

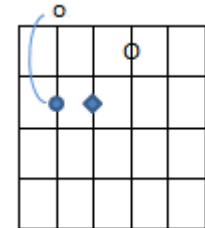
6. Hammer-ons

Picking out the bass lines creates a balance between single notes in the bass and strums on the treble strings. Now add color to the patterns with hammer-ons. Play an open string, then hammer a finger down on the string to make a second note without picking it. You can hammer almost any string, but we'll start with the one next to the bass string, making it part of a bass line run. Hammers can also be played on or off the beat, but in the examples below all the hammers are right on the 2nd downbeat.

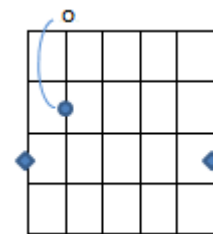
6th String Chords — E, Em and G: Hammer the 5th String

The hammer-on for the E, Em and G chords works like this:

1. Play the bass and strum for the first downbeat.
2. Lift the finger on the 5th string just before the second downbeat.
3. Pick the 5th string on the second downbeat.
4. Hammer the finger back down, back into the chord.
5. Play the last two strums of the beat (down and up)



E/Em hammer-on *



G hammer-on

One	and-a	h'-mer-and-a	One	and-a	h'-mer and-a
↓	↓	↑	↓	↓	↑
T		T	T		T

* The only difference between E and Em is your finger on the 3rd string, hence (the 'o') on the chart.

This is where TAB has a big advantage, since it can show you where and when each string is played. Remember that each line is a string of your guitar and the numbers show where they are fretted.

Em Hammer

G Hammer

Listen for the rhythm of the hammer-on. It should fill in the 'a' beat after the downbeat. The good news: It is much easier to play a hammer-on than to describe how to do it. Look for the video (when it comes out) to get a better sense of how it works.