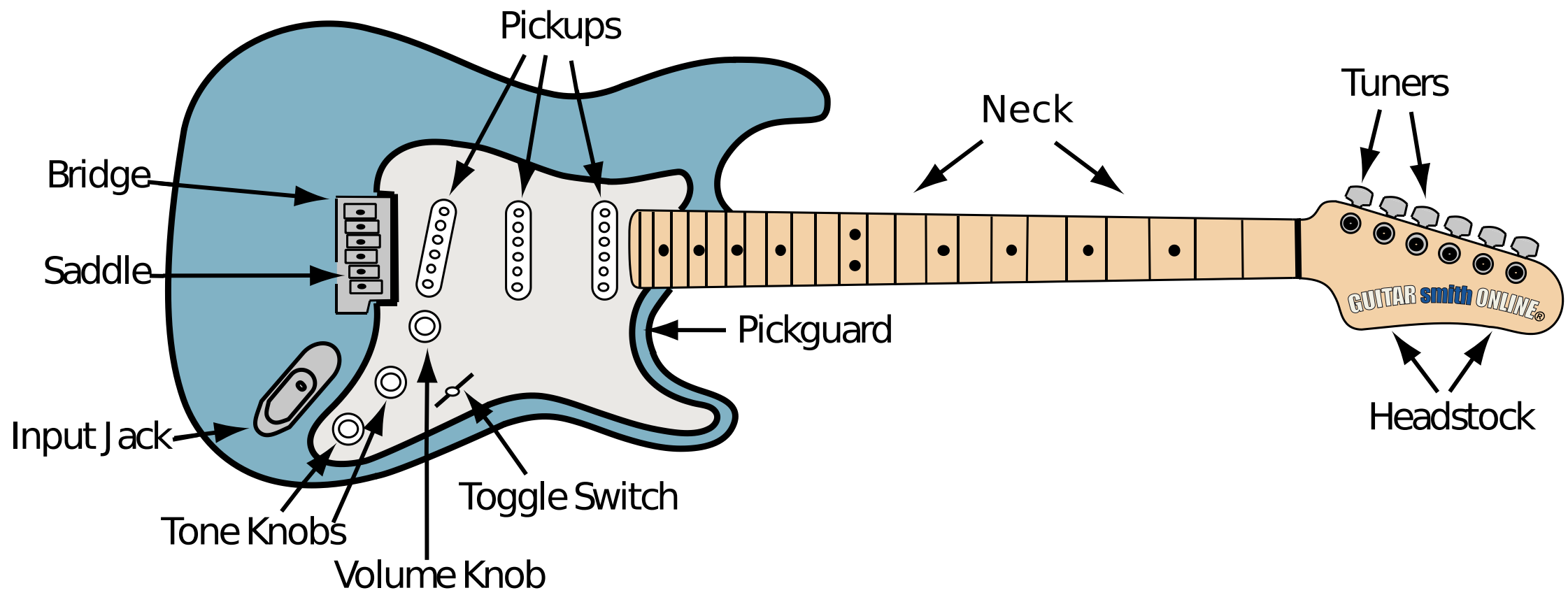


10-Week Beginner Guitar Manual

