

# Slides

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The image shows a musical exercise for guitar. The top staff is a treble clef in 4/4 time with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The melody consists of eighth notes with slides indicated by 'S' above the notes. The bottom staff is a tablature with strings T, A, and B labeled. It shows fret numbers and slide markings: S 2/3, S 2/3, S 3 2 0, S 2/3, S 3 2 0, S 2/3, S 3 2 0, and a final fret 2 on the B string.

A slide is another slurring technique. It is achieved by playing a note and then, whilst maintaining the pressure, sliding the fretting hand finger to the next note without re-picking the string. The next note is sounded because of the constant pressure.

Slides can be used to reach a higher or lower note, either up the fingerboard or down, and can add interest to your lead playing. The note you slide from does not even have to be in the scale you are using, however, the note you slide to does!

The exercise above uses the upper octave of an open E blues scale and, as usual, it is recommended you learn the scale first. Check 1st scales in the scales & arpeggios section or preliminary scales in the exams section if you are unsure of this scale.

This technique is used in all styles of guitar playing.