

WALKING BASS LINE OVER AN A 12 BAR BLUES

You might like to play the bass line by itself then gradually ease in the chords one bar at a time. Practise it in slow motion then build up the speed. Keep in mind that it works well at any tempo.

Experiment with the chord placement and the bass line note choices, but maintain the basic quarter note rhythm underneath for the bass line. The constant 4 beats per bar gives it that 'walking' feel.

The red numbers indicate a suggested fretboard fingering.

The musical score is presented in three systems, each consisting of a bass line staff and a guitar fretboard diagram. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The bass line is a walking bass line, consisting of quarter notes. The guitar part consists of chords, with some notes indicated by stems and flags. Red numbers in the fretboard diagrams indicate suggested fingerings for the bass line notes.

System 1:

- Chords: A7, D7, A7, Em7, A7
- Bass line notes: A2, C3, E3, F#3, D3, E3, G3, A3, F#3, E3, C3, A2
- Fretboard diagrams show fingerings: 5-4-7-6, 3-2-3-4, 5-4-5-6, 3-6-5-6, 1-1-4-3, 3-1-1-1, 1-1-2-3, 3-2-2-2

System 2:

- Chords: D7, D7, A7, F#7
- Bass line notes: A2, C3, E3, F#3, D3, E3, G3, A3, F#3, E3, C3, A2
- Fretboard diagrams show fingerings: 5-4-4-7-4, 6-4-4-7-4, 5-4-7-8, 0-10-9-8, 2-1-4-1, 3-1-4-1, 2-1-1-2, 3-3-3-2

System 3:

- Chords: Em7, E7, A7, F#7, Em7, E7, A7
- Bass line notes: A2, C3, E3, F#3, D3, E3, G3, A3, F#3, E3, C3, A2
- Fretboard diagrams show fingerings: 7-5-9-8, 7-4-7-6, 5-3-2-3, 2-0-1-0-1, 2-1-4-3, 3-1-4-3, 1-1-1-2, 2-2-1-1