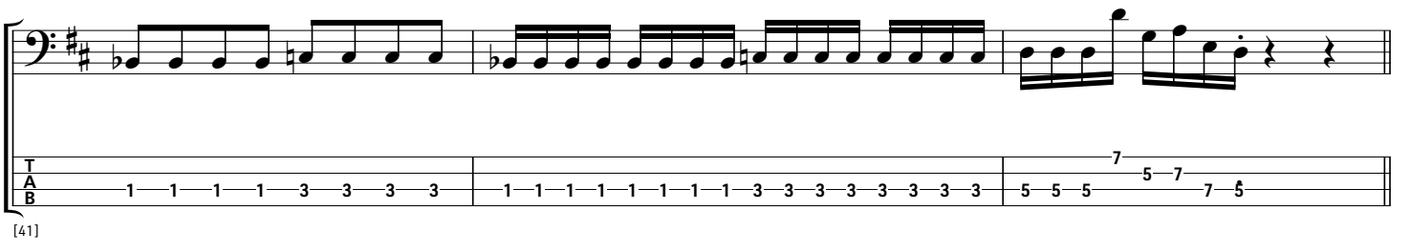


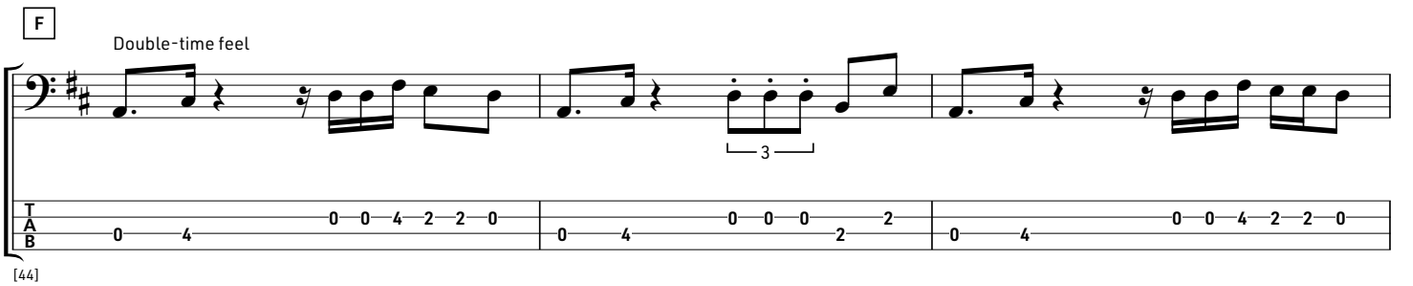
[32]

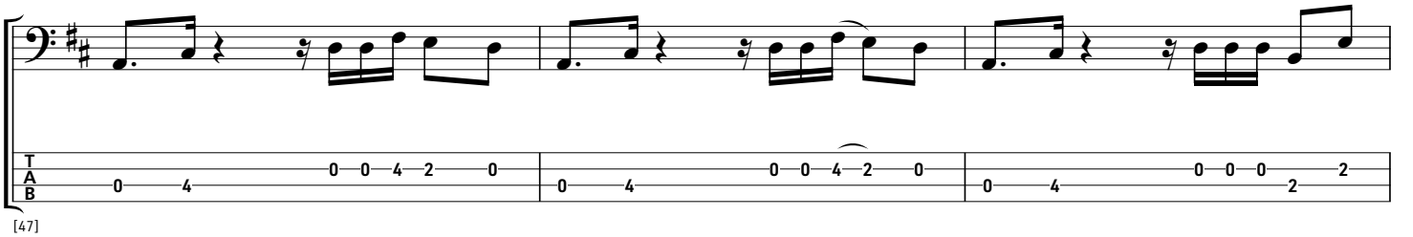
E

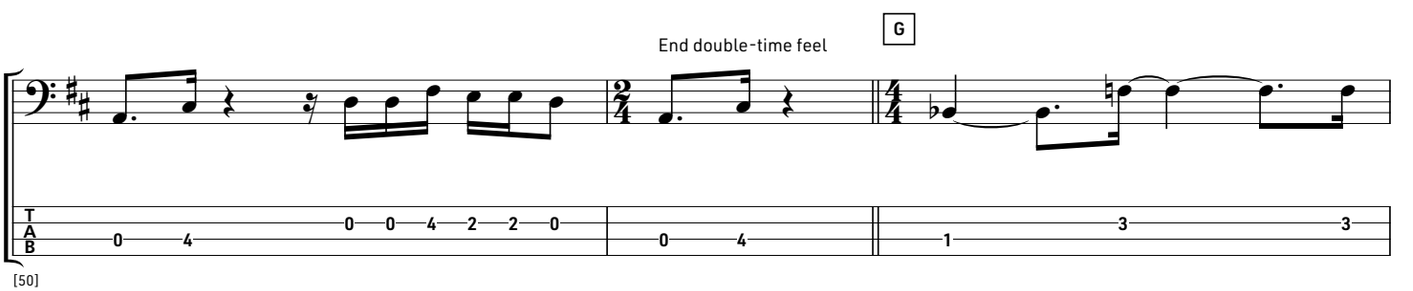


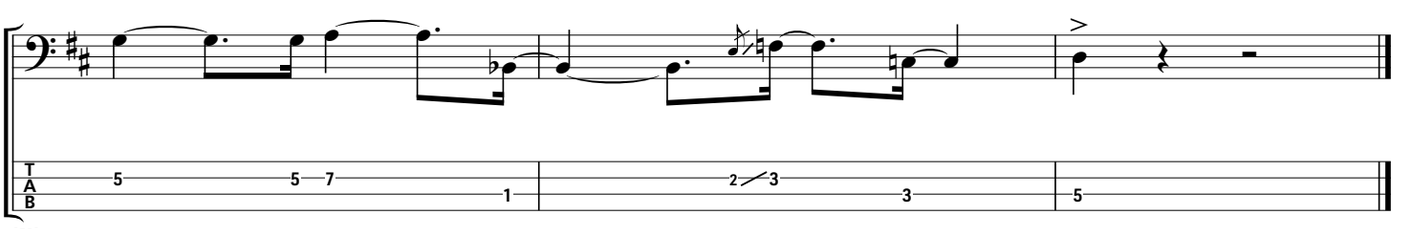
[35]


[41]


F
Double-time feel
3
[44]


[47]


End double-time feel
G
[50]


[53]

rockschool® *Originals*

From the very beginning in 1991, Rockschool has been commissioning world-leading professionals to compose original pieces for our contemporary music grade exams. *Rockschool Originals* provide musicians with a diverse, innovative, and engaging selection of repertoire for use in their exams. These carefully benchmarked works explore a wide variety of genres, and introduce players to stylistic elements and techniques that are typical of that genre.

Down at the Abbey

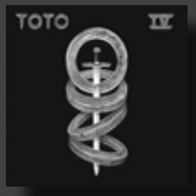
A laidback blues shuffle with a jazzy twist, 'Down at the Abbey' takes us back in time to the jazz clubs of the '50s and '60s, where legends such as Albert King, George Benson and B.B. King honed their craft and developed their unique sound. By drawing upon more extended harmony and complex chord changes than traditional blues, 'Down at the Abbey' encourages you to "think outside of the box" when soloing.



Recommended Listening **Robben Ford** *Talk to Your Daughter* (1987)
Veteran session guitarist Robben Ford has worked with many top-shelf musicians over his lengthy and illustrious career, garnering a reputation for his versatility. His solo album *Talk to Your Daughter* demonstrates his strengths as a skilful and passionate blues rock guitarist.

Flight Check

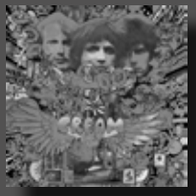
An atmospheric melodic guitar anthem, 'Flight Check' is reminiscent of the soft rock mega hits from the likes of Toto, Christopher Cross, Phil Collins and more. A blend of pop harmonies, modulations, funk rhythms and rock-inspired guitar solos, this catchy tune demands players have a strong grasp of many stylistic rudiments, such as syncopation, dynamic variation and tone control.



Recommended Listening **Toto** *IV* (1982)
With numerous international megahits over their career, Toto have secured their legacy in the realm of '80s pop-oriented progressive rock. 'Africa' remains culturally relevant today and is still referenced in pop culture.
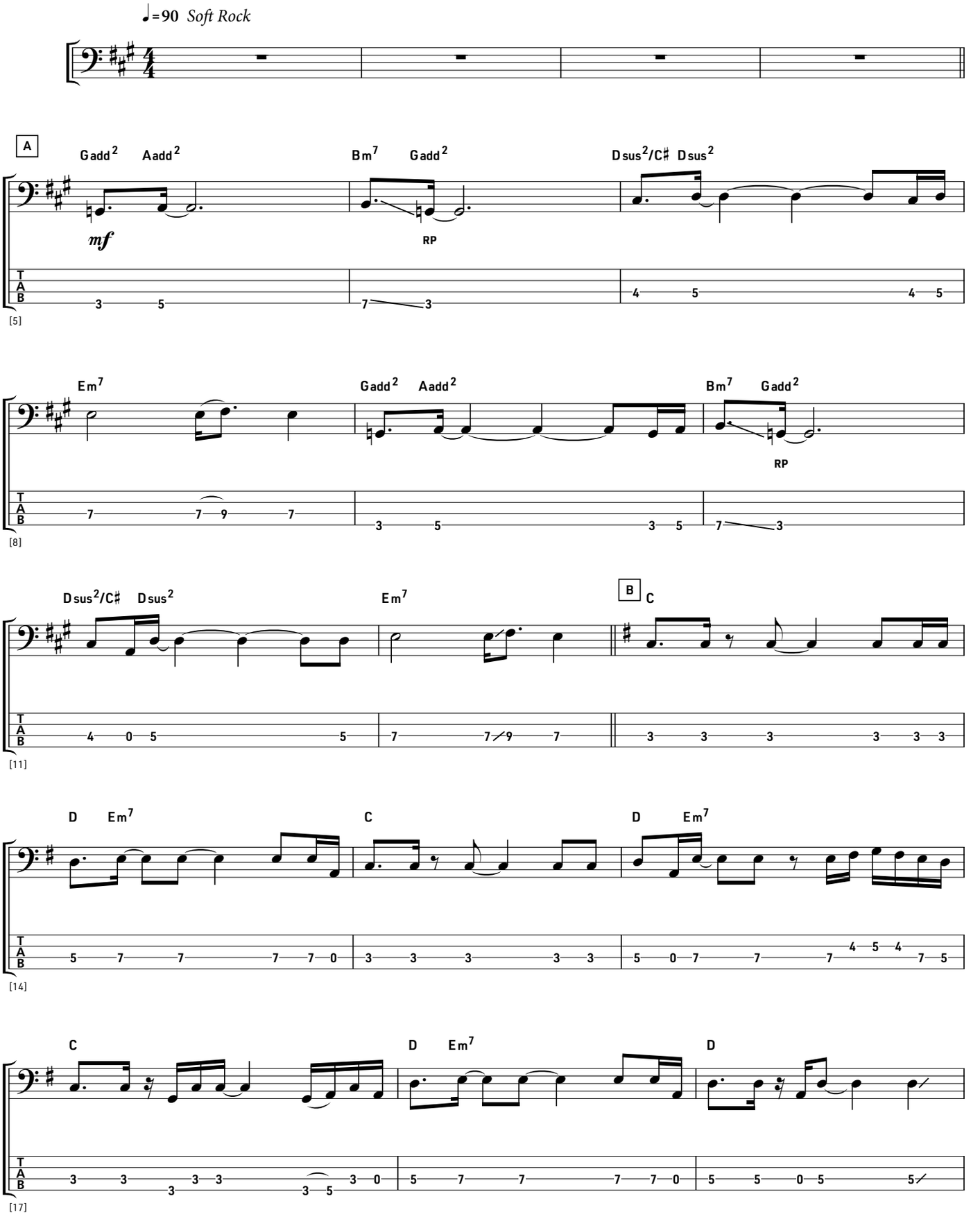
7th and 42nd

