

songs to play on electric guitar

Songs to play on electric guitar are a crucial part of any guitarist's journey, especially for both beginners and seasoned players looking to expand their repertoire. The electric guitar has a unique sound and versatility that allows it to shine in various musical genres, from rock and blues to jazz and pop. Whether you're looking to impress your friends at a jam session or simply enjoy playing your favorite tunes, this guide offers a selection of songs that are perfect for electric guitar players. We'll explore why these songs resonate with guitarists, their level of difficulty, and tips for playing them.

Why Choose Electric Guitar Songs?

Playing songs on electric guitar offers a different experience compared to acoustic guitars. The electric guitar provides a wide range of tones and effects, enabling musicians to explore various sounds. Here are a few reasons why you should focus on electric guitar songs:

- **Versatility:** Electric guitars can be used across numerous genres, allowing players to experiment with different styles.
- **Sound Effects:** With the right pedals and amplifiers, electric guitarists can create a multitude of sounds, from clean tones to heavy distortion.
- **Expression:** The electric guitar allows for greater expressiveness through techniques like bending, sliding, and vibrato.

Beginner-Friendly Electric Guitar Songs

If you're just starting out, it's essential to choose songs that are not only enjoyable to play but also conducive to learning. Here are some beginner-friendly songs to get you started:

1. "Smoke on the Water" by Deep Purple

This classic rock anthem is often one of the first songs learned by budding guitarists. Its iconic riff is simple and easy to memorize, making it a great choice for beginners.

2. "Seven Nation Army" by The White Stripes

With its straightforward power chords and catchy melody, "Seven Nation Army" is perfect for those who are new to electric guitar. It's a favorite at sports events and gatherings.

3. "Iron Man" by Black Sabbath

Another classic, "Iron Man" features a simple yet powerful riff that is easily recognizable. This song will help you practice your timing and rhythm.

4. "Smoke on the Water" by Deep Purple

This classic rock song is often one of the first songs learned by budding guitarists. Its iconic riff is simple and easy to memorize, making it a great choice for beginners.

Intermediate Electric Guitar Songs

Once you've mastered the basics, it's time to tackle some intermediate songs that will challenge your skills while still being enjoyable. Here are some great options:

1. "Sweet Child O' Mine" by Guns N' Roses

The opening riff of "Sweet Child O' Mine" is one of the most famous guitar melodies in rock history. It involves a combination of chords and arpeggios, making it a great exercise in technique.

2. "Smoke on the Water" by Deep Purple

This classic rock song is often one of the first songs learned by budding guitarists. Its iconic riff is simple and easy to memorize, making it a great choice for beginners.

3. "Enter Sandman" by Metallica

"Enter Sandman" is a heavy metal classic that provides an excellent opportunity to practice palm muting and power chords. Its driving rhythm makes it a favorite for many guitarists.

4. "Boulevard of Broken Dreams" by Green Day

This song combines simple chords with a strong melody, making it perfect for those looking to improve their strumming and chord transitions.

Advanced Electric Guitar Songs

For more experienced players, tackling advanced electric guitar songs can enhance your skills and provide a satisfying challenge. Here are some songs that will test your abilities:

1. "Eruption" by Van Halen

"Eruption" is often regarded as one of the greatest guitar solos of all time. It showcases techniques like tapping, hammer-ons, and pull-offs. This piece is not for the faint-hearted but is incredibly rewarding for those who master it.

2. "Sultans of Swing" by Dire Straits

Mark Knopfler's fingerpicking style and intricate guitar work in "Sultans of Swing" make it a challenging yet enjoyable song for advanced players. The song's dynamic shifts provide a great way to practice expression.

3. "Little Wing" by Jimi Hendrix

Jimi Hendrix's "Little Wing" features beautiful chord progressions and intricate solos. This song is perfect for developing your phrasing and emotional playing style.

4. "Comfortably Numb" by Pink Floyd

With one of the most recognizable solos in rock music, "Comfortably Numb" is a staple for advanced guitarists. The combination of rhythm and lead sections makes it a well-rounded piece to master.

Tips for Playing Electric Guitar Songs

Regardless of your skill level, there are some key tips that can help you improve your playing and make learning songs a more enjoyable experience:

- **Practice Regularly:** Consistency is key when learning any instrument. Set aside dedicated practice time each day.
- **Use a Metronome:** Playing in time is crucial. A metronome can help you develop your timing and rhythm.
- **Break it Down:** If a song feels overwhelming, break it down into smaller sections and master each part before putting it all together.
- **Record Yourself:** Recording your practice sessions can help you track your progress and identify areas for improvement.
- **Stay Inspired:** Explore new songs and genres to keep your practice fresh and exciting.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the world of electric guitar is filled with a plethora of songs that cater to all skill levels. From easy classics to intricate masterpieces, there's no shortage of material to explore. Whether you're just starting out or are an advanced player looking to refine your skills, the songs listed in this article will enhance your playing experience. Remember to practice consistently, stay patient, and most importantly, enjoy the process of making music. With dedication and passion, you'll find yourself becoming a more proficient electric guitarist in no time!

Frequently Asked Questions

What are some easy songs to play on electric guitar for beginners?

Some easy songs include 'Smoke on the Water' by Deep Purple, 'Seven Nation Army' by The White Stripes, and 'Iron Man' by Black Sabbath. These songs use simple power chords and are great for practice.

What classic rock songs are popular to play on electric guitar?

Classic rock songs like 'Sweet Child O' Mine' by Guns N' Roses, 'Back in Black' by AC/DC, and 'Stairway to Heaven' by Led Zeppelin are popular choices that showcase electric guitar skills.

Which recent songs are trending to play on electric guitar?

Recent trending songs include 'Bad Guy' by Billie Eilish, 'Shivers' by Ed Sheeran, and 'Montero (Call Me By Your Name)' by Lil Nas X, which have engaging riffs and are fun to cover.

What are some iconic riffs that every electric guitar player should know?

Iconic riffs include the opening riff of 'Smoke on the Water' by Deep Purple, 'Day Tripper' by The Beatles, and 'Sunshine of Your Love' by Cream. These riffs are foundational and recognized by many.

How can I find tabs for popular electric guitar songs?

You can find tabs for popular electric guitar songs on websites like Ultimate Guitar, Songsterr, and Guitar Pro. These platforms often have user-generated content and ratings to help you choose the best tabs.

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