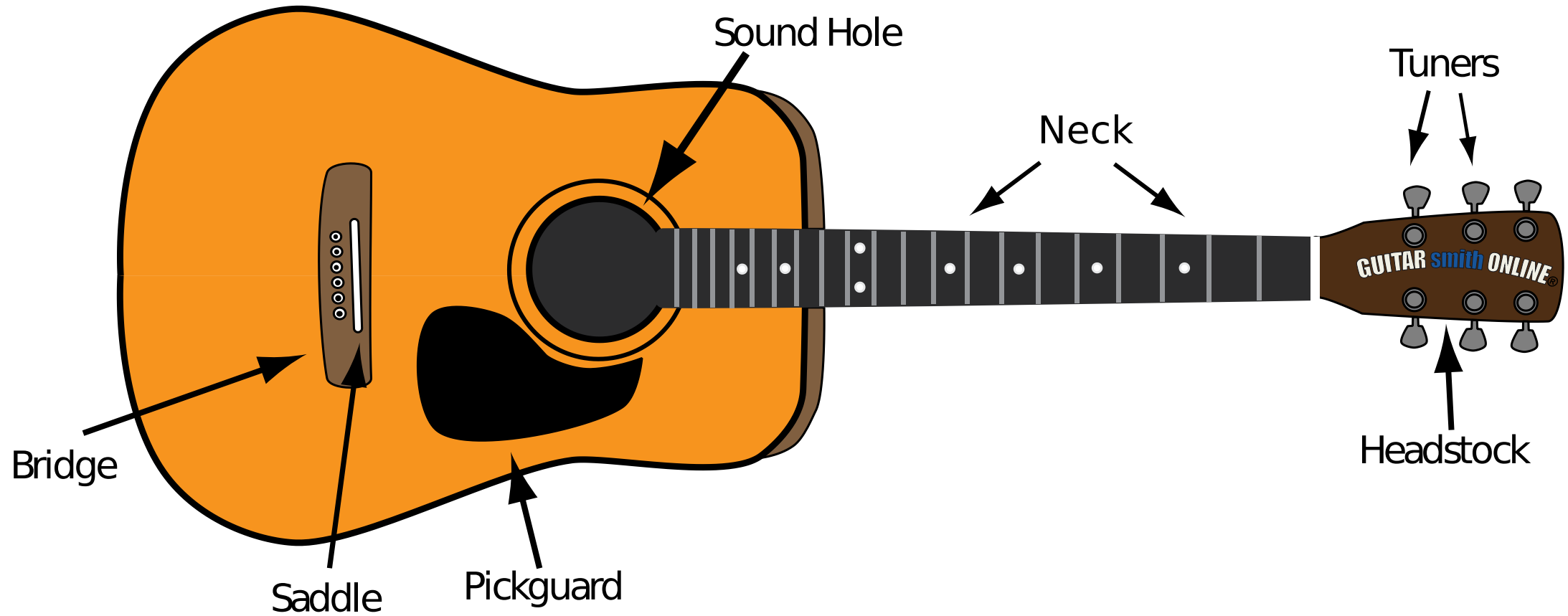
GUITAR smith ONLINE[®]