Jimi Hendrix was a ground-breaking guitarist and songwriter who shot to global fame in the late '60s. A trailblazer on guitar, his legacy profoundly influenced popular music and popular culture. '7th and 42nd' pays homage to Jimi, utilising many of his signature sounds and techniques, including the famous dominant 7(♯9) chord – one he used so prolifically it's now commonly referred to as the "Hendrix chord".
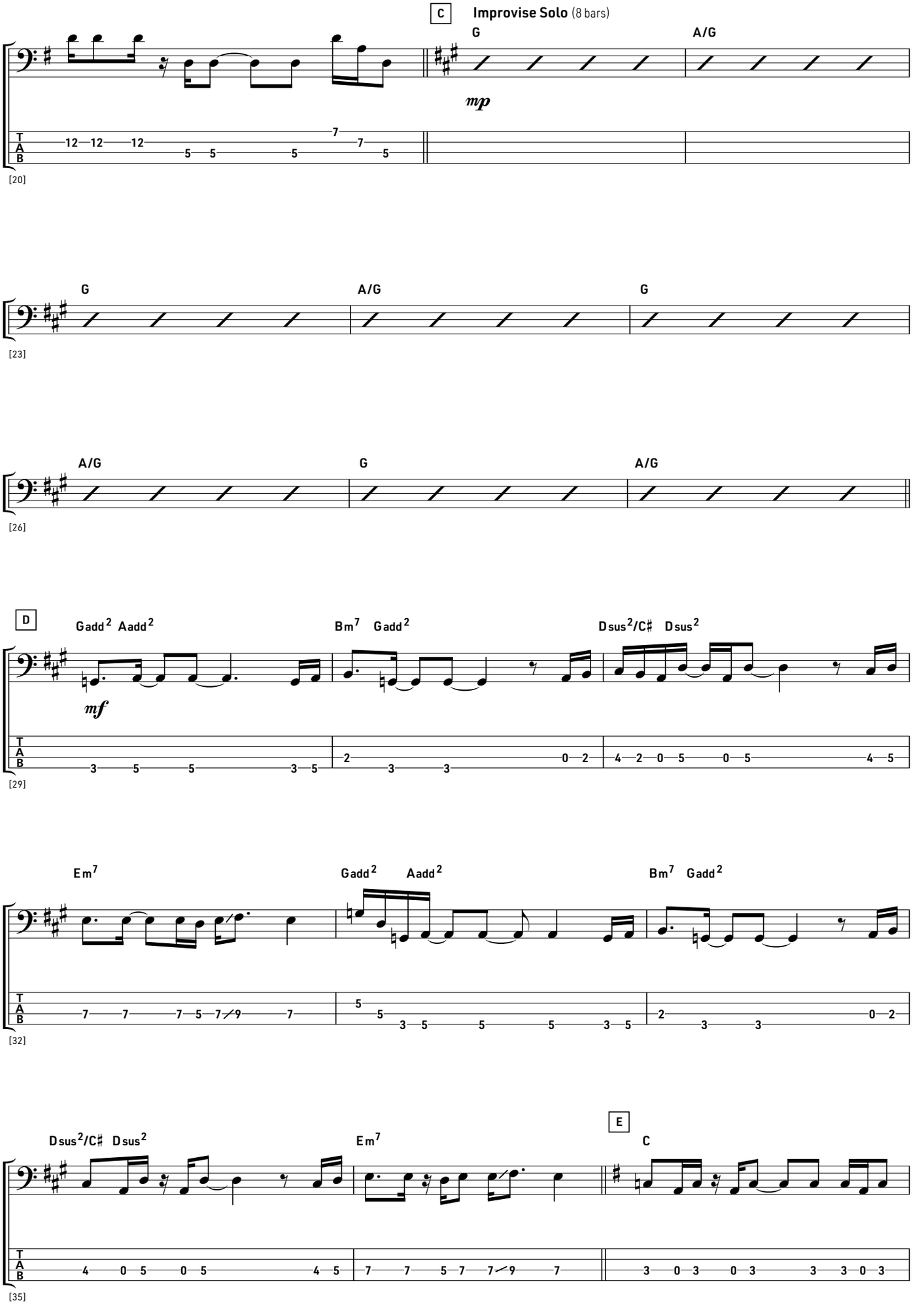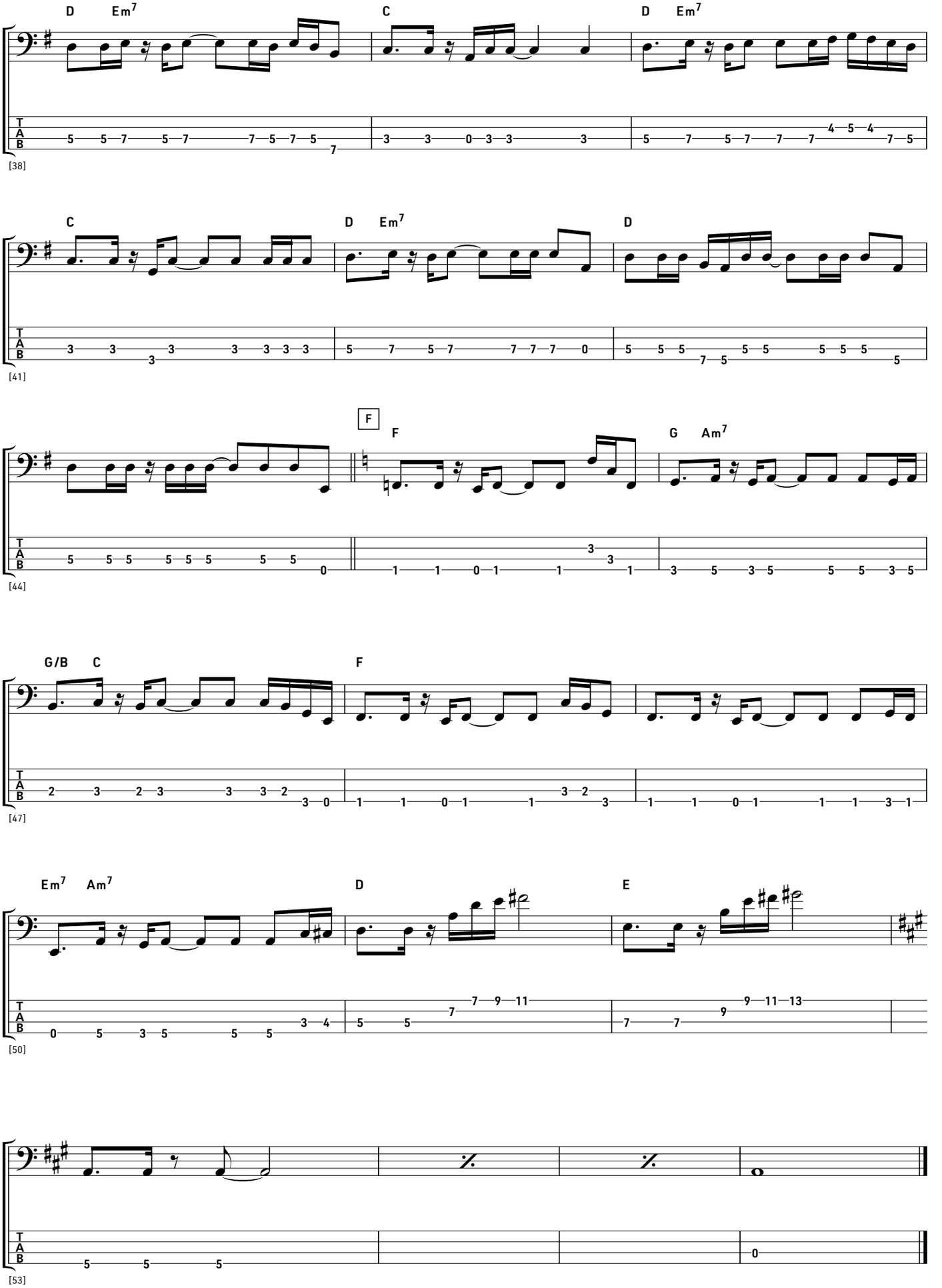


Recommended Listening **Jimi Hendrix** *Electric Ladyland* (1968)
Jimi Hendrix's profound influence on the development of the modern rock guitar sound cannot be overstated. *Electric Ladyland* boasts a heavy acid rock sound with bluesy guitar work, with some of his best-known hits, such as 'Crosstown Traffic' and 'Voodoo Child (Slight Return)', featuring on the album.

Rockschool Original
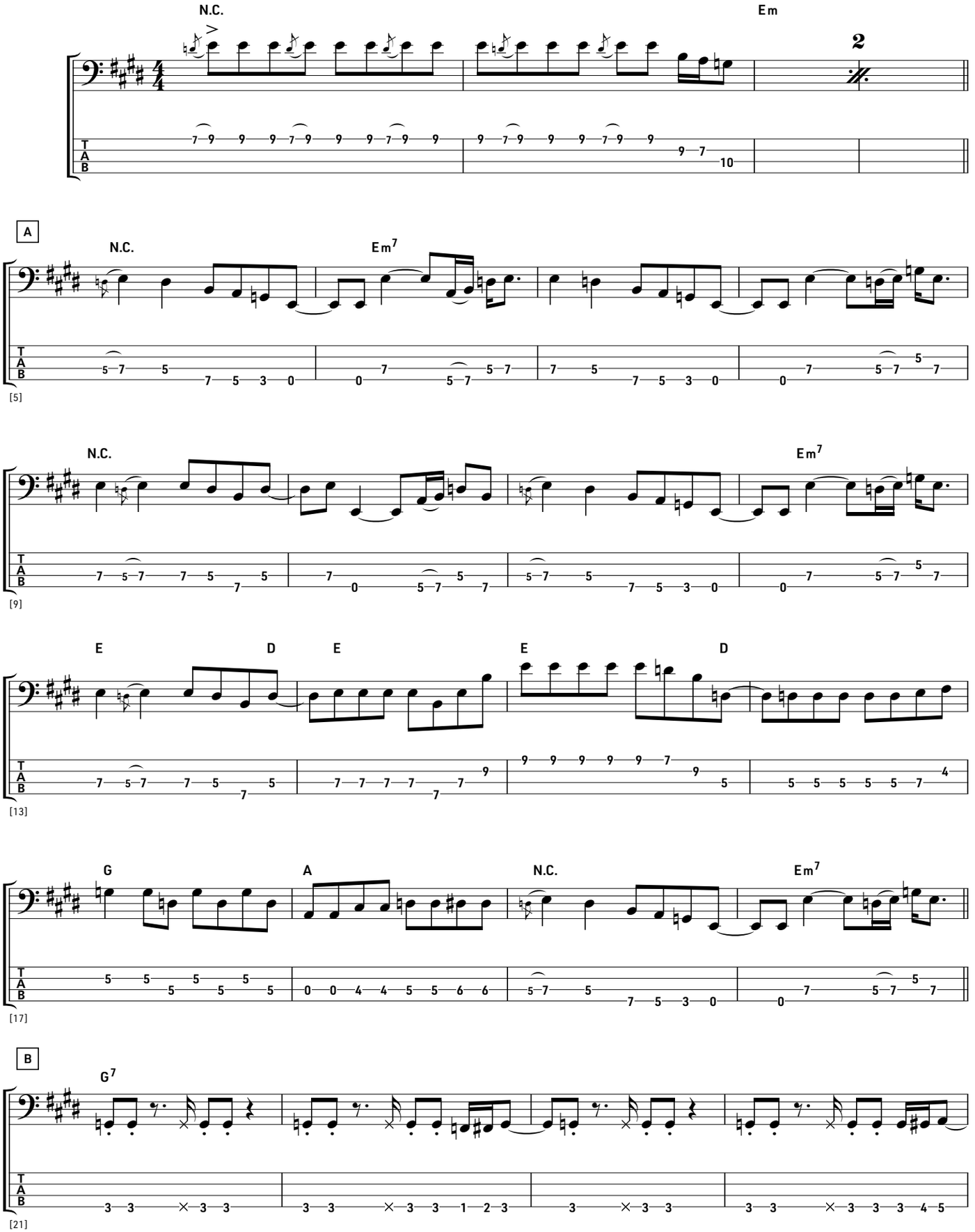


© Copyright 2024 RSL Awards Ltd.


