

My Top 10 Slap Bass Riffs #10

A ♩ = 125

Sheet music for Riff A, measures 1-4. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The notation includes a bass staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The rhythm is indicated by 't' (tap) and 'B' (slap) symbols. The fret numbers are: 5, 4, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 4, 5, 4, 2, 5, 5, 5, 4, 4, 4, 5, 4, 4, 5, 5.

B

Sheet music for Riff B, measures 5-6. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The notation includes a bass staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The rhythm is indicated by 't' (tap) and 'B' (slap) symbols. The fret numbers are: 0, 3, 0, 5, 0, 5, 0, 4, 0, 5, 0, 4, 0, 5, 0, 5, 0, 3, 0, 5, 0, 5, 0, 4, 0, 5, 0, 4, 0, 2, 0, 5.

Sheet music for Riff B, measures 7-8. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The notation includes a bass staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The rhythm is indicated by 't' (tap) and 'B' (slap) symbols. The fret numbers are: 0, 5, 0, 5, 0, 5, 0, 4, 0, 5, 0, 4, 0, 5, 0, 4, 0, 3, 0, 5, 0, 5, 0, 4, 0, 5, 0, 4, 0, 5, 0, 5.

C

Sheet music for Riff C, measures 9-10. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The notation includes a bass staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The rhythm is indicated by 't' (tap) and 'B' (slap) symbols. The fret numbers are: 0, 3, 3, 0, 5, 5, 0, 5, 5, 0, 4, 4, 0, 5, 5, 0, 4, 4, 0, 5, 5, 0, 5, 5, 0, 3, 3, 0, 5, 5, 0, 5, 5, 0, 4, 4, 0, 5, 5, 0, 4, 4, 0, 2, 2, 0, 5, 5.

Sheet music for Riff C, measures 11-12. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The notation includes a bass staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp. The rhythm is indicated by 't' (tap) and 'B' (slap) symbols. The fret numbers are: 0, 5, 5, 0, 5, 5, 0, 4, 4, 0, 5, 5, 0, 4, 4, 0, 4, 4, 0, 12, 12, 0, 11, 11, 0, 9, 9, 0, 7, 7, 0, 5, 5, 0, 4, 4, 0, 2, 2, 0.

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‘Classical Thump’ by Victor Wooten

This line is a classic part by Victor Wooten, and it's one that shows off some of the more advanced techniques that he's known for. However, I don't believe that it's as hard to play as it sounds... This track can be found on Victor's debut album, *A Show of Hands* - highly recommended if you enjoy this style of bass playing.

During the first four bars, the basic line is established. It's crucial that you learn this part first, as the subsequent parts are based on it. This is an eighth note line that establishes a basic chord progression: G - C - D⁷ - G. Each note is slapped, and each note is choked by the fretting hand to keep it nice and short. If you're not used to slapping notes on the G-string, this may initially take some getting used to.

For the B section, we take the line from the A section, and precede each note with an open string, which then hammers-on to the main note. For example, instead of just playing the low G at the beginning of the first bar of the section, we play the open E, then instantly hammer-on to the G. This approach is taken to every note in this section. Note that the bassline itself is the same as at letter A. The difference is that each note is preceded by an open string hammer-on.

At letter C this idea is taken a step further, and we'll now be playing triplets. This time, slap the open E and allow the thumb to come to rest on the A-string. Then hammer-on to the G, and then bring the thumb upwards to play the string again with an upstroke. Using the thumb in this way is known as 'double thumbing', and it's one of Victor's best-known techniques. This means that for each note of the main bassline, we'll be getting three notes: an open string, a hammer-on, and an upstroke. It's difficult to do initially, but hopefully you'll find that it's easier than it sounds! In the final bar, a descending G major scale is played using the same technique.

If you require additional help with either the open string hammer-on technique, or double thumbing, I recommend checking out my **Slap Bass - Advanced Level** video course on the Bassline Publishing website. Each of these techniques is covered there in detail.

In this video I used a GB Guitars Rumour bass. This bass has a 'ramp' installed, which makes double thumbing easier by decreasing the string-to-body distance at the end of the fingerboard. This helps prevent the thumb from snagging under the strings.