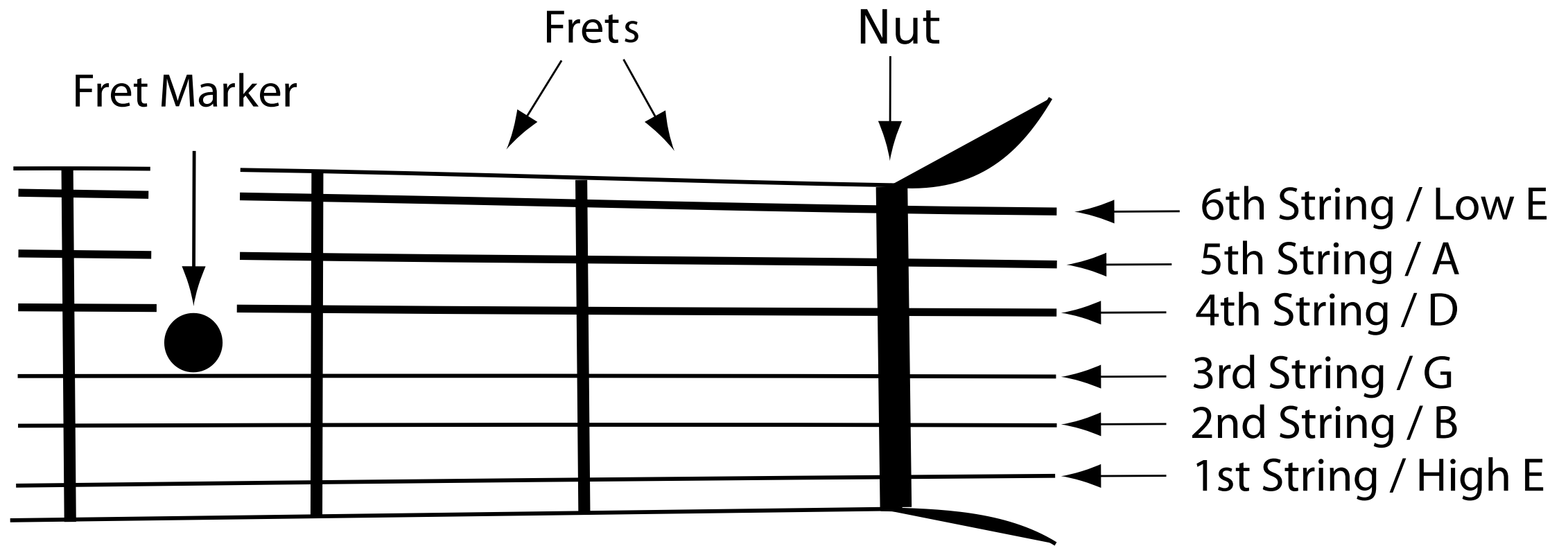
Parts of the Guitar



Parts of the Guitar: Electric

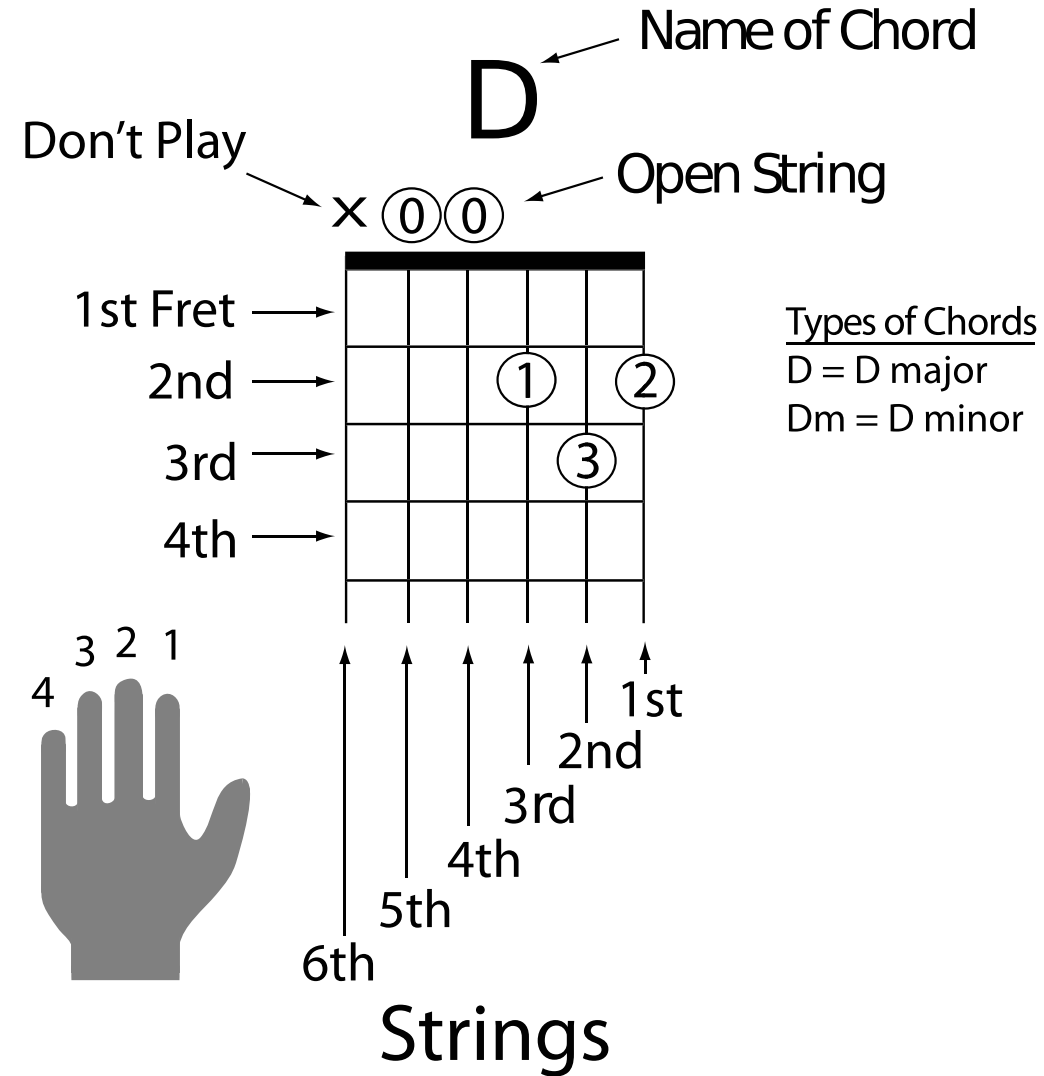


Parts of the Guitar: Acoustic



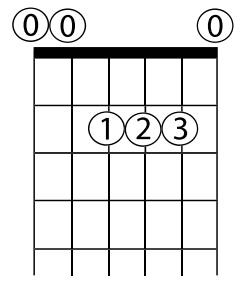
Neck Diagram

Guitar Chords & Exercises

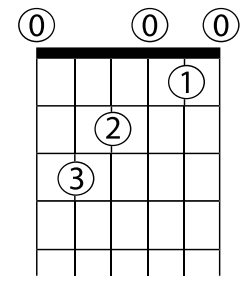


Explanation of Chord Diagrams

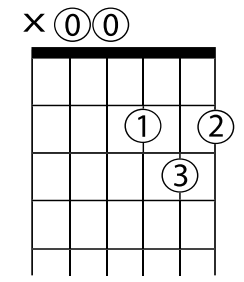
A



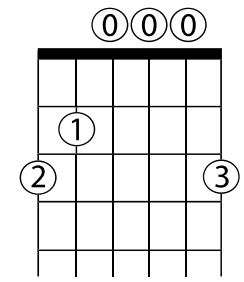