C
Improvise Solo (8 bars)
G
A/G
mp
[20]
G
A/G
G
[23]
A/G
G
A/G
[26]
D
Gadd2 Aadd2
Bm7 Gadd2
Dsus2/C♯ Dsus2
mf
[29]
Em7
Gadd2 Aadd2
Bm7 Gadd2
[32]
Dsus2/C♯ Dsus2
Em7
E
C
[35]
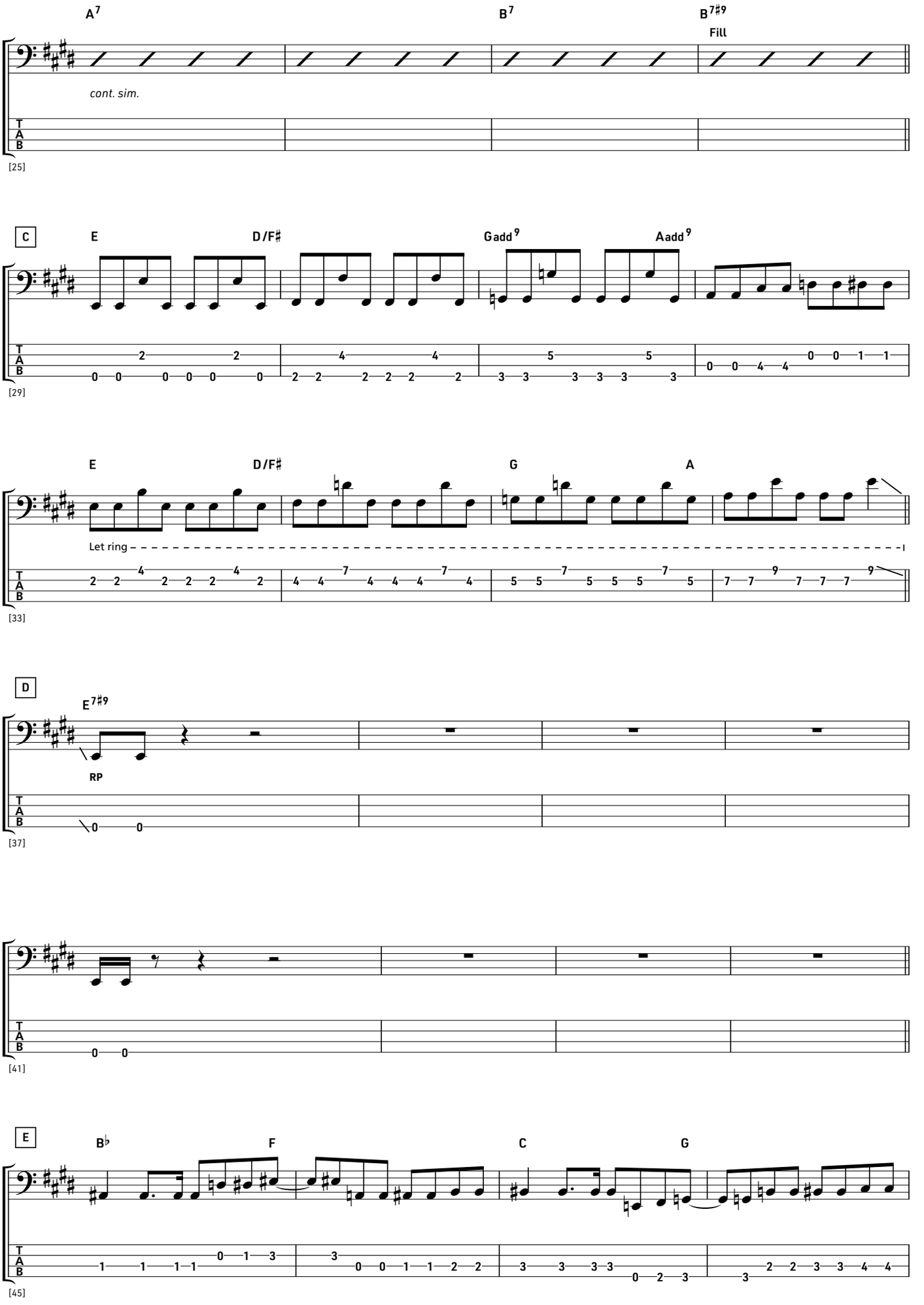

D Em7 C D Em7
[38]
C D Em7 D
[41]
F F G Am7
[44]
G/B C F
[47]
Em7 Am7 D E
[50]
[53]
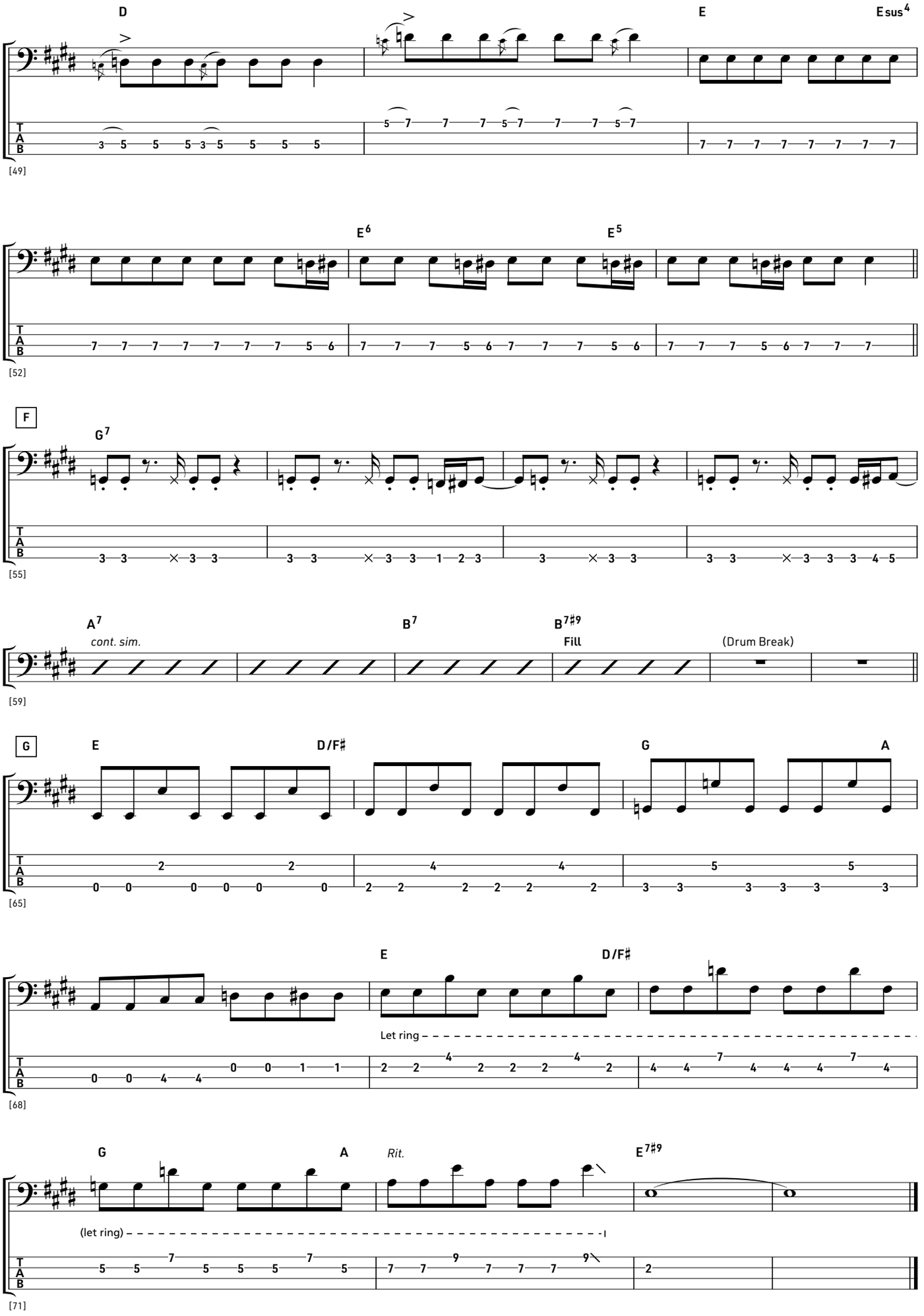
Rockschool Original

