

# My Top 10 Slap Bass Riffs #6

♩ = 108

First two bars of the riff. The top staff is in bass clef, 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The first two bars each contain two eighth notes on the D string (open D), marked with a staccato dot and a 't' below. The bottom staff shows the fretting hand with open strings (0) on the A and B strings.

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Next two bars of the riff. The top staff continues the eighth-note pattern on the D string, with a fretting hand slap (lh) on the third beat of the first bar. The bottom staff shows fretting hand techniques: triplets (3) and hammer-ons (x) on the A string, and triplets (3) and hammer-ons (x) on the B string.

## 'Take The Power Back' by Rage Against The Machine

This slap line is Tim Commerford's Intro and Verse riff from the classic Rage Against The Machine song 'Take The Power Back. You'll find this track on the band's self-titled debut album, which is recommended listening for all bass players.

First of all, you'll need to detune your low E-string to D for this line. The first two bars are very simple: on the first beat of each bar, we'll just be slapping two open D's. These need to be 'choked' by the fretting hand to keep them short - note the use of staccato dots in the notation. In the third bar, we start with the two open D's as before, then head into a longer slap riff. The majority of this line requires only basic slap technique, but a fretting hand slap is required at the beginning of the third beat: assuming that your first finger was fretting the F at the end of the second beat, bring your fourth finger in to hammer-on to the D at the fifth fret of the A-string. This will need to be done quite forcefully, but you should find that this feels quite natural to do.

The fourth bar of this line is the same as the third.

As I said, this line requires only basic slap and pop techniques, but if you require additional help with these, be sure to check out my **Slap Bass - Beginner Level** video course on the Bassline Publishing website. Basic slaps and pops, hammer-ons, muting and more are all covered in this course.

In this video I used a Music Man SUB Sterling Sting Ray bass, an affordable alternative to the more expensive Sting Ray that Tim used on the original track.