


# Lesson 20

## Common Notation

**Dynamic markings** tell you how loudly or softly to play. **Dynamics** are often not marked in guitar parts, but you should start practicing playing loudly and softly as appropriate in your music.

 or **cresc.** ("crescendo") gradually louder

 or **dim.** ("diminuendo") gradually softer

**ff** ("fortissimo") very loud

**f** ("forte") loud

**mf** ("mezzoforte") medium loud

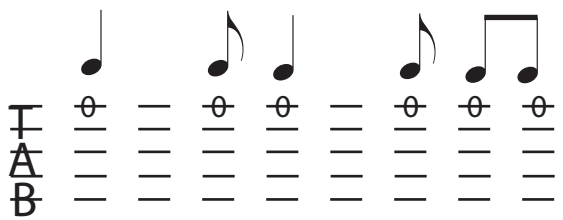
**mp** ("mezzopiano") medium soft

**p** ("piano") soft

**pp** ("pianissimo") very soft

## Tablature

Some tablature notations use dashed lines to help indicate more complex rhythms. You can usually read these by assuming that each dash represents an eighth note.



## Music Theory for Guitar

Because it has a strong feeling of being "in the key" and of "leading to the i chord", the **major V and V7** chords are very common in both major and minor keys.

In minor keys, this requires an accidental, on the seventh note of the scale.

Because it is so useful for harmony,

this version of the minor scale is called the **harmonic minor**.

**This particular accidental is another clue that a piece is in the minor key.**

A harmonic minor scale and chords

(V - i)  
E Am

D harmonic minor scale and chords

A Dm

E harmonic minor scale and chords

B7 Em