♩=115 *Psych Rock / Blues Rock*
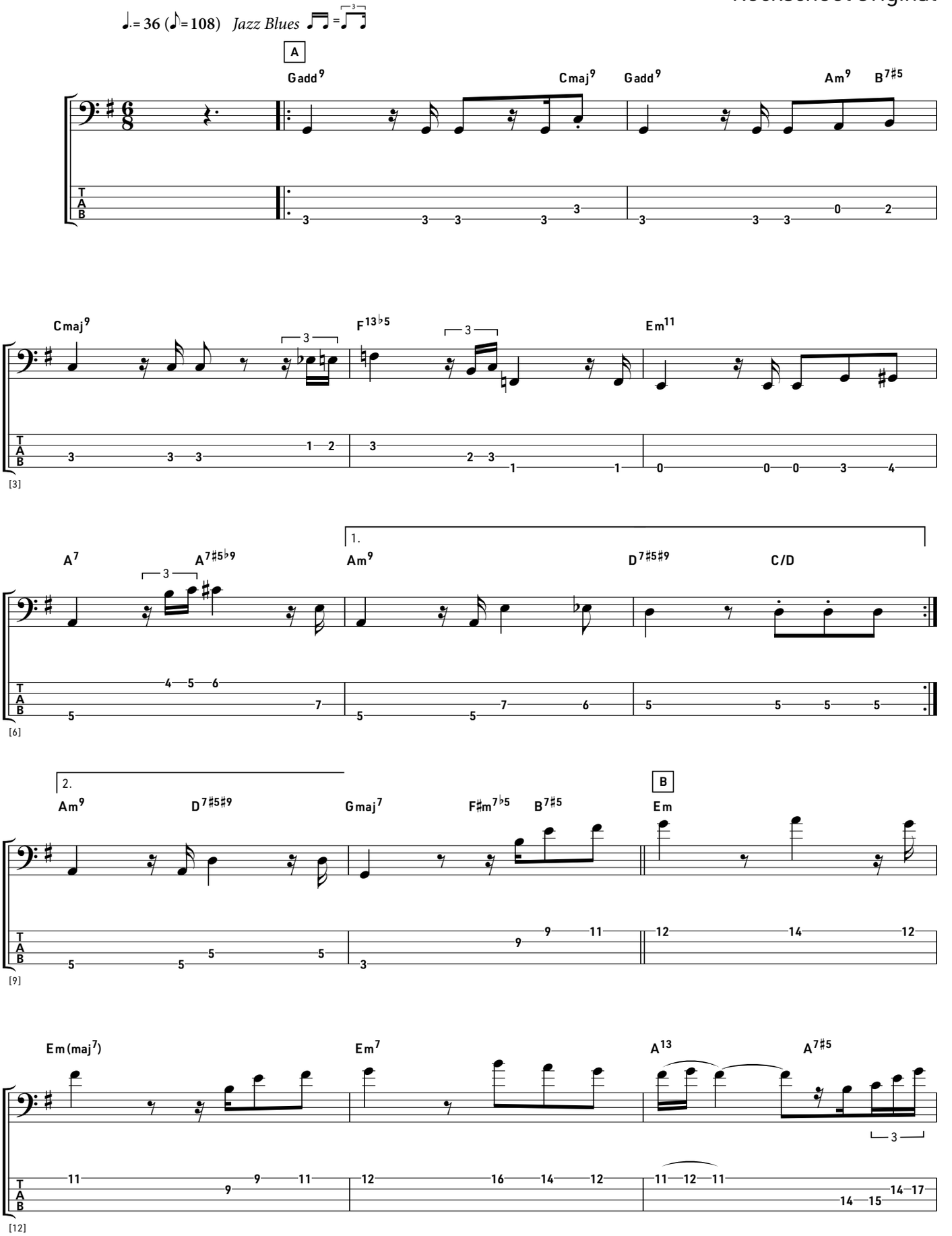


© Copyright 2024 RSL Awards Ltd.


A7
B7
B7♯9
Fill
cont. sim.
[25]
C
E
D/F♯
Gadd9
Aadd9
[29]
E
D/F♯
G
A
Let ring
[33]
D
E7♯9
RP
[37]
[41]
E
B♭
F
C
G
[45]

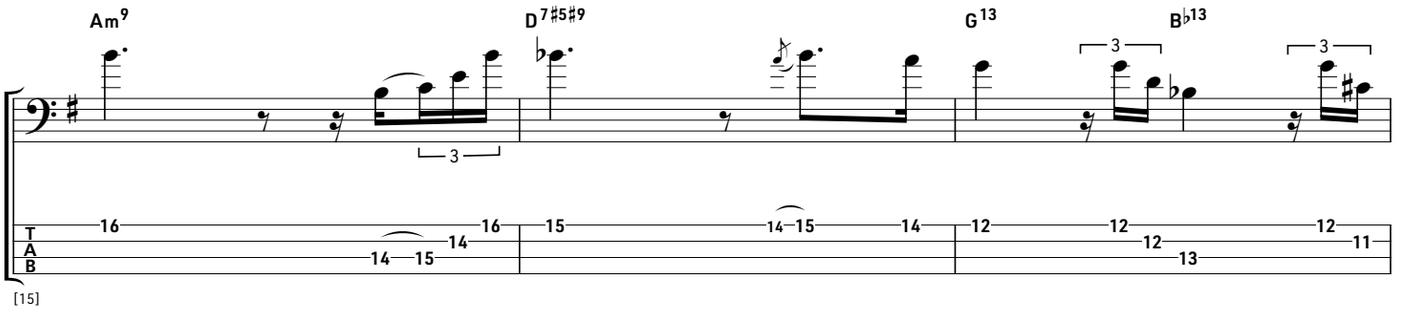

D
E
Esus4
[49]
E6
E5
[52]
F
G7
[55]
A7
cont. sim.
B7
B7#9
Fill
(Drum Break)
[59]
G
E
D/F♯
G
A
[65]
E
D/F♯
Let ring
[68]
G
A
Rit.
E7#9
(let ring)
[71]

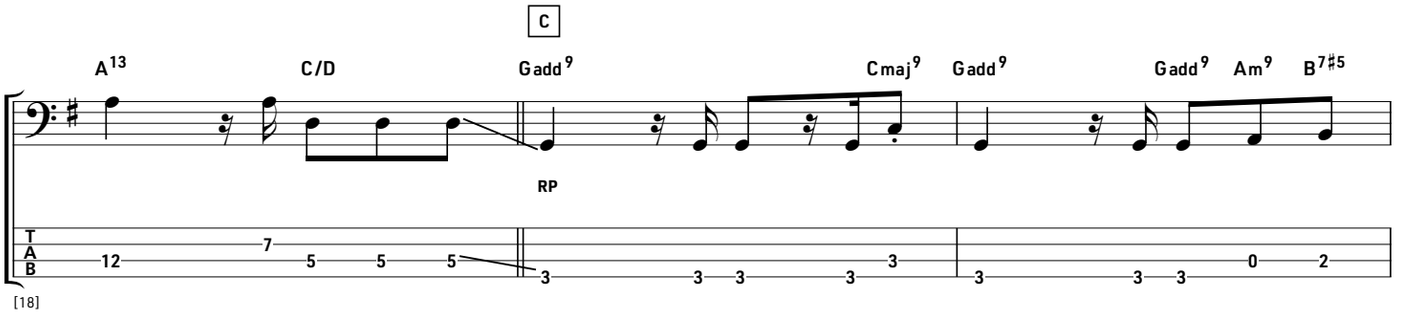
Down at the Abbey

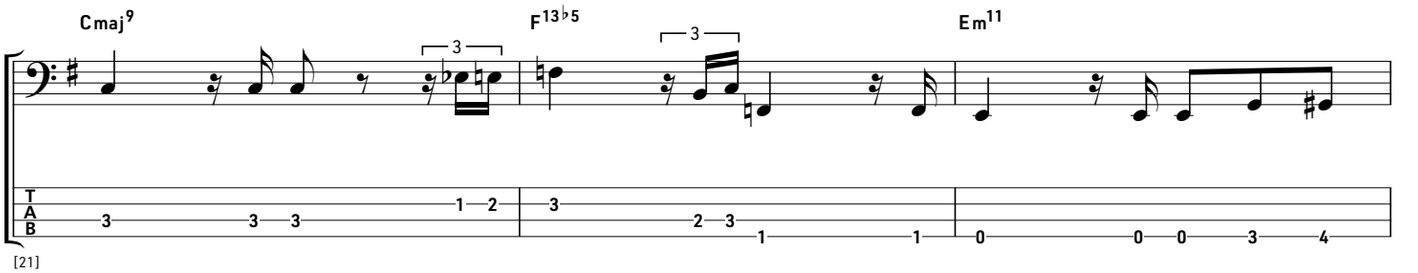
Rockschool Original

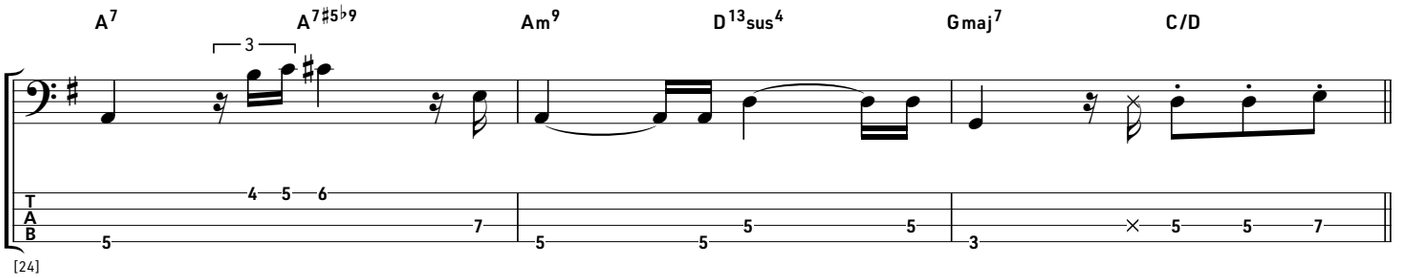


© Copyright 2024 RSL Awards Ltd.

