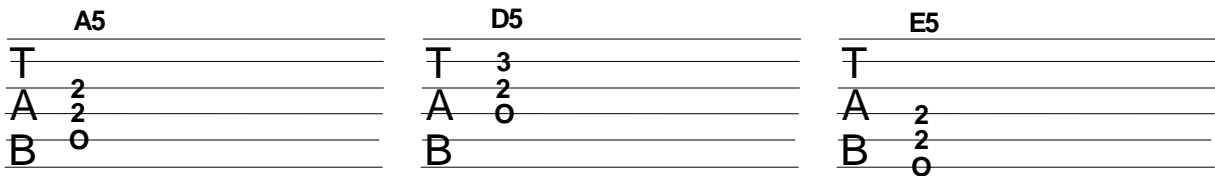
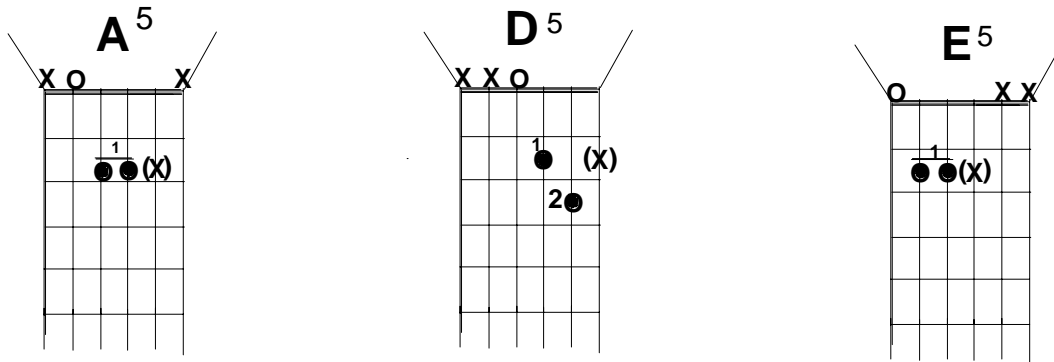


Lesson #8 Walking Bass With Octaves Up

The walking bass line is used constantly in blues and most "roots rock". (You will also hear it a lot in jazz.) It is played by the bass player, the guitar player, and piano. Here we will learn to play it first with the partial chords ("power chords"), then along with the full chords. We will stick with the 12-bar in A and E. So, here are the moves on guitar neck graph and TAB.

First, the "power chords" as shown in the previous lesson.



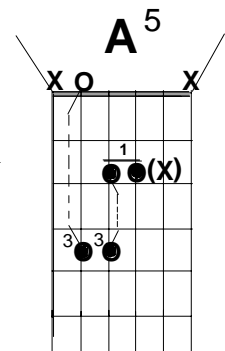
Remember (from Lesson #7), what that (X) there on the string means? (You just let your fretting finger deaden that string by touching it slightly.) So anyway we now have these three string partial chords ("power chords")... Let's look at how the walking bass is done using these. First the neck graph.

A walking bass...

Again [Lesson #7], we have that 5th string open, that is our root. We are pressing the 2nd fret with our first finger on both the 3rd and 4th string.

NOW: See those dotted lines? What that means is that 5th string will be played open **then** on the 4th fret! That 4th string will be played on the 2nd fret **then** on the 4th fret! We need to have that 3rd finger moving on and off!

Let's see how that looks written in TAB...



A walk in TAB--This will be thumb (T) or pick down...

BEAT	/	/	/	/
COUNT	one	two	three	four
	↓	↓	↓	↓

A5

T			
A	2	2	4
B	o 4		

Remember that 3rd finger.....off.....on.....off.....on.....
(left hand)

NOTE: These quarter notes stay the same for straight or shuffle!
[Supplement #4]

Now we have the index (i) finger (or pick) coming up on that 3rd string.

