

# Smoke on the Water

Deep Purple

Standard tuning

♩ = 120

E-Gt

*mf*

*let ring*

T  
A  
B

0 3 5 0     3 6 5 3 0     0 3 5 3 0

## Playing tip:

With your picking hand, try playing the notes with your pick and middle finger. To get the short staccato sound try damping (allow your fretting fingers to release pressure so they stop the strings from ringing out) with your fretting hand.

## Some Theory:

This riff uses inverted intervals of 5ths based around the first four notes of the Gm blues scale.

The blues scale is like the minor pentatonic scale but with an added “blue” note. So our formula in relation to the major scale looks like this, 1 b3 4 b5 5 b7 1. In our case we’re using G minor so the notes are G Bb C Db D F G.

When we say we’re using intervals of 5ths that means we’re harmonizing our melody a perfect 5th above. A perfect 5th is 7 semitones above the note we’re wanting to harmonize, so a perfect 5th above G would be a D, a perfect 5th above a Bb is an F. Intervals of 5ths are also known as power chords.

Lastly when I say we invert the interval, I mean rather than stacking it with the melody on the lower string and the harmony on the higher string, we put the harmonized note below, which is how we get the riff for “Smoke on the Water.”