

Basslines Chapter 2 – Practice Day 1

Welcome to day 1 of your bassline journey, great to have you here!

The main goal for today's workout is to see, play, and hear root notes on the 5th and 6th strings of the guitar.

The second goal is to develop a focused, organized practice routine that you can use for this course, and all practicing going forward.

The key to mastering any skill on guitar is consistent practice over time, as it's tough to cram learning any guitar skill overnight.

To help you reach both of these goals, here are 3 exercises to work on today where you play root notes over common chord progressions.

Make sure to set a timer and stick to the 5-minute allotted time for each exercise to get used to focusing and staying structured in the woodshed.

Have fun as you introduce your eyes, fingers, and ears to root notes over common chords with these 3 fun exercises in today's workout.

Bassline Exercise 1 – 5 Minutes

Here's the first exercise for today's workout, which you'll spend 5 minutes on in the practice room.

To help you get the most out of this exercise, here are some tips to get started.

- Look over the written notes/tab for a few seconds and plan ahead.
- Visualize the root notes on the 6th and 5th strings.
- Play the notes with a slow metronome, or no tempo.
- Work the exercise over the backing track if ready.
- Sing along for added benefit.
- Record yourself and listen back for instant feedback.
- Enjoy yourself!

Have fun with this exercise, and remember, set a timer and stop after 5 minutes so you get a full, well-rounded workout in today.

Audio Example 1

Audio Example 1 shows a bassline exercise in 4/4 time, consisting of four measures. The notation is presented in two staves: a treble clef staff for chords and a tablature staff for fingerings.

Measure	Chord	Fingering (TAB)
1	Dm ⁷	5
2	G ⁷	3
3	Cmaj ⁷	3
4	A ⁷ (b9)	5

Bassline Exercise 2 – 5 Minutes

Here's the second exercise for today's workout, which you'll spend 5 minutes on in the practice room.

To help you get the most out of this exercise, here are some tips to get started.

- Look over the written notes/tab for a few seconds and plan ahead.
- Visualize the root notes on the 6th and 5th strings.
- Play the notes with a slow metronome, or no tempo.
- Work the exercise over the backing track if ready.
- Sing along for added benefit.
- Record yourself and listen back for instant feedback.
- Enjoy yourself!

Have fun with this exercise, and remember, set a timer and stop after 5 minutes so you get a full, well-rounded workout in today.

Audio Example 2

$B\flat$ maj7 $G7(b9)$ $Cm7$ $F7$ $Dm7$ $G7$ $Cm7$ $F7$

T
A
B

1 3 3 1 5 3 3 1

$B\flat$ maj7 $B\flat7$ $E\flat$ maj7 $A\flat7$ $Cm7$ $F7$ $B\flat$ maj7

T
A
B

6 6 6 4 3 1 1

Bassline Exercise 3 – 5 Minutes

Here's the final exercise for today's workout, which you'll spend 5 minutes on in the practice room.

To help you get the most out of this exercise, here are some tips to get started.

- Look over the written notes/tab for a few seconds and plan ahead.
- Visualize the root notes on the 6th and 5th strings.
- Play the notes with a slow metronome, or no tempo.
- Work the exercise over the backing track if ready.
- Sing along for added benefit.
- Record yourself and listen back for instant feedback.
- Enjoy yourself!

Have fun with this exercise, and remember, set a timer and stop after 5 minutes so you get a full, well-rounded workout in today.

Audio Example 3

G⁷ C⁷ G⁷ D^{m7} G⁷

TAB: 3 3 3 5 3

C⁷ C^{#o7} G⁷ E^{7(b9)}

TAB: 3 4 3 0

A^{m7} D⁷ G⁷ E^{7(b9)} A^{m7} D⁷

TAB: 5 5 3 0 5 5