Walk With Octaves Shuffle

BEAT	/	/	/	/	/
COUNT	one	& two	& three	& four	&
	↓	↑ ↓	↑ ↓	↑ ↓	↑

A5

T			
A	2	2	2
B	o 4	2	4

(Right hand fingering) T i T i T i T i

So it's thumb (T) or pick down----index finger (i) (or pick) up...

Remember; this is a "loping" feel (shuffle) played just like the mono bass and chord thing in lesson #2. But there we were coming up on a full chord. Here we are coming up on just one string. (In this case the 3rd string.) I think of it as down (rest) up down (rest) up down ---on and on--

(Remember, the up / down are the ones close together)

Let's see how this looks using straight eighths.

Again--Walk With Octaves (But now using straight eighths.)

BEAT
COUNT || / one & / two & / three & / four & ||
strum || ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ||

A5

T i T i T i T i

Remember the down and up here are all even!

This will basically be the same thing for walk in E except we will be using the three bass (low, big) strings. Also, the same for walk in D except we will be using the next higher (smaller) strings (4th-3rd-and 2nd). Let's look at those. Again we're back to the shuffle rhythm, but also try them in straight eight.

E5

T i T i T i T i

E⁵

BEAT
COUNT || / one & / two & / three & / four & ||
strum || ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ||

D5

T i T i T i T i

D⁵

Let me tell ya'--These are a lot more effective using the muting and accenting techniques. [Supplement #8] Now let's plug these into the 12-bar in A.

The 12-Bar in A-Walking Bass With Octave Up

NOTE: Remember those repeat previous measure signs? [Supplement #2]

BEAT COUNT || / one & two & three & four & || Thumb (T) down / index finger (i) up (or pick)

CD TRACK 16

*End on the (I) chord

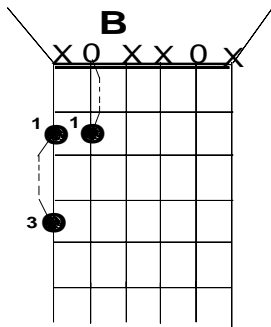
This is written in shuffle. also try it in straight eight rhythm.

Now we are going to plug this into 12-bar in E.

But first we need a walking bass for B.

Since we don't have an open low bass string for the B, we will try something else. In this case a different walking bass line. One that walks down!

Let's look at this in TAB and on the guitar neck graph.



On the 5th string we go from the 2nd fret to open. Then... on the 6th string we go from the 4th to the 2nd fret. The high note (up) will be that 2nd string open.

B

T i T i T i T i

BEAT COUNT || one & two & three & four & ||

The 12-Bar in E Shuffle Walking Bass With Octave Up

CD TRACK 17

E(I)	E(I)	E(I)	E(I)
T			
A	2 2 2 2	/	/
B	0 4 2 4 2	/	/
A(IV)	A(IV)	E(I)	E(I)
T			
A	2 2 2 2	/	/
B	0 4 2 4 2	0 4 2 4 2	/
B(V)	A(IV)	E(I)	B(V)
T	0 0 0 0		0 0 0 0
A		2 2 2 2	
B	2 0 4 2	0 4 2 4 2	2 0 4 2

*End on the (I) chord

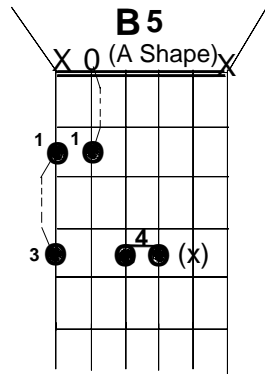
Be sure to also try this one in straight eight rhythm! [Supp.#4]

NOTE:

You know, I'd rather play a full B5 chord on that B chord "walk down". The reason I didn't show it there? I don't want you to get hung up on it, and not play thru the thing. Anyhow, here's how I do it! OR... (You could "bag the walk", and just "strum" a B7 chord there.)

B5

T				
A	4	4	4	4
B	2	0	4	2



LEVEL II (Page 165) A much more advanced "walkin' boogie"!