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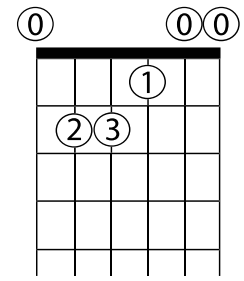
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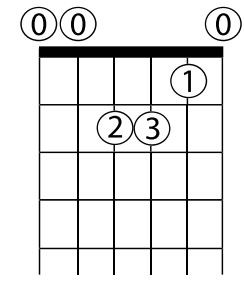
G



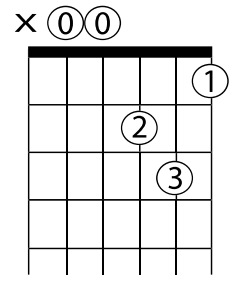
E



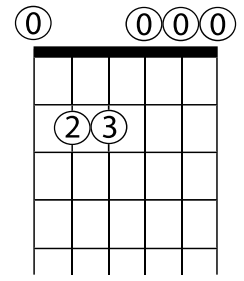
Am



Dm

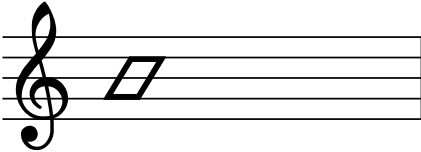
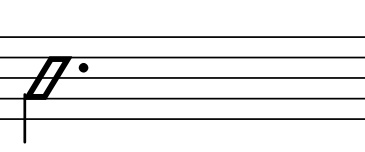
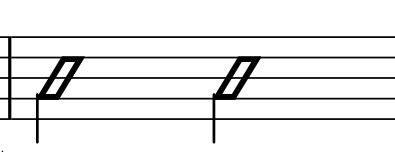
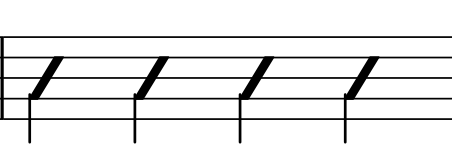
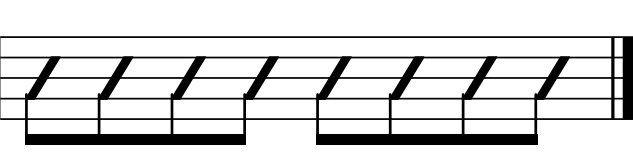


