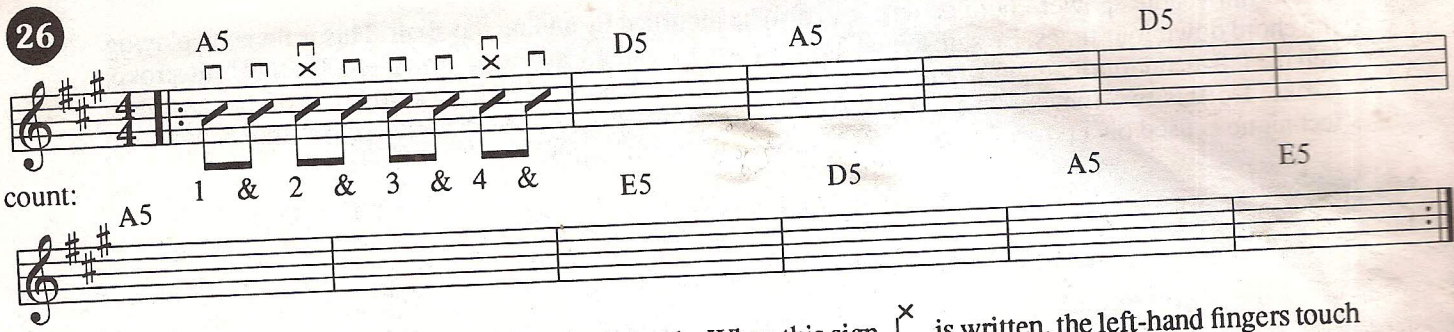
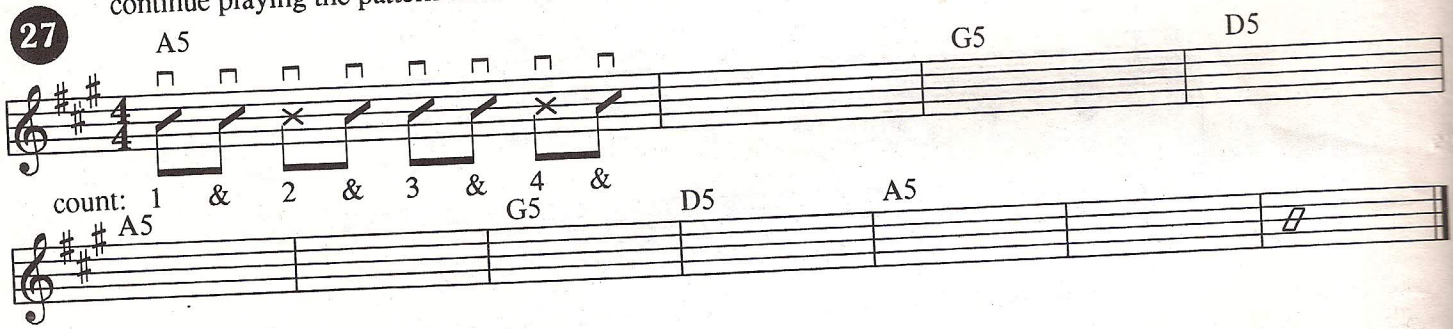
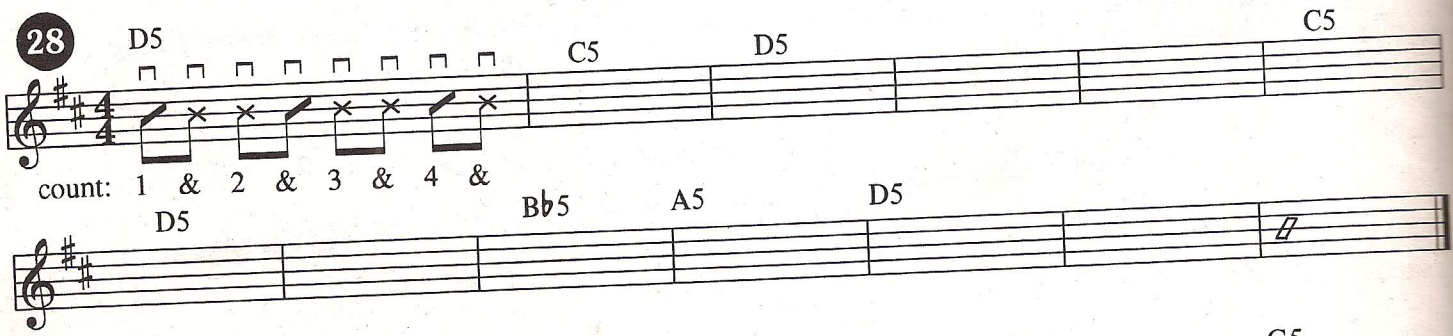
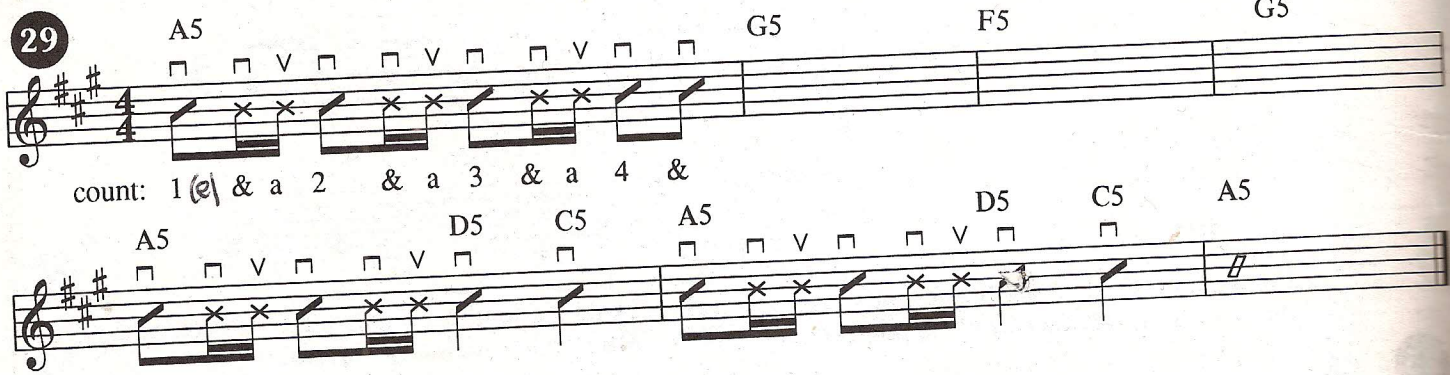


