

Chromatic notes are simply notes that are not found in the original scale or key in which the song/riff is based around. Our example uses the D minor blues scale with the notes D F G Ab A C. Anything that is not in this scale would be considered chromatic to the scale. An easy way to insert these chromatic notes is to simply "fill in the blanks" between notes on the same string.

For example, our scale uses the tenth and thirteenth frets of the 2nd string. These two notes are "A" and "C". By playing the notes between them, the B and Bb notes (twelfth and eleventh frets) we are adding notes not in the scale we are using. Filling in the blanks between scale tones creates a connected and linear half-step (one fret) movement that can create smooth flowing lead guitar lines.

D

full

full

full

full

full

13 10 13 10 13 10 12 10 13 12 10 12 12

10 13 12 10 13 12 11 10 13 10 10 13 12 11 10 12 10 13 12 10 12 12 10

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Gear Box of the Day: The first production model of a 12-string solid body electric guitar was the Gibson EDS-1275. This is the double-neck six/twelve string guitar closely associated with Jimmy Page and the song "Stairway to Heaven". These models, produced between 1958 and 1962, pre-dated by five years the most popular electric 12-string guitar of the 1960's, the Rickenbacker 360/12 which was popularized by George Harrison and the band The Byrds. Notable songs incorporating the distinct sound of the 12 string solid body electric guitar include "She's Got a Ticket to Ride" (Beatles), "Hotel California" (Eagles), and "Eight Miles High" (The Byrds).