Em



Chords

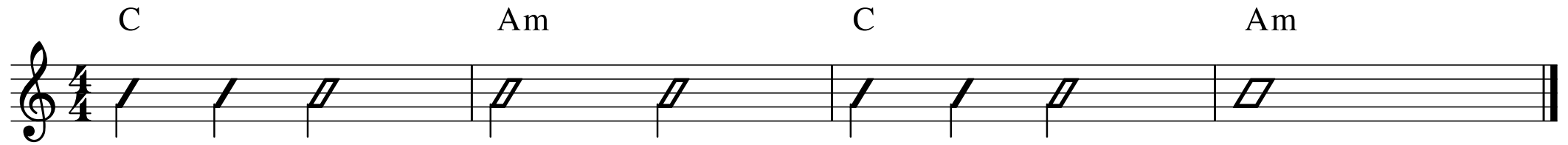
Here are the 5 rhythms that are used throughout the exercises. Each rhythm should be strummed down except for the “and” beat (indicated with “+”) of the 8th notes, which need to be strummed up.

Whole Note	Dotted Half Note	Half Notes	Quarter Notes	8 th Notes
				
1 2 3 4	1 2 3	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

Strumming Rhythms

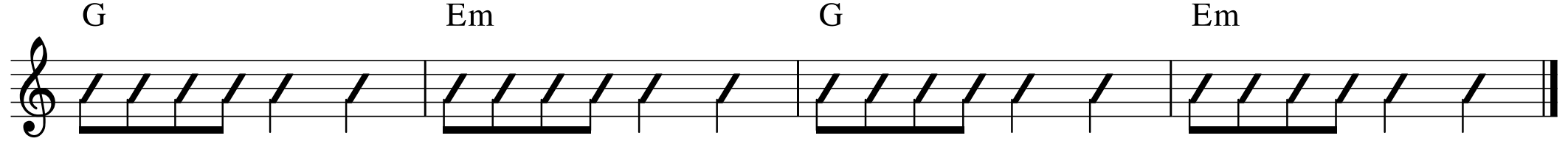
Ex 1

C Am C Am



Ex 2

G Em G Em



Ex 3

Em Am Em Am

Ex 4

Am G C Am

Chord Ex 3 & 4

Ex 5

G Em C G

A musical staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The staff is divided into four measures. The first measure is labeled 'G' and contains a dotted quarter note on G4 and a slash. The second measure is labeled 'Em' and contains a dotted quarter note on E4 and a slash. The third measure is labeled 'C' and contains a quarter note on C4, a quarter note on E4, a quarter note on G4, and a slash. The fourth measure is labeled 'G' and contains a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on B4, a quarter note on D5, and a slash. The staff ends with a double bar line.

Ex 6

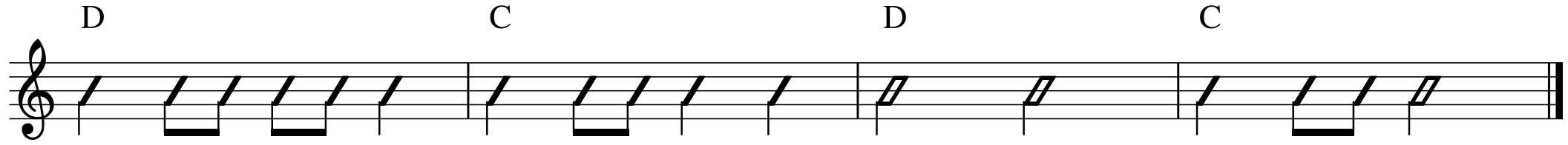
E A E A

A musical staff in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The staff is divided into four measures. The first measure is labeled 'E' and contains a quarter note on E4, a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on B4, and a slash. The second measure is labeled 'A' and contains a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on C5, a quarter note on E5, and a slash. The third measure is labeled 'E' and contains a quarter note on E4, a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on B4, and a slash. The fourth measure is labeled 'A' and contains a quarter note on A4, a quarter note on C5, a quarter note on E5, and a slash. The staff ends with a double bar line.

