

Learn to Strum and Make Rhythm

Scott Jensen

Basic Rhythms

Whole Note: Half Note: Quarter Note: Eighth Note:

 □ = downstroke
 ∇ = upstroke

This section illustrates four basic rhythmic patterns in 4/4 time. The first measure is a whole note G chord (022333). The second measure is a half note G chord. The third and fourth measures show quarter notes, and the fifth and sixth measures show eighth notes. Each measure includes a musical staff, a guitar TAB, and a strumming pattern of squares (downstrokes) and inverted triangles (upstrokes).

Strumming Pattern #1 (6:45)

This section shows a strumming pattern for G and D chords in 4/4 time. The G chord (022333) is played for the first 12 measures, and the D chord (xx0232) is played for the final 4 measures. The strumming pattern consists of downstrokes (□) and upstrokes (∇) indicated below the guitar TAB.

This section shows a strumming pattern for the Am chord (020232) in 4/4 time. The strumming pattern consists of downstrokes (□) and upstrokes (∇) indicated below the guitar TAB.

Strumming Pattern #2 (9:42)

D A

TAB

G

TAB

Strumming Pattern #3 (12:30)

Em C

TAB

Strumming Pattern #4 (14:10)

Em Am

T
A
B

Strumming Pattern #5 (17:02)

C Am

T
A
B

Em

T
A
B