

MyGUITAR LESSONS



'My Guitar Lessons' have developed a simple way to teach intervals, with knowledge of how to remember and spot them in music. You may not know all of the music we have suggested here, but go away and find tracks that you are familiar with to help you out.

When teaching we would suggest that you start with the 12 intervals: minor 2nd, Major 2nd, minor 3rd, Major 3rd, Perfect 4th, Tritone, Perfect 5th, Minor 6th, Major 6th, Minor 7th, Major 7th, and Perfect 8th.

First draw 6 lines of tab then draw out all the intervals on one string. 0-1, 0-2, 0-3, 0-4, 0-5, 0-6, 0-7, 0-8, 0-9, 0-10, 0-11, 0-12. I teach people to focus on learning the names of the interval then identify some common examples of each interval. After I teach this, it always stimulates my creativity and helps me write songs and even learn them faster.

When **Pink Floyd** sings "*Tired of lying in the sunshine, staying home to watch the rain*" in their hit **Time**, they are singing a minor 2nd which is only 1 fret apart. If you play C# to D on the 2nd string.

You look at "**Sunshine Of Your Love**" by **Cream** and when you play 12, 12, 10, 12 on the 4th string, you are playing a major 2nd which is 2 frets apart. When you play 12, 11, 10 on the 5th string, you are playing minor 2nds. We suggest your students play 10, 13, 10 on the 6th string, which is a minor 3rd.

For Minor 3rd which is 3 frets apart, I tell people to learn the riff for "**Whole Lotta Love**" by **Led Zeppelin**. You can play 7, 10, 7, 10 to the main riff. Also look at the opening riff to "**Layla**" by **Eric Clapton**.

For a Major 3rd which is 4 frets apart, play "**Pretty Woman**" by **Roy Orbison**. 0, 0, 4 is the beginning. Just use this website to locate the song and riff. Also "**Crossfire**" by **Stevie Ray Vaughn**.

For a Perfect 4th which is 5 frets, people always recognize here comes the bride. 0 5 5 5. Listen to **Nirvana's "Smells Like Teen Spirit"**. The verse riff uses tons of perfect 4ths. Instead of playing it on the same string, it moves from 6th string to 5th string. It's super helpful.

For a tritone we would suggest highlighting the melody for "**Wizard Of Oz**". **Metallica** does it on the "*Oh We oh*" part on "**Frayed Ends Of Sanity**". Listening to the end of "**Heart-Shaped Box**" by **Nirvana** as this will show the Tritone as well.

Perfect 5th which is 7 frets apart is used in the theme song for "**Top Gun**". The Power Chord that most rock songs use is a Perfect 5th. "**Iron Man**" by **Black Sabbath** uses it. Have people look at "**Message In a Bottle**" by the **Police** because he stacks Perfect 5ths on them from string to string. Or "**Satellite**" by **Dave Matthews Band**.

A minor 6th is 8 frets apart. People say to learn the "**Entertainer**" riff. When someone

strums E minor to C on the 6th string, they are playing a Minor 6th. When **REM** sings, "*Now Andy did you hear about this one*". He's does a Minor 6th in the song "**Man On The Moon**". It's a vocal part but sing along with it and you'll get that minor 6th ingrained in your mind.

A Major 6th is 9 frets apart. **Foo Fighters** do that on the opening bassline to "**My Hero**". Growing up, NBC would always be 0 9 5 on any string.

A Minor 7th is 10 frets apart. **Soundgarden** uses it in "**Outshined**". Look at "**Cult Of Personality**" by **Living Color**. Although he's playing G to F from the 6th string/3rd fret to the 4th string /3rd fret. It's still a minor 7th.

A Major 7th is 11 frets apart. If you play E to D# from 6th string open to 5ths 6th fret, you are playing a major 7th. I tell people to look at "**1979**" by **Smashing Pumpkins** and "**One**" by **Metallica**. They have obvious examples of the Major 7th.

Finally the Perfect 8th which is 12 frets apart. We always use "**Somewhere Over The Rainbow**" by **Judy Garland** as a Universal example. Find that on You Tube and learn it.

My Guitar Lessons felt we had to put this on the internet because no one else was explaining it in this way. We hope you find this of use. Please let us know what other songs you find that compliment these exercises by writing to us at info@MyGuitarLessons.co.uk.