

## Tapping

Now it's tapping time. It was very much used among the 80's guitarists and is still today used by many people. Tapping is basically pull offs and hammer ons with both hands. There are many ways to play and use tapping, for instance people use to name their tapping depending on how many fingers they use. Like 6 fingers tapping and 8 fingers tapping. That's just silly. I just separate regular tapping and two hands tapping.

Which finger is the best to tap with? There are many opinions on that question. Some use more than one fingers but that's a little bit overrated I think so I'm going to concentrate on one finger. I use my middle finger due to several reasons. First, you don't have to put your pick away when it's tapping time. Second, I feel that I got the most power in my middle finger. And then I have the options to switch between tapping and sweeping, which we're going to look at further on in the book. Take a look at the picture below to get the idea.

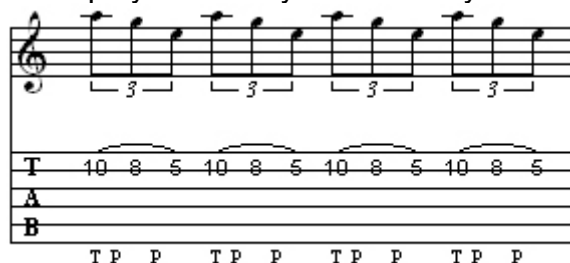


Okey, now let's look at the different tapping patterns you can use. Of course this is just the most common patterns and you may as well come up with your own. I'm going to concentrate on tapping which contains three notes. Remember T stands for tapping, F for pull off and H for hammer on. Distortion will help you to get the tapping sound more but you should be able to play tapping without an amp and still hear every note.

### Tapping pattern 1

Track 30

This pattern is played note by note as they are on the neck.



T 10 8 5 10 8 5 10 8 5 10 8 5

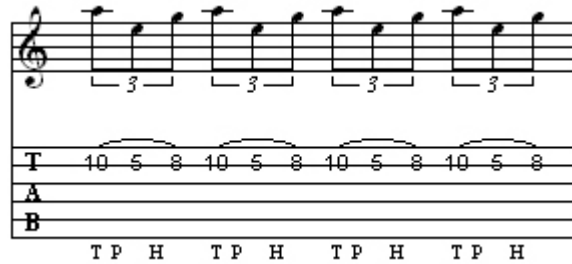
A

B

T P P T P P T P P T P P

### Tapping pattern 2

Track 31

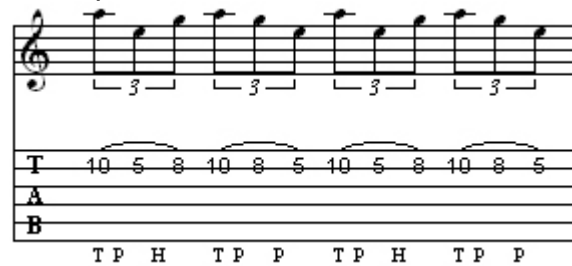


Musical notation for Tapping pattern 2, Track 31. It shows a treble clef staff with a sequence of eighth notes grouped in fours, each group marked with a '3' indicating a triplet. Below the staff is a guitar fretboard diagram with three strings labeled T, A, and B. The fret numbers for the T string are 10, 5, 8, 10, 5, 8, 10, 5, 8, 10, 5, 8. Below the fretboard, the tapping sequence is indicated as T P H T P H T P H T P H.

### Tapping pattern 3

Track 32

This pattern is a combination of the first and the second. I think this is the best pattern that sounds the best.



