

How To Create A Guitar TAB

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First follow the link and print the pdf TAB. Feel free to download, copy, or share the TAB page and link with your friends. You will use this is to get the feel of writing your own TAB and using it as a guide for your text editor TAB.

<https://www.islandguitarstudios.com/Free-Guitar-Blank-Tab-Pages.pdf>

Your first attempt at a text Guitar TAB can be a frustrating experience. I know mine was. I tried, and the TAB never turned out right. The TABS were always misaligned. But then I discovered the secret. You are about to discover it too.

The real secret to creating Guitar TAB is using the proper font. **Courier** or **Courier New**. That is the secret. Yep, easy as that. **Well almost**. For TAB that I create I use **Courier New** and the TAB always turn out great. You probably already know this --> The numbers on the string lines are the fret number to play on that string.

Something to consider. I have started doing my tabs with the paper set at landscape and use text Bold and size 16 or 18 so the TABS are easier to read. Guitar TABS are fun to create after you get the hang of it. Let's get started. Write your TAB on the sheet that you printed earlier. **Here is the "Well almost" part.**

Open whatever app you use for text, such as writing a letter that you will print. I use Open Office. Which is copatable with most Microsoft text editors such as Word.

The **Font "Family"** to use is "**Courier New**" or "**Courier**". Select **Courier New** or **Courier** for the Font and make it **Bold/ Strong**. Select the page layout either Portrait or Landscape that you decide to use.

Next set up the TAB **A:** as shown for you to get started. Title your TAB and add: by "your name" and your email address. **You may be able to copy and paste it.** Some TABS omit the string number. I add the string numbers for new students because they learn the string numbers before they learn the notes. Remember, the TAB will be easier to read if the Font is **Bold/ Strong**.

A: TAB: G Mixolydian by Burton Jamison burt120@gmail.com

1E--

2B--

3G--

4D--

5A--

6E--

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Page 2

On all strings we will use two hyphens/ dashes after the open string notes E, B, G, D, A, E and after all fret numbers . We do this to determine the starting fret number on the next string.

On the TAB **B**: I am starting on string 6 after **6E--** with fret number **3**. I add two hyphens/ dashes after fret number **3** (**3--**) . Next I add fret number **5**. It should look like this:**3--5** . After fret number **5** , I add two dashes -- (**5--**) So we have on String 6, **6E--3--5--▲** . The **▲** is the starting point on string 5. The fret number is **2** . Don't include the **▲** on your TAB.

On string 5 after **5A--** we use dashes ----- to get to where the first fret number will start on string 5. Which is **2**. We use two dashes between fret numbers **2--3** and **3--5** and after the last fret number (**5--**) . String 5 has **5A-----2--3--5--▲**, the **▲** is the starting point on string 4. Again, don't include the **▲** on your TAB.

String 4 shows after **4D--** we again use dashes ----- to get to where the next fret number will start. Which is two dashes after the string 5 fret number **5--▲** .

Keep using the same method for the starting fret number on any other necessary strings until the TAB is completed. Be sure to title and number each page if more than one. Please note that strings 3, 2 and 1 will have dashes to or past the number 2 on string 4. This is because there will be two dashes after the number 2.

B:

1E-----

2B-----

3G-----

4D-----2 ◀ the next fret number on string 4

5A-----2--3--5--▲

6E--3--5--▲

The example above and on page 3 is the G Mixolydian Mode fingering in C Major.

Please note, if there are no other fret numbers after the fret numbers on each string, we use dashes to get to the end. Which will be the two dashes after the last fret number on whatever string it may be. That is how we will keep the TAB uniform as shown in the TAB **C**: on string **6E** .

C:

6E--3--5-----

and on the completed G Mixolydian TAB **D**: found on Page 3

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Page 3

Completed G Mixolydian TAB

D:

```
1E-----3--5--
2B-----3--5--6-----
3G-----2--4--5-----
4D-----2--3--5-----
5A-----2--3--5-----
6E--3--5-----
```

You can do this! Like anything else, the more you do it the easier it will become.

How to TAB more than 1 string notes or chords. Partial examples. **E:**

E:

Bouree TAB by Burton Jamison burt120@gmail.com

```
1E--0--2--3--2--0-----0--2-----0-----
2B-----4-----0--2--4-----3--1--0-----
3G-----
4D-----
5A-----0-----2--0-----
6E--3--2--0-----3--2-----0--2-----3-----
```

Download: <https://www.islandguitarstudios.com/bouree.pdf>

Jingle Bell Rock TAB by Burton Jamison burt120@gmail.com

```
E--10-10-10---9--9--9--7-9-7---7-9-7---5--7-9-7--3--
B--10-10-10--10-10-10--7---7--7---7---8---2--
G-----7-----5---9---2--
D-----
A-----
E-----
```

Download: <https://www.islandguitarstudios.com/jingle-bell-rock-10-30-24.pdf>

Please note: some fret numbers have one dash between them to save space and paper.

One last thing. Save your TAB as a pdf document. Congratulations! You nailed it!