Chord Ex 5 & 6

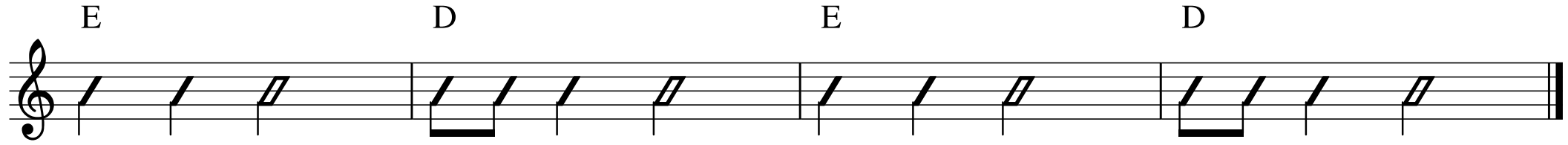
Ex 7

D C D C



Ex 8

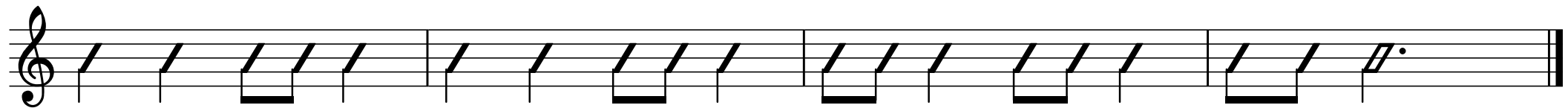
E D E D



Chord Ex 7 & 8

Ex 9

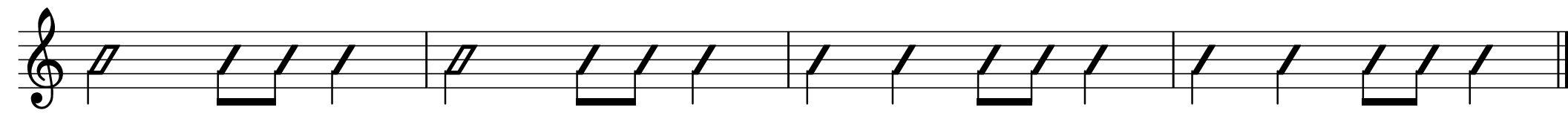
C Dm C Dm



Musical notation for Ex 9: A single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The piece consists of four measures. The first measure is labeled 'C' and contains a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on Bb4, and a quarter note on D5. The second measure is labeled 'Dm' and contains a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on Bb4, and a quarter note on D5. The third measure is labeled 'C' and contains a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on Bb4, and a quarter note on D5. The fourth measure is labeled 'Dm' and contains a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on Bb4, and a quarter note on D5 with a fermata.

Ex 10

G A Dm C



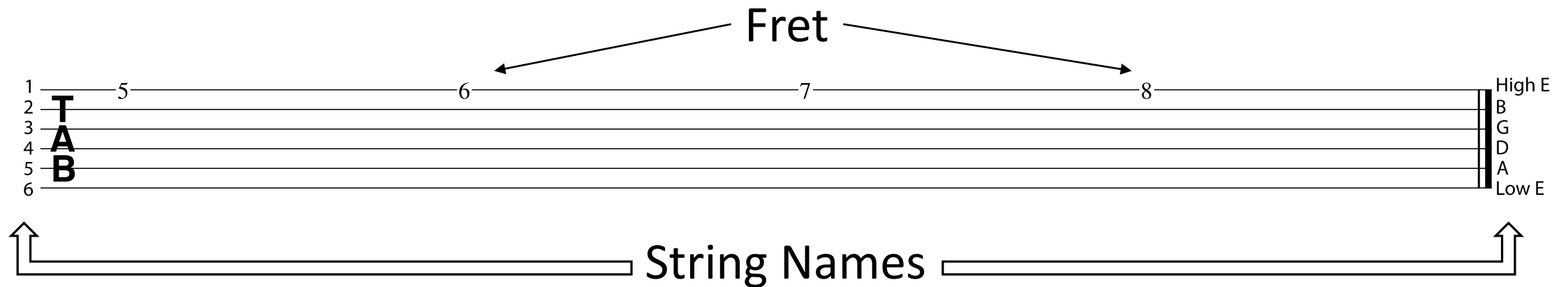
Musical notation for Ex 10: A single staff in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The piece consists of four measures. The first measure is labeled 'G' and contains a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on Bb4, and a quarter note on D5. The second measure is labeled 'A' and contains a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on Bb4, and a quarter note on D5. The third measure is labeled 'Dm' and contains a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on Bb4, and a quarter note on D5. The fourth measure is labeled 'C' and contains a quarter note on G4, a quarter note on Bb4, and a quarter note on D5.

