The hammer-on is shown in written music by a curved line known as a **slur**.



A hammer-on involves two notes, a lower sounding note followed by a higher sounding note. The first one is picked or plucked as normal, but the second is sounded by the left hand alone. By bringing the finger down forcibly at the desired fret, it is possible to make a note without picking or plucking the string. The example above shows four different hammer-ons. As you can see, the lower note can be open or fretted.

## 7

Pull-offs are very similar to hammer-ons, at least in theory. The difference is that the first note is higher. The example below shows four pull offs:



As with hammer-ons, the first is plucked or picked as normal, but the second note is played using the left hand alone. To do this, first pick the string and pull the higher note finger off the string sideways, in such a way that the string is "plucked" by the left hand. This will then make the lower note sound.

\* Where the two notes are fretted notes, put both fingers down first, before picking the upper note.

## 6