

# Essential Guitar Techniques #10: Palm Muting

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Ex.1) Hold down an open E chord. Rest the **OUTSIDE** of your right hand on the strings, about 1cm past the saddle. Down strum the E, A and D strings repeatedly. Experiment with the positioning of your right hand until you get a nice bassy sounds whith the notes recognisable, but not ringing out. Next, try four strums with muting and four without. Repeat as necessary.

Musical notation for Ex.1. The top staff is in 4/4 time, showing a sequence of chords (E, A, D) with palm muting (P.M.) indicated by a dashed line. The bottom staff shows the fretboard with fingerings: 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0.

Ex.2) Now try two with muting, two without. When you can manage that, try alternating one muted and one natural strum. Repeat until you get it sounding good!

Musical notation for Ex.2. The top staff is in 4/4 time, showing a sequence of chords (E, A, D) with palm muting (P.M.) and accents (>) indicated. The bottom staff shows the fretboard with fingerings: 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0, 2 0.