Chord Ex 9 & 10

Picking Exercises

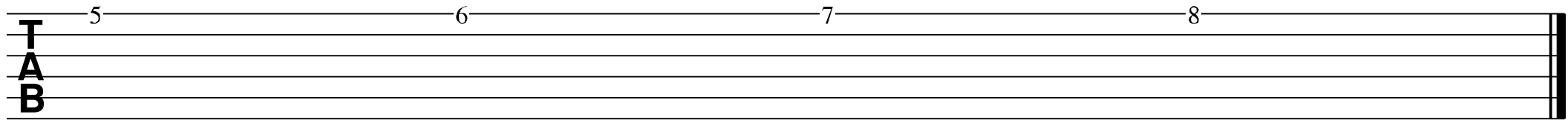
I'm a big advocate of reading music on guitar, but since most of the information online is written in a format known as tablature, I've decided to show the following exercises in this style.

Each line represents a string. The smallest string on your guitar, the one closest to the floor, is the top line on the page. Like the guitar graphs, think of the lines as your guitar strings flipped upside down. The number on the line represents the fret that you are to play. A zero written on any line represents that the string should be played open (with no fingers placed on that particular string).



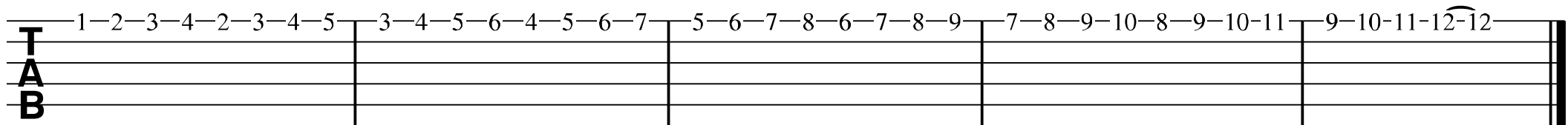
Tablature Explanation

Ex 1



TAB notation for Exercise 1. The notation consists of a single staff with four lines. The letters 'T', 'A', and 'B' are stacked vertically on the left side of the staff. The staff contains a single line with four fret numbers: 5, 6, 7, and 8, each connected to the next by a horizontal line. The staff ends with a double bar line.

Ex 2

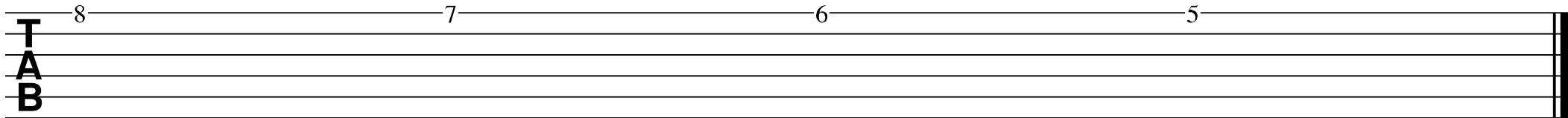


TAB notation for Exercise 2. The notation consists of a single staff with four lines. The letters 'T', 'A', and 'B' are stacked vertically on the left side of the staff. The staff contains a sequence of fret numbers: 1-2-3-4-2-3-4-5 | 3-4-5-6-4-5-6-7 | 5-6-7-8-6-7-8-9 | 7-8-9-10-8-9-10-11 | 9-10-11-12-12. The numbers are connected by horizontal lines, and vertical bar lines separate the groups. The staff ends with a double bar line.