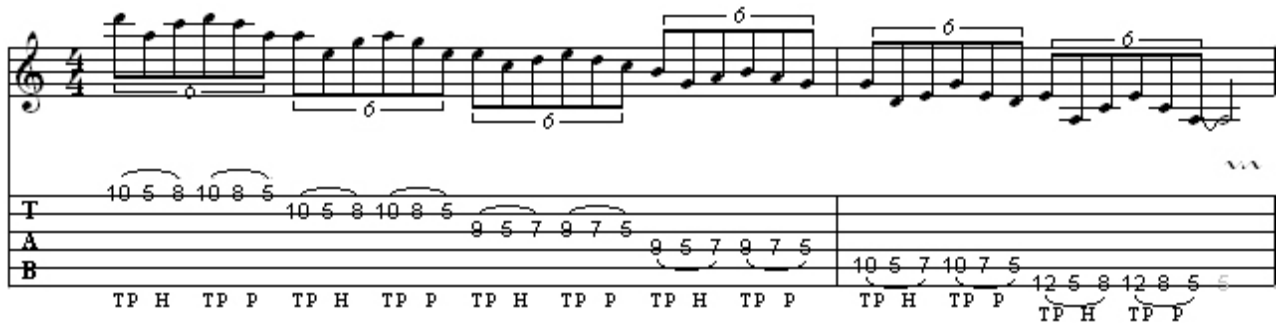
Musical notation for Tapping pattern 3, Track 32. It shows a treble clef staff with a sequence of eighth notes grouped in fours, each group marked with a '3' indicating a triplet. Below the staff is a guitar fretboard diagram with three strings labeled T, A, and B. The fret numbers for the T string are 10, 5, 8, 10, 8, 5, 10, 5, 8, 10, 8, 5. Below the fretboard, the tapping sequence is indicated as T P H T P P T P H T P P.

Now when you have seen all patterns, let's look on some licks. I am going to use an A minor pentatonic scale.

### Pentatonic tapping lick 1

Track 33

Let's extend the pentatonic scale. Your left hand will always be in the first mode of the pentatonic scale while your left tapping finger is going to switch between the second and the third.

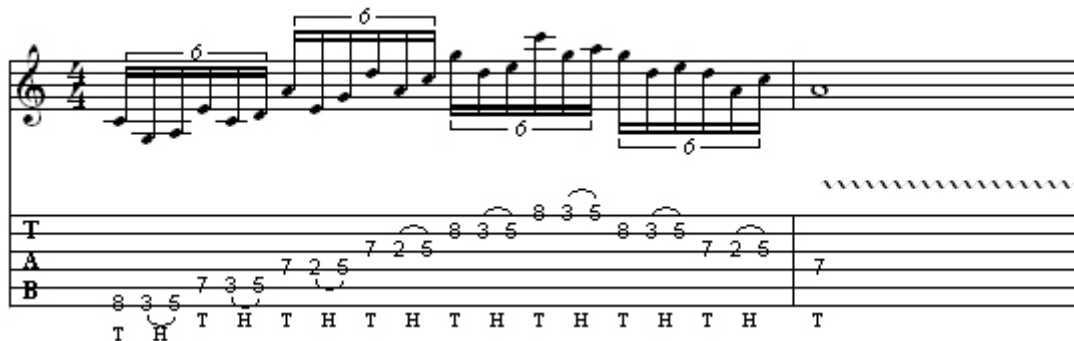


Musical notation for Pentatonic tapping lick 1, Track 33. It shows a treble clef staff in 4/4 time with a sequence of eighth notes and triplets. Below the staff is a guitar fretboard diagram with three strings labeled T, A, and B. The fret numbers for the T string are 10, 5, 8, 10, 8, 5, 10, 5, 8, 10, 8, 5, 9, 5, 7, 9, 7, 5, 9, 5, 7, 9, 7, 5, 10, 5, 7, 10, 7, 5, 12, 5, 8, 12, 8, 5, 5. Below the fretboard, the tapping sequence is indicated as T P H T P P T P H T P P T P H T P P T P H T P P T P H T P P T P H T P P T P H T P P T P H T P P.

### Pentatonic tapping lick 2

Track 34

This lick is a little harder to play than the first one. I use the first and the fourth mode of the pentatonic scale...



### Pentatonic tapping lick 3

Track 35

Here's a lick on the thin E string. This maybe hard to play at first but just give it some time and should have no problem at all.

