

Top 10 Metal Guitar Riffs

Theory Breakdown

By Shredmaster Scott

♩ = 75

#10 Smoke On The Water (Deep Purple)

Blues Scale b5

Inverted Chords (4ths)

with fingers

TAB: 0-3-5-0 | 3-6-5 | 0-3-5-3 | (3)-0 / (3)-0

#9 Am I Evil (Diamond Head)

Locrian Mode (b5,b2)

♩ = 111

TAB: 0-0-2-2 | (0)(0)(X)(2) | 4-2 | 3-1 | 3-1 | 3-1

#8 Painkiller (Judas Priest)

Locrian

♩ = 207

TAB: 7-0-0-5-0-0-7-0 | 0-8-0-0-7-0-3-0 | 7-0-0-5-0-0-7-0 | 0-8-0-0-8-8

#7 Holy Diver (Dio)

C Aeolian Mode (uncommon)

♩ = 90

TAB: 5-3-5-5-5-5-5-5-7-8 | 3-3-3-3-3-3-3-5-6 | 5-3-5-5-5-5-7-8-3 | 3-3-3-3-3-5-6-1 | 5-3-5-5-5-5-7-8-3 | 3-3-3-3-3-5-6-1 | 5-3-5 | 3-1-3

#6 Symphony Of Destruction (Megadeth)

Phrygian Mode

Bass Pedal Tone (4 bar phrases)

♩ = 140

Musical notation for #6 Symphony Of Destruction (Megadeth) in Phrygian Mode. The score consists of a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 140. The melody is a four-measure phrase. Below the staff is a guitar TAB with fret numbers: 3-2-2, 1-0-0, 3-2-2, 1-0-0, 0-3-1, 3-2-2, 1-0-0, 3-2-2, 1-0-0.

#5 Raining Blood (Slayer)

Chromatic Scale

E Pedal justifies chromaticism

♩ = 210

Musical notation for #5 Raining Blood (Slayer) in Chromatic Scale. The score consists of a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 210. The melody is a four-measure phrase. Below the staff is a guitar TAB with fret numbers: 0-0-0, 7-8-9-8, 9-8-7-8-7-6, 0-0-0, 7-8-9-8, 9-8-7-8-7-6.

#4 Master Of Puppets (Metallica)

Scooped Mids Tone

optional pull offs (Chromatic Scale)

Musical notation for #4 Master Of Puppets (Metallica) in Scooped Mids Tone. The score consists of a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is a four-measure phrase. Below the staff is a guitar TAB with fret numbers: 0-0-12-0-0-11-0-0, 12-10-7-10, 0-0-7-0-0-6-0-0, 5-0-4-0-3-0-2-0.

#3 The Trooper

E Aeolian Mode

Gallop Pattern

♩ = 160

Musical notation for #3 The Trooper in E Aeolian Mode. The score consists of a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 160. The melody is a four-measure phrase. Below the staff is a guitar TAB with fret numbers: 7-5-7-9, 5-5-5-7, (9), (7), 0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0, 0-0-0-0-0-0, 7-5-7-9, 5-5-5-7, (9), (7), 0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0.

Musical notation for #3 The Trooper (continued). The score consists of a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is a four-measure phrase. Below the staff is a guitar TAB with fret numbers: 0-0-0-0-0-0, 7-5-7-5, 5-5-5-3, (5), (3), 3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3-3, 3-3-3-3-3-3, 7-5-7-9, (9), (7).

