

Slash Chords

Slash chords are the combination of a Bass note from a scale, with another chord built from the scale.

Common Slash Chords:

D/F# - (pronounced "D over F#") - a standard Dmajor chord with an F# in the bass, usually played by wrapping the thumb around the neck of the guitar, and fretting the second fret of the sixth string.

A/C# - (pronounced "A over C#") - An Amajor chord with a C# in the bass, usually played by barring the second fret of the fourth, third, and second strings with your first finger, and playing the fourth fret of the fifth string (the C#) with either the third finger, or the pinky finger.

C/E - (pronounced "C over E") - A Cmajor chord with an E in the bass, usually played by simply fretting a Cmajor chord, and including the open low E string in the strum.

Amin/G - (pronounced "A minor over G") - An Aminor chord, with a G in the bass, usually played by fretting an Aminor chord, and using the pinky finger play the third fret of the sixth string (the "G").

From: <http://guitar.about.com/library/weekly/aa031401h.htm>

RULE: Before the slash (/) is the chord, after the slash is the bass or bottom note.

Here are two chord progressions that use slash chords:

I V/VII VI I (Key of A Major = || A | E/G# | F#m | A ||)

And

IV I/III II (Key of A Major = || D | A/C# | Bm ||)

You can see the bass notes are going down the scale one note at a time, but different harmonies are created by placing another chord over the standard progression. Try and work out these examples in another key, other than A major.