

TABMAN tabs have 'manner of performance' symbols marked on the music and in most cases repeated on the tabs.

A pick point indicates when to pick the string, usually at the beginning of a section where there are either bends and returns or slides performed with one pick and maintained throughout by the strings reciprocating movement along the fret; the next pick point would be at the start of the next section where it will be assumed it is played as written until the next marking.

X = muted string or
X = rhythmic open string fill-in note V = pick points

slides

Sometimes a slide will be performed with one pick for from the start to the finish of the slide, however, there can be a pick point at each end of the slide which is a different effect altogether.

Bracketed notes = notes pitched by bending the string.

string bends

Bracketed TAB numbers = string bend note pitch.

String bent up a semitone and returned to original pitch with one pick followed by a muted percussive note of no particular pitch

Two adjacent strings played together where, in this example, the 2nd string is bent up from an A to a Bb below the D on the 1st string.

Two adjacent strings played together where, in this example, the 2nd string is bent up from a semi-tone below to level unison with the 1st string; e.g. Hank's intro to Man Of Mystery

string bends

Tremolo arm depressed to pitch notes below the original pitches

Peter Gunn example where the tremolo flattens the bottom E to a semi-tone below the guitar range, hence the tab shows a D#.

Here the tremolo arm can be used to raise the pitch of the note.

tremolo arm bends

Bracketed TAB numbers = trem. bend note pitch. Upside down slur to show note flattened.

Named notes on TAB = open string lowered with tremolo arm to a pitch below an open string.

Bracketed TAB numbers = trem. bend note pitch. Upward slur to show note sharpened.

Hammer-ons are performed by picking the string for the 1st note and hammering the 2nd note on the next fret up.

Pull-offs are performed by picking the 1st note (having the first finger pre-positioned 1 or 2 frets behind) and pulling the 2nd or 3rd finger off the string to 'reveal' the next note.

These are continuous runs of hammer-ons and pull-offs with one pick point.

Hammer-ons
Pull-offs

These are combinations of 'manner of performance' where two are performed with one pick point.

combinations

other symbols