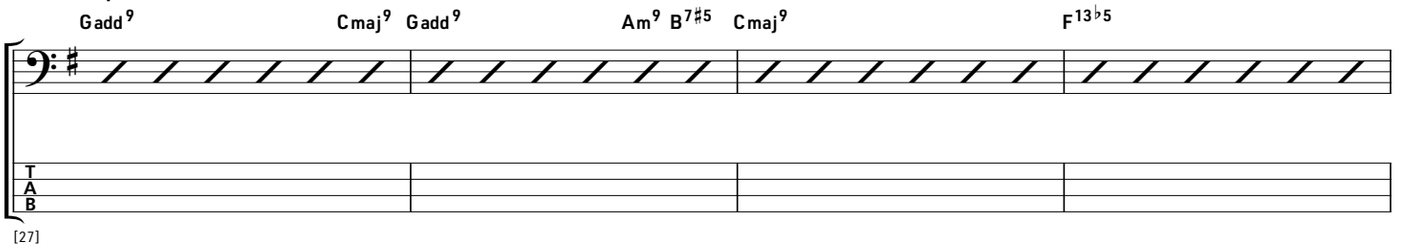




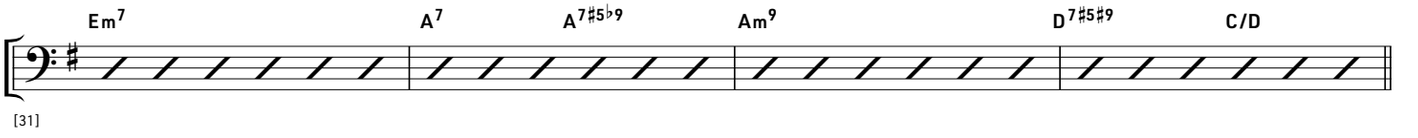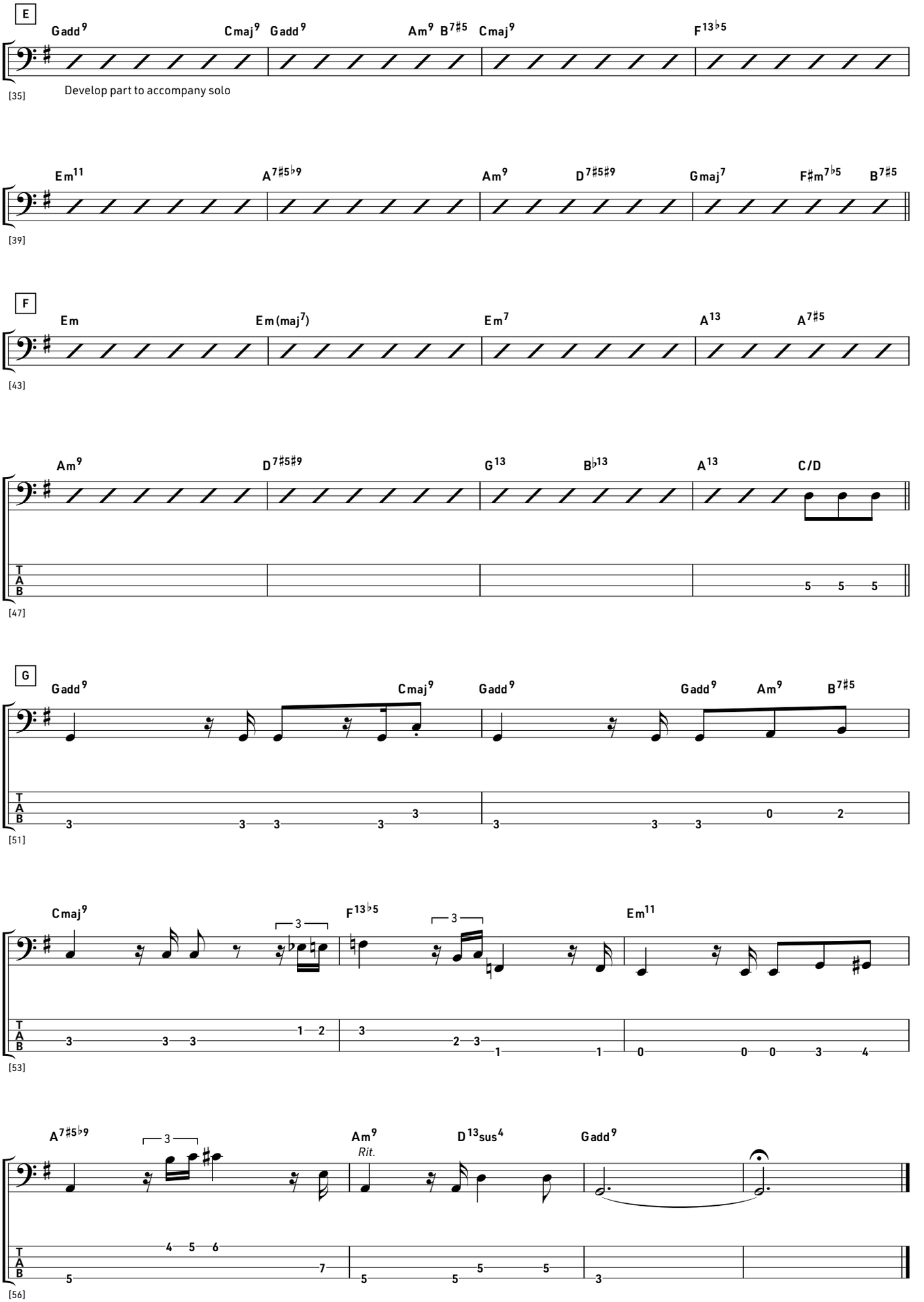




Improvise Solo (8 bars)



(Bass solo ends)




E
Gadd9
Cmaj9
Gadd9
Am9
B7♯5
Cmaj9
F13♭5
[35]
Develop part to accompany solo
Em11
A7♯5♭9
Am9
D7♯5♯9
Gmaj7
F♯m7♭5
B7♯5
[39]
F
Em
Em(maj7)
Em7
A13
A7♯5
[43]
Am9
D7♯5♯9
G13
B♭13
A13
C/D
T
A
B
5 5 5
[47]
G
Gadd9
Cmaj9
Gadd9
Gadd9
Am9
B7♯5
3 3 3 3 3 3 3 0 2
[51]
Cmaj9
F13♭5
Em11
3
3 3 3 1 2 3 2 3 1 1 0 0 0 3 4
[53]
A7♯5♭9
3
Am9
Rit.
D13sus4
Gadd9
4 5 6 7 5 5 5 5 3
[56]

Technical Exercises

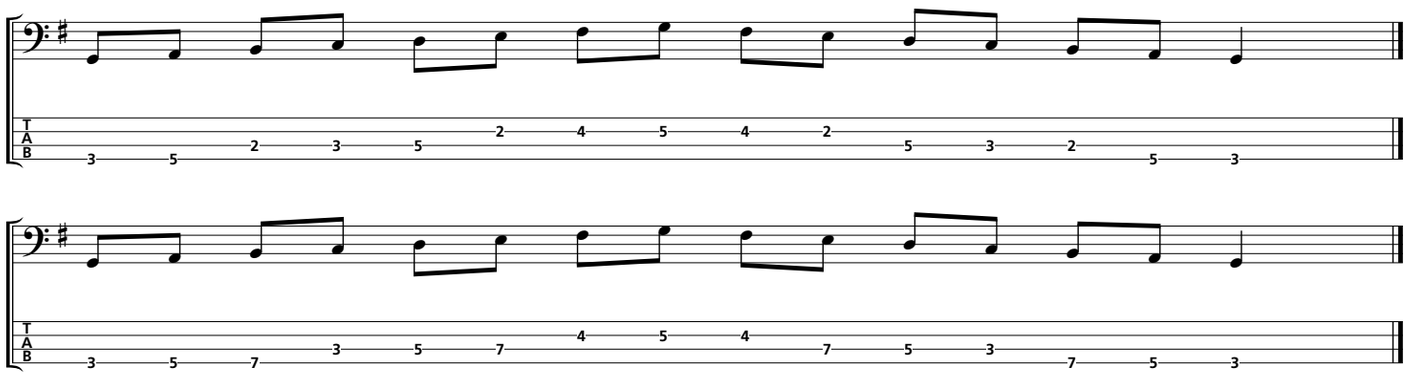
In this section the examiner will ask you to play a selection of exercises drawn from each of the three groups shown below. Groups A and B contain examples of the scales and arpeggios you can use when playing the pieces. In Group C you will be asked to prepare the bassline riff exercise and play it to the backing track in the exam. You do not need to memorise the exercises (and can use the book in the exam) but the examiner will be looking for the speed of your response. The examiner will also give credit for the level of your musicality.

Groups A and B should be prepared on the starting notes indicated. Before you start the section you will be asked whether you would like to play the exercises along with the click or hear a single bar of click before you commence the test. The tempo is ♩ = 80.

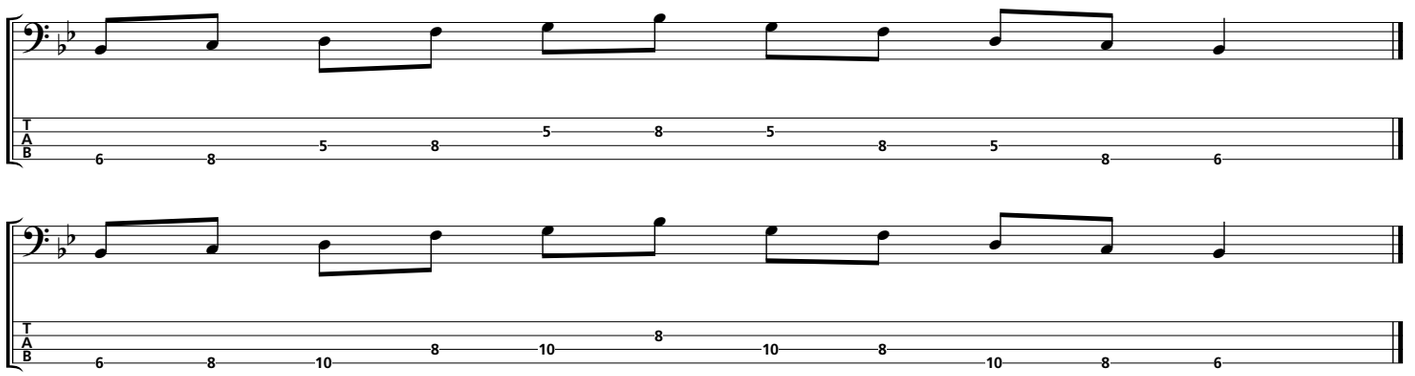
Group A: Scales

One octave prepared on the starting notes G, B♭, C and D in the two specified fingerings.

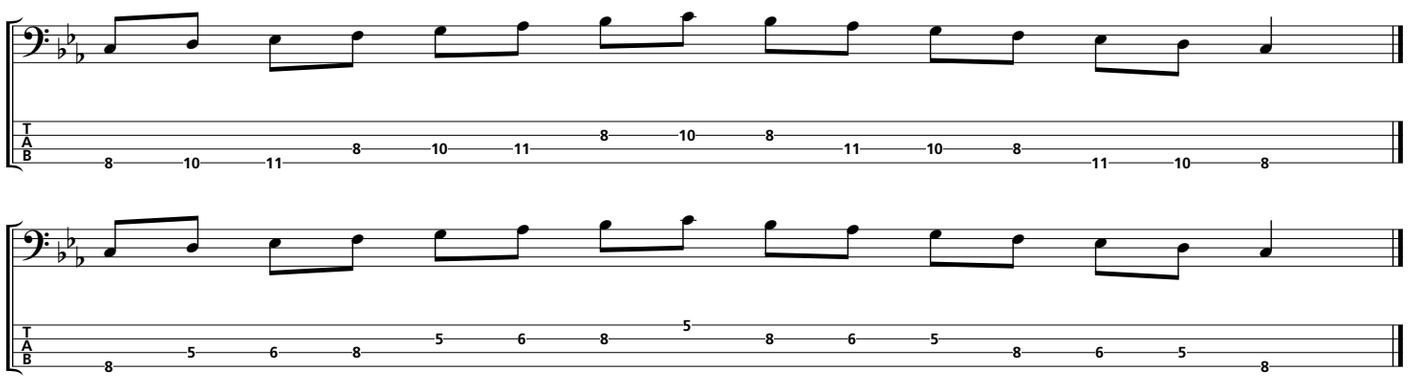
1. Major scale (G major scale shown)



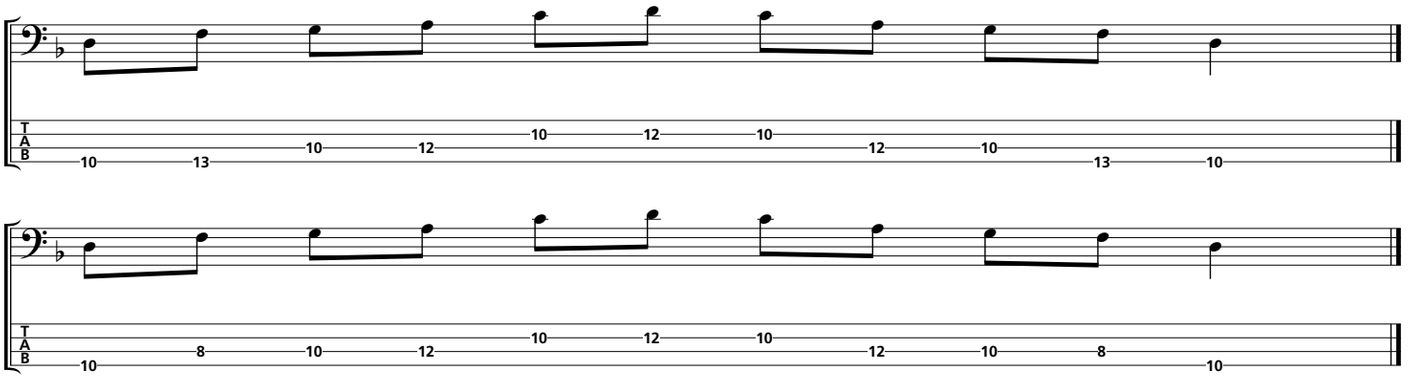
2. Major pentatonic scale (B♭ major pentatonic scale shown)



