

# Blues Guitar: Sliding 6ths Riff

## GUITAR STYLES

intermediate

This lesson covers an easy blues riff that can be used in a variety of settings. It's a common blues finger pattern using 6ths combined with 3rds that are slid from the 5th up to the 6th scale step over any major chord in a blues setting.

## Sliding 6ths Riff

Here is the basic two-note version and the three-note version of the sliding 6ths riff in the key of A. These would work well over an A7 chord in a blues setting.

2 Note  
Version

3 Note  
Version

## Applying the Riff to Different Strings

The sliding 6ths riff comes in two common shapes—one using the 2nd–4th strings and another half-barre shape used to create the same combination of notes on the 1st–3rd strings.

Strings  
Version

Strings  
Version

You can put this new blues riff to work in the song on the next page. Experiment using the sliding 6ths riff in different keys and different musical situations. Work out variations that sound great to you and try it out on your next blues gig!

For more ideas and instruction check out the award-winning Gibson's Learn & Master Guitar course at [www.LearnAndMaster.com](http://www.LearnAndMaster.com) and the lessons section at [www.gibson.com](http://www.gibson.com) for all the help you need to become the player you want to be!

## Sliding 6th Blues in A

This is a blues in A, as played in the lesson, using both shapes for the sliding 6ths riff. The riff played over the A chord uses the first shape on the 2nd–4th strings. The riff played over the D7 and E7 chords uses the second shape on the 1st–3rd strings. This and other great blues ideas can be found in Learn & Master Blues Guitar with Steve Krenz at [www.learnandmaster.com](http://www.learnandmaster.com).

♩ = 84

The score is divided into four systems, each with a standard notation staff and a guitar tablature staff. The key signature is two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked as ♩ = 84. The first system is for the A7 chord, showing a sliding 6th riff on the 2nd-4th strings. The second system is for the D7 chord, showing the same riff on the 1st-3rd strings. The third system is for the E7 chord, also using the 1st-3rd string shape. The fourth system returns to the A7 chord. The tablature includes fret numbers (0, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9) and pickup indications (P). The standard notation includes triplets and slurs to indicate the sliding motion.

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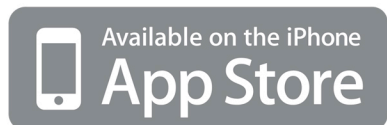
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