Pick Ex 1 & 2

Ex 3

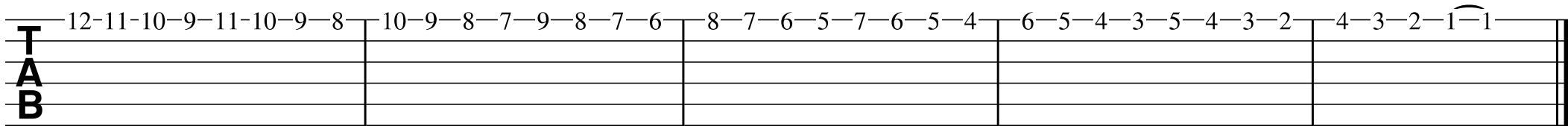
T
A
B



A single staff of guitar tablature with four lines. The top line contains the numbers 8, 7, 6, and 5, each positioned above a horizontal line that spans the width of the staff. The letters T, A, and B are stacked vertically on the left side of the staff. The staff ends with a double bar line.

Ex 4

T
A
B



A single staff of guitar tablature with four lines. The top line contains a sequence of numbers: 12-11-10-9-11-10-9-8 | 10-9-8-7-9-8-7-6 | 8-7-6-5-7-6-5-4 | 6-5-4-3-5-4-3-2 | 4-3-2-1-1. The numbers are positioned above a horizontal line that spans the width of the staff. The letters T, A, and B are stacked vertically on the left side of the staff. The staff is divided into five measures by vertical bar lines. The staff ends with a double bar line.

Pick Ex 3 & 4

Ex 5

↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓

T
A
B

Ex 6

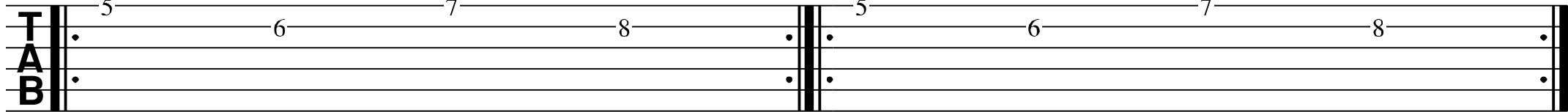
↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓

T
A
B

Pick Ex 5 & 6

Ex 7

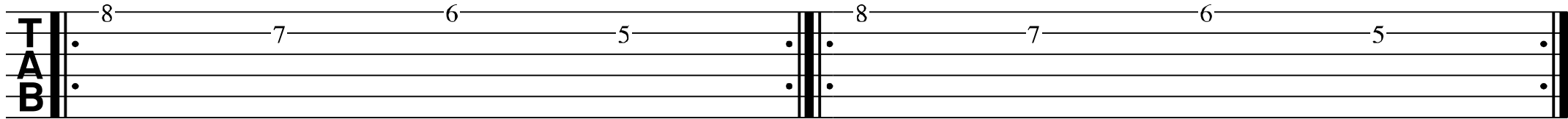
↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓



TAB notation for Exercise 7. The first staff shows a sequence of notes: 5, 6, 7, 8, followed by a double bar line, then 5, 6, 7, 8. The notes are connected by horizontal lines. Above the staff, pick direction arrows are placed: down for 5, up for 6, down for 7, up for 8, up for 5, down for 6, up for 7, and down for 8. The second and third staves are empty, with a dot on each line to indicate the string number.

Ex 8

↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓



TAB notation for Exercise 8. The first staff shows a sequence of notes: 8, 7, 6, 5, followed by a double bar line, then 8, 7, 6, 5. The notes are connected by horizontal lines. Above the staff, pick direction arrows are placed: down for 8, up for 7, down for 6, up for 5, up for 8, down for 7, up for 6, and down for 5. The second and third staves are empty, with a dot on each line to indicate the string number.

Pick Ex 7 & 8

Ex 9

↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓

TAB
A
B

Ex 10

↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↑ ↓ ↑

TAB
A
B

Pick Ex 9 & 10



Hey, I'm Adam!

I create products for and teach people who are trying to figure out how to master this thing we call guitar. I give them the tools to build more confidence when playing, while bringing more musical variety into their lives. When I'm not creating new musical products or teaching some of the best students in the world, I can be found sipping coffee and listening to jazz, or guzzling coffee and rocking out.

Here are a few tidbits most people don't know about me: I love watching classic spy and horror movies—the cheesier the better, I think Superman is still the best superhero, and I'm addicted to coffee (wait, did I mention that already?).

If you need some musical encouragement, check out our blog at:

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