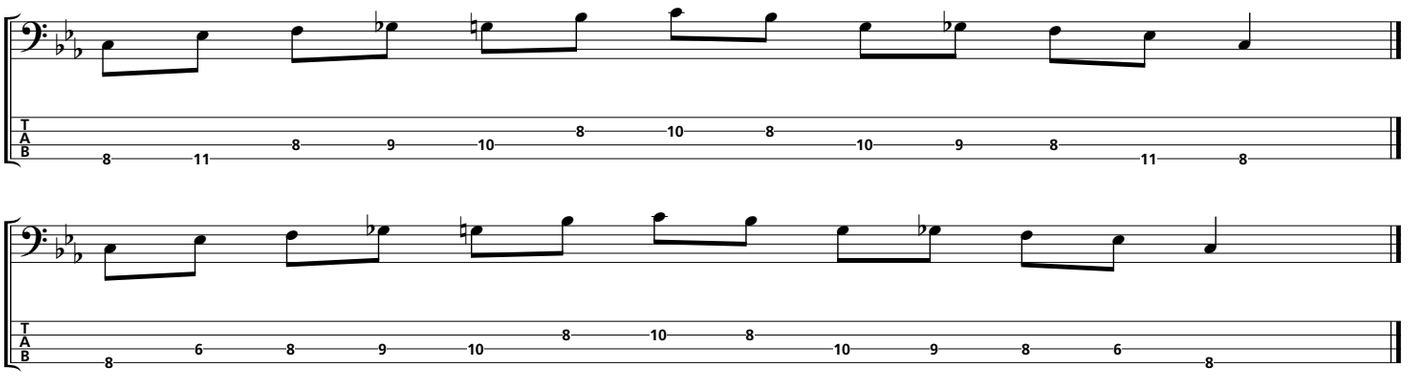
3. Natural minor scale (C natural minor scale shown)



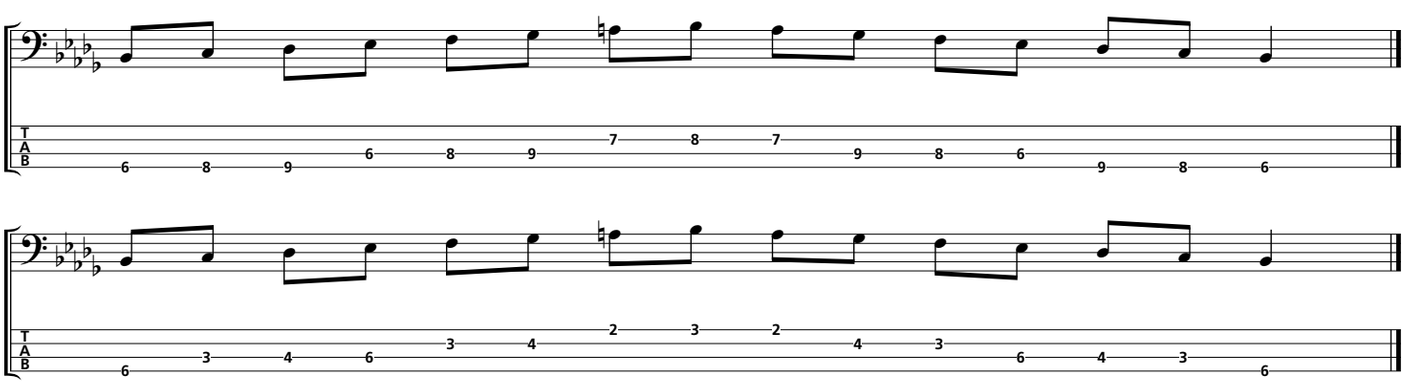
4. Minor pentatonic scale (D minor pentatonic scale shown)



5. Blues scale (C blues scale shown)



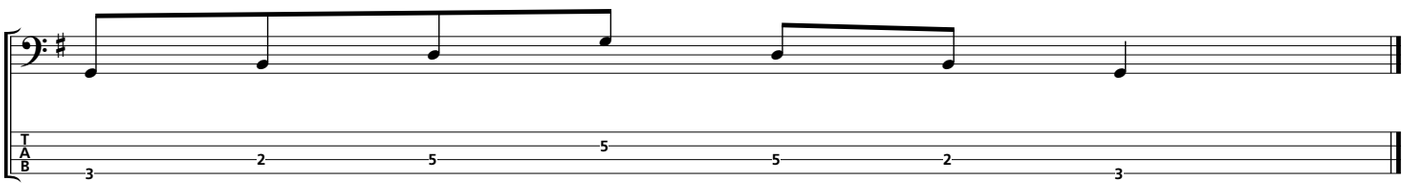
6. Harmonic minor scale (B♭ harmonic minor scale shown)



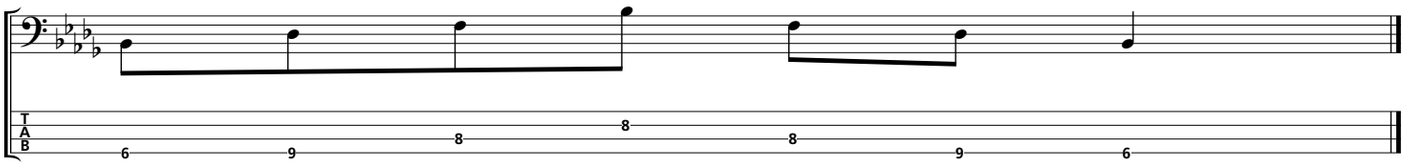
Group B: Arpeggios

One octave prepared on the starting notes G, B♭, C and D

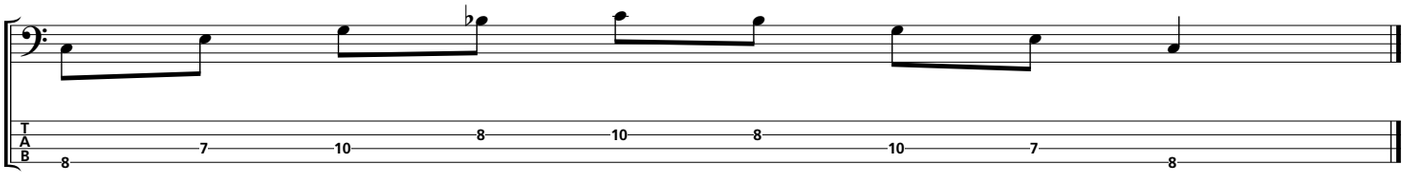
1. Major arpeggio (G major arpeggio shown)
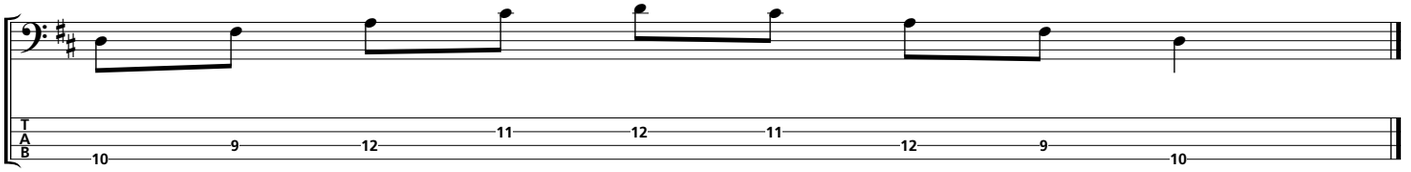


2. Minor arpeggio (B♭ minor arpeggio shown)
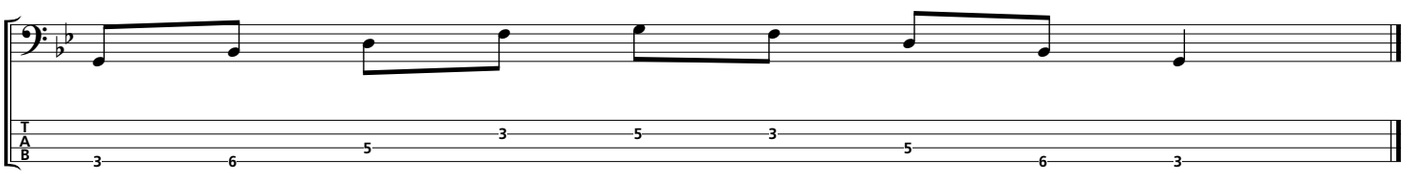


3. Dominant 7 arpeggio (C dominant 7 arpeggio shown)



4. Major 7 arpeggio (D major 7 arpeggio shown)

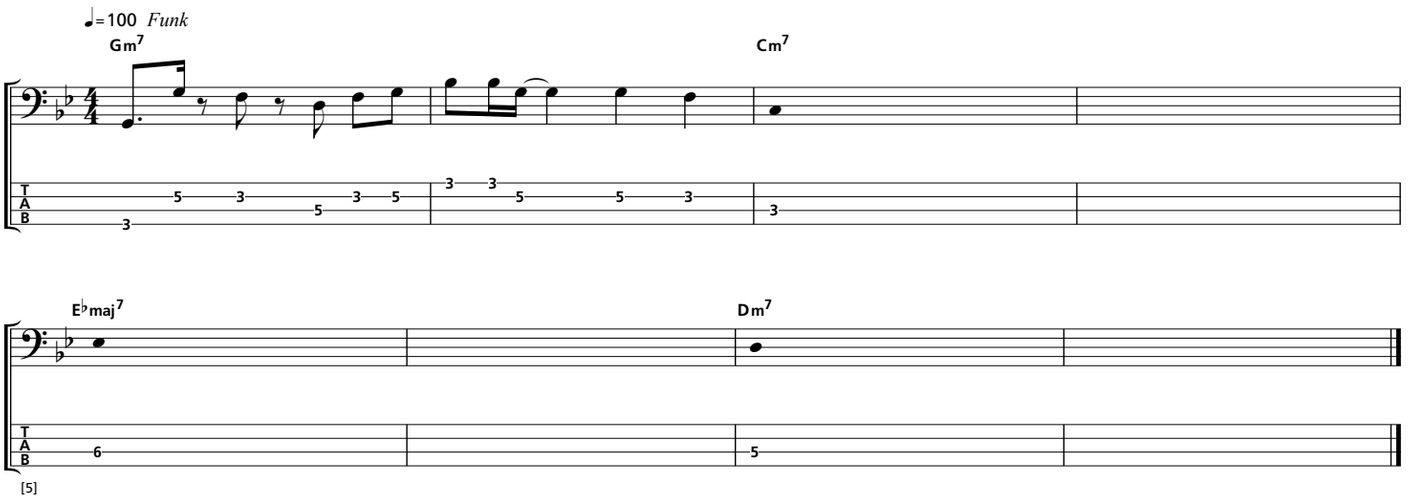


5. Minor 7 arpeggio (G minor 7 arpeggio shown)



Group C: Riff

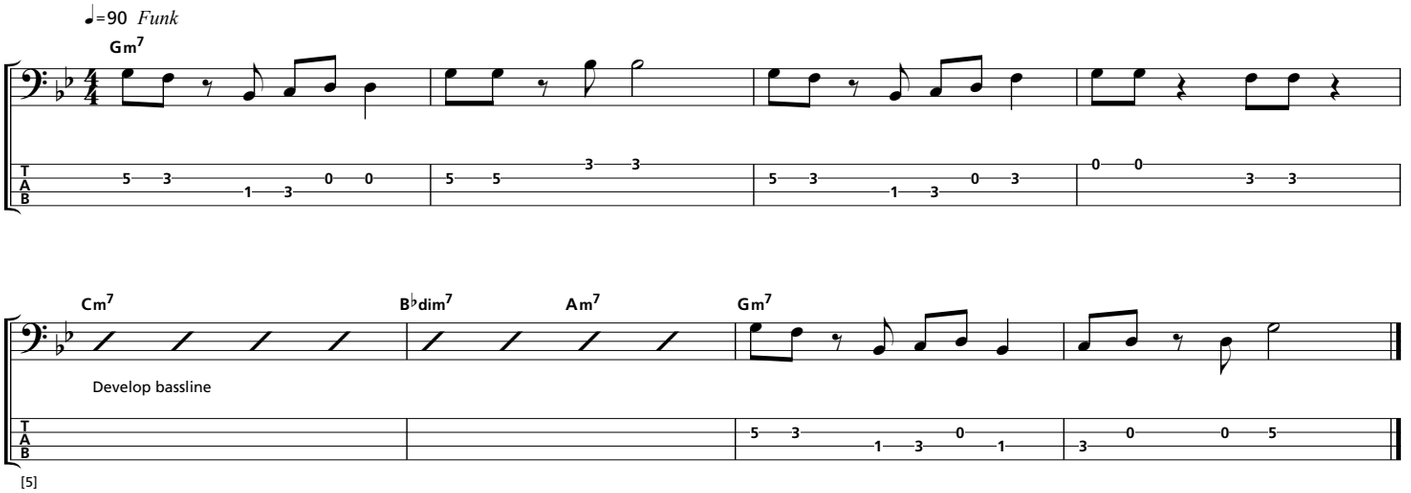
In the exam you will be asked to play the following riff to a backing track. The riff shown in bars 1 and 2 should be played in the same rhythmic and melodic shape in bars 3–8, maintaining the same melodic sequence. All notes played must be diatonic to the key signature. The root note of the pattern to be played is shown in the music in bars 3, 5 and 7. The tempo is ♩ = 100.



