

String Bends, Lesson 3: 'Tone And A Half' Or 'One And A Half Step' Bends

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Ex. 1) Fret the G string at the 7th fret, with your 3rd finger. Place your 1st and 2nd fingers on the same string, on the 5th and 6th frets. The note you are playing is a D. Pick the string, then push the string up, using the strength of all three fingers, until it sounds a tone and a half higher (an F note).

The diagram shows a musical staff in 4/4 time with a treble clef. The first staff contains a quarter note on the 7th fret (D) and a quarter rest. A bracket above the staff spans from the 7th fret note to a quarter note on the 10th fret (F). Below the staff is a guitar tablature with three lines labeled T, A, and B. A '7' is written on the G string line. An arrow labeled '1 1/2' points from the 7th fret to the 10th fret.

Ex. 2) Now we need to work on your pitching - out of tune bends are not much use to you! Play your target note (F) at the 10th fret of the G string. Remember what it sounds like, and then bend the 7th fret note (D) up a tone and a half until it sounds like the target note. Repeat until you get it in tune every time.

Make sure you LISTEN!

The diagram shows a musical staff in 2/4 time with a treble clef. The first staff contains a quarter note on the 10th fret (F) and a quarter note on the 7th fret (D). A bracket above the staff spans from the 7th fret note to the 10th fret note. Below the staff is a guitar tablature with three lines labeled T, A, and B. A '10' is written on the G string line and a '7' is written on the D string line. An arrow labeled '1 1/2' points from the 7th fret to the 10th fret.

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