Sight Reading

In the exam, you have a choice between either a Sight Reading test or an Improvisation & Interpretation test. The examiner will ask you which one you wish to choose before commencing. Once you have decided you cannot change your mind.

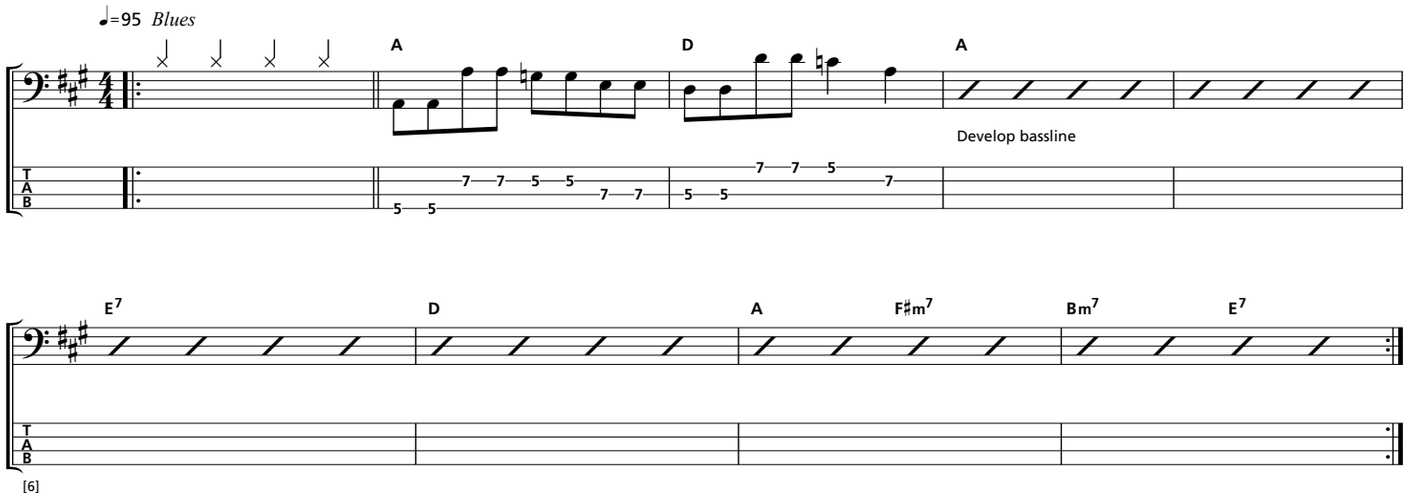
At this level there is an element of improvisation. This is in the form of a two bar development of the bassline. The piece will be composed in the style of rock, funk or blues and will have chord symbols throughout. The test is eight bars long and is in one of the following keys: F major or G major, or E minor or G minor. The examiner will allow you 90 seconds to prepare it and will set the tempo for you. The tempo is ♩= 85–95.



Improvisation & Interpretation

In the exam, you have a choice between either a Sight Reading test or an Improvisation & Interpretation test. The examiner will ask you which one you wish to choose before commencing. Once you have decided you cannot change your mind.

In Grade 5, the Improvisation & Interpretation tests contain a small amount of sight reading. This consists of a two bar section of notation at the beginning of each test. You will be asked to play the notated bassline and complete the test using an improvised line as indicated. This is played to a backing track of no more than eight bars. The test will be given in one of the following four keys: A major or G major, or E minor or G minor. You have 30 seconds to prepare then you will be allowed to practise during the first playing of the backing track before playing it to the examiner on the second playing of the backing track. This test is continuous with a one bar count-in at the beginning and after the practice session. The tempo is ♩= 90–100.
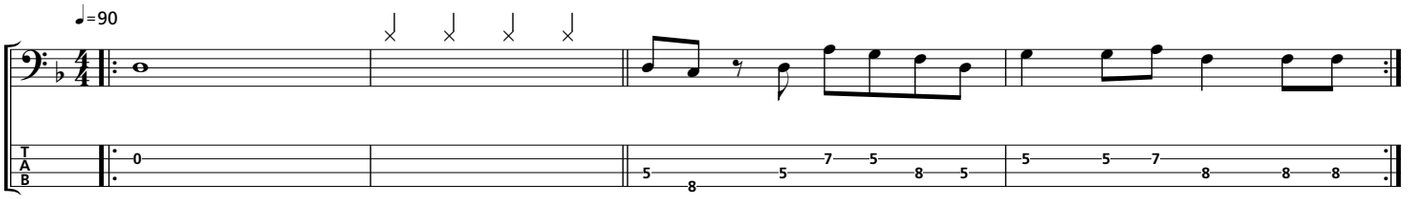


Ear Tests

There are two Ear Tests in this grade. The examiner will play each test to you twice. You will find one example of each type of test printed below.

Test 1: Melodic Recall

The examiner will play you a two bar melody with a drum backing using either the F major pentatonic or D minor pentatonic scales. The first note of the melody will be the root note and the first interval will be descending. You will play the melody back on your instrument. You will hear the test twice.

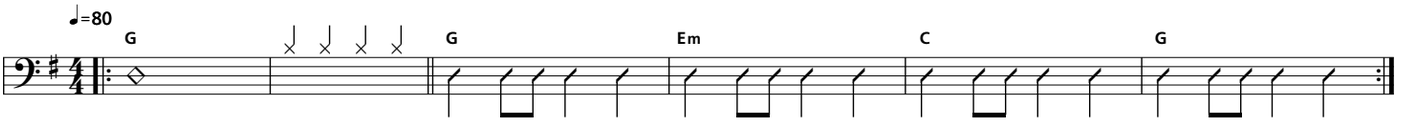
Each time the test is played the sequence is: count-in, root note, count-in, melody. There will be a short gap for you to practise after you have heard the test for the second time. You will hear the count-in and root note for the third time followed by a vocal count-in and you will then play the melody to the drum backing. The tempo is ♩= 90.



Test 2: Harmonic Recall

The examiner will play you a tonic chord followed by a two bar chord sequence in the key of G major played to a guitar and drum backing. The sequence will be drawn from the I, IV, V and vi chords and may occur in any combination. You will be asked to play the root notes of the chord sequence to the drum backing in the rhythm shown in the example below. You will then be asked to identify the chords. This rhythm will be used in all examples of this test given in the exam. You will hear the test twice.

Each time the test is played the sequence is: count-in, tonic, count-in, chords. There will be a short gap for you to practise after you have heard the test for the second time. You will hear the count-in and tonic for the third time followed by a vocal count-in and you will then play the root notes of the chords to the drum backing. You should then identify the chords including the chord type (major or minor). The tempo is ♩= 80.



General Musicianship Questions

In this part of the exam you will be asked five questions. Four of these questions will be about general music knowledge and the fifth question asked will be about your instrument.

Music Knowledge

The examiner will ask you four music knowledge questions based on a piece of music that you have played in the exam. You will nominate the piece of music about which the questions will be asked. The scale question at the end of the list of subjects is mandatory.

In Grade 5 you will be asked to identify/explain:

- The names of pitches
- The meaning of accidentals: ♯ (sharp) , ♭ (flat) and ♮ (natural) signs
- The meaning of the time signature, key signature and swing time markings
- Repeat marks, first and second time bars, **D.C.**, **D.S.**, **al Coda** and **al Fine** markings
- Hammer-ons, pull-offs, accents and vibrato markings
- The construction of minor ^{7}, major ^{7} or dominant ^{7} chords
- One type of scale that can be used appropriately in the solo section of the piece you have played

Instrument Knowledge

The examiner will also ask you one question regarding your instrument.

In Grade 5 you will be asked to identify/explain:

- Any part or control on your bass
- The function of the volume and tone controls on your bass
- The tone settings for the piece you have played on the amp and why you have chosen these settings

Further Information

Tips on how to approach this part of this exam can be found in the Syllabus Guide for guitar and on the Rockschool website: ***www.rslawards.com***

Marking Schemes

Grade Exams | Debut to Grade 8

ELEMENT	PASS	MERIT	DISTINCTION
Performance Piece 1	12–14 out of 20	15–17 out of 20	18+ out of 20
Performance Piece 2	12–14 out of 20	15–17 out of 20	18+ out of 20
Performance Piece 3	12–14 out of 20	15–17 out of 20	18+ out of 20
Technical Exercises	9–10 out of 15	11–12 out of 15	13 + out of 15
Sight Reading ***or*** Improvisation & Interpretation	6 out of 10	7–8 out of 10	9 + out of 10
Ear Tests	6 out of 10	7–8 out of 10	9 + out of 10
General Musicianship Questions	3 out of 5	4 out of 5	5 out of 5
TOTAL MARKS	**60%+**	**74%+**	**90%+**

Performance Certificates | Debut to Grade 8

ELEMENT	PASS	MERIT	DISTINCTION
Performance Piece 1	12–14 out of 20	15–17 out of 20	18+ out of 20
Performance Piece 2	12–14 out of 20	15–17 out of 20	18+ out of 20
Performance Piece 3	12–14 out of 20	15–17 out of 20	18+ out of 20
Performance Piece 4	12–14 out of 20	15–17 out of 20	18+ out of 20
Performance Piece 5	12–14 out of 20	15–17 out of 20	18+ out of 20
TOTAL MARKS	**60%+**	**75%+**	**90%+**

Entering RSL Exams

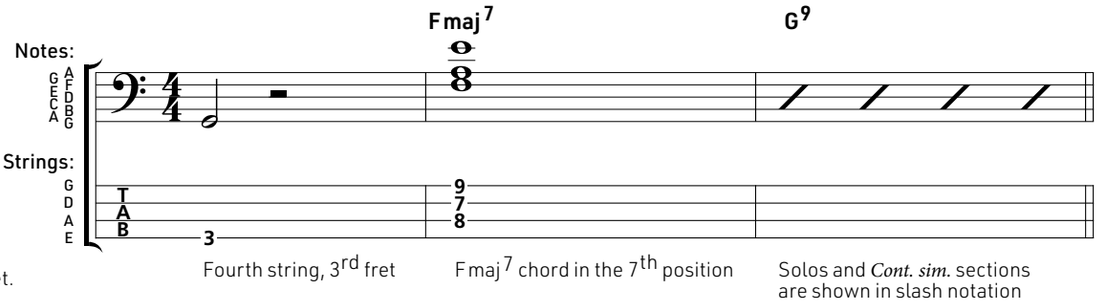
Entering a Rockschool exam is easy, just go online and follow our simple six step process. All details for entering online, dates, fees, regulations and Free Choice pieces can be found at *www.rslawards.com*

- All candidates should ensure they bring their own grade syllabus book to the exam or have proof of digital purchase ready to show the examiner.
- All Grade 6–8 candidates must ensure that they bring valid photo ID to their exam.

Bass Notation Explained

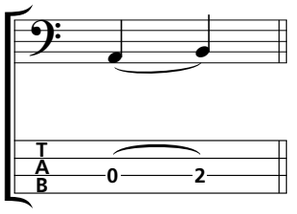
THE MUSICAL STAVE shows pitches and rhythms and is divided by lines into bars. Pitches are named after the first seven letters of the alphabet.

TABLATURE graphically represents the guitar fingerboard. Each horizontal line represents a string and each number represents a fret.

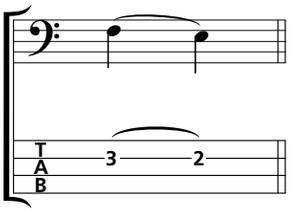


Definitions For Special Bass Guitar Notation

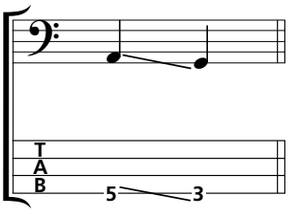
HAMMER-ON: Pick the lower note then sound the higher note by fretting it without picking.



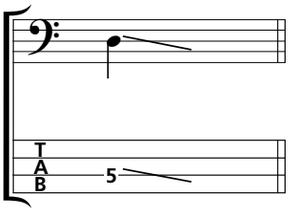
PULL-OFF: Pick the higher note then sound the lower note by lifting your finger without picking.



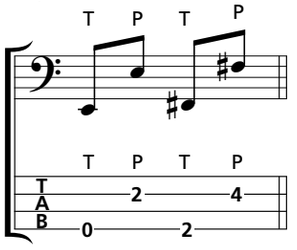
SLIDE: Pick the first note and slide to the next. If the line connects (as below) the second note is not repicked.



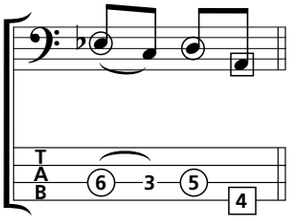
GLISSANDO: Slide off of a note at the end of its rhythmic value. The note that follows is repicked.



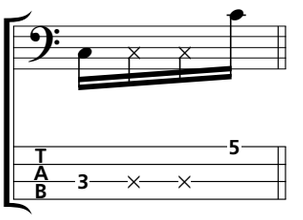
SLAP STYLE: Slap bass technique is indicated through the letters T (thumb) and P (pull).



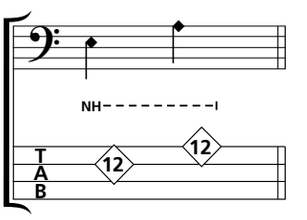
TAPPING: Sound note by tapping the string – circles denote a picking hand tap, squares a fretting hand tap.



DEAD (GHOST) NOTES: Pick the string while the note is muted by your fretting hand.



NATURAL HARMONICS: Lightly touch the string above the indicated fret then pick to sound a harmonic.





(accent) ▪ Accentuate note (play it louder).



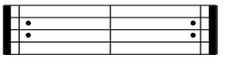
(staccato) ▪ Shorten time value of note.



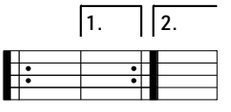
▪ Fermata (Pause)

D.𝄋. al Coda ▪ Go back to the sign (𝄋), then play until the bar marked **To Coda** 𝌆 then skip to the section marked 𝌆 **Coda**.

D.C. al Fine ▪ Go back to the beginning of the song and play until the bar marked ***Fine*** (end).



▪ Repeat the bars between the repeat signs.



▪ When a repeated section has different endings, play the first ending only the first time and the second ending only the second time.

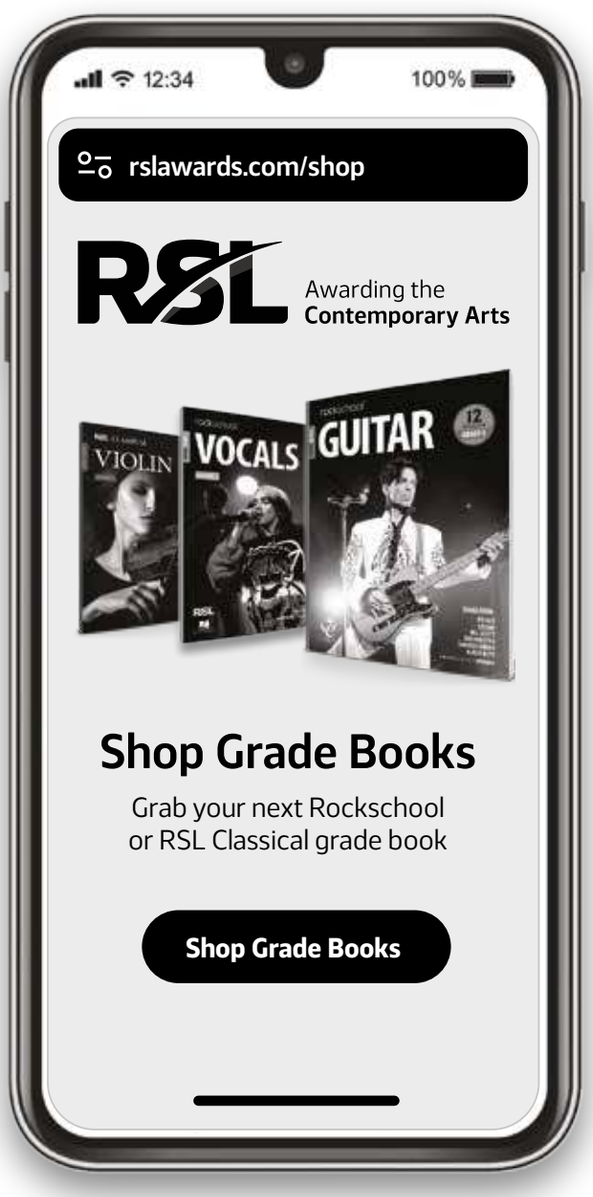


Graded Music Shop

All of RSL's graded music publications, in both physical and enhanced digital formats, are available to purchase via the RSL shop. The Rockschool and RSL Classical publications contain everything a candidate needs to take their graded music exam, and all available digital grade books come with access to Learning Platform technology.

Enjoy a familiar and hassle-free shopping experience, accessing a wide range of resources, including; grade books, Rockschool Classics, the Rockschool Method series, and Popular Music Theory guidebooks and workbooks, alongside all available graded instrument, theory, and production exam entries.

> *"I have been using RSL's guitar & bass grade books in my music teaching company for over a decade now & would recommend them unequivocally, over and above everything else on the market today - I have tried them all."*
>
> **SIMON ARBUTHNOT**



rockschool®

Upgrade your book to an interactive e-book!

MatchMySound



Listen. Learn. Play. Record.



The Rockschool e-books, powered by MatchMySound, are a fast, fun way to learn music, that provides instant feedback and gamifies your practice.

MatchMySound's state-of-the-art technology will provide you with immediate automated feedback on performance pieces and practice sessions. You will be given feedback measured against pitch, rhythm, and tempo, so you can see instant success of your performances and highlight areas of improvement.

BEAT YOUR HIGH SCORE!

Upgrade now! Head to www.rslawards.com/downloads

PDF Viewing Advice

PC or Mac

For the best viewing experience on PC or Mac, use Adobe Reader or Adobe Acrobat (***https://getacrobat.com/***) and use the following settings:

View > Page Display > Two Page View
View > Page Display > Show Cover Page in Two Page View

This will help to minimise page turning and approximate the display of a hardcopy edition of the book.

Tablet or Phone

On tablet or phone, use single-page view in your app and view in portrait orientation.

'Blank' pages in PDF editions

Blank pages, or more accurately, pages containing only the page number and folio (book title), are necessary to ensure a pagination that minimises page turning in hardcopy books and when viewed on a computer monitor using the settings specified above.

rockschool®

BASS







Everything you need in one essential book

Rockschool is the original way to study, learn, and become qualified in rock, pop, and contemporary music. We started in 1991, and our books are now better than ever! Our specially written arrangements develop the skills and techniques you need to play some of the world's most popular songs and help you achieve your musical goals.

For our latest series of guitar, bass, and drum books, we have commissioned arrangements of titles reflecting popular music's rich heritage in all its forms. Each piece has been tailored to fit the relevant level and support progression while learning your instrument. You can also enjoy playing with your friends, as all of the Rockschool Originals and many of the Hit Tunes have been arranged for all three instruments, guitar, bass, and drums. You can now be part of the Rockschool Rhythm Section! The music has been arranged and performed by top session musicians and was recorded at world-class studios, including Abbey Road and the Marshall Studio.

Find out more about **Rockschool** exams at **rslawards.com**
The assessment body of choice for all professional music teachers, schools, musicians and students.

FEATURING

'Every Little Thing She Does Is Magic' by **The Police**
'Canned Heat' by **Jamiroquai**
'Keep Yourself Alive' by **Queen**
'Levitating' by **Dua Lipa**
'Black Smoke Rising' by **Greta Van Fleet**
'For Once in My Life' by **Stevie Wonder**
+ 3 Rockschool Originals

PLUS

- Fact Files: Band and artist background information
- Technical Guidance: Performance and preparation guidance on every track
- Downloadable Audio: Audio recordings of all performance pieces
- Technical Exercises and Example Tests: All the scales and tests that you need for the Rockschool exam, plus exemplar tests for the unseen elements

After you have purchased this book, you will have the option to upgrade to an interactive e-book. This gives you the opportunity to speed up or slow down the audio, loop difficult bars or sections, and record your performance using the in-built microphone on your mobile or desktop device. You will also have access to video content to help you on your musical journey.

RSL Awarding the **Contemporary Arts**

RSL (Rockschool Ltd) brings together the leading names in Contemporary Arts. We are a global, specialist awarding body. We pride ourselves on our knowledge of the sectors we work in, and the quality and integrity of the qualifications we award. RSL's levels are regulated in the UK by the qualifications regulators of England (Ofqual), Wales (Qualifications Wales), Northern Ireland (CCEA) and the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA). When you take an RSL exam you will have a qualification and measure of your achievement that is recognised around the world. It shows you can perform your music to a high standard when it really counts.

EXCLUSIVELY DISTRIBUTED BY
HAL•LEONARD®

No part of this publication may be reproduced in any form or by any means without the prior written permission of the Publisher.

Visit Hal Leonard Online at: www.halleonard.com

All accompanying and supporting audio can be downloaded from: **rslawards.com/downloads**

For more information visit:
www.rslawards.com
Phone +44 (0)345 460 4747
Email info@rslawards.com

ISBN 978-1-78936-519-1
9 781789 365191

Catalogue Num: RSK200243
ISBN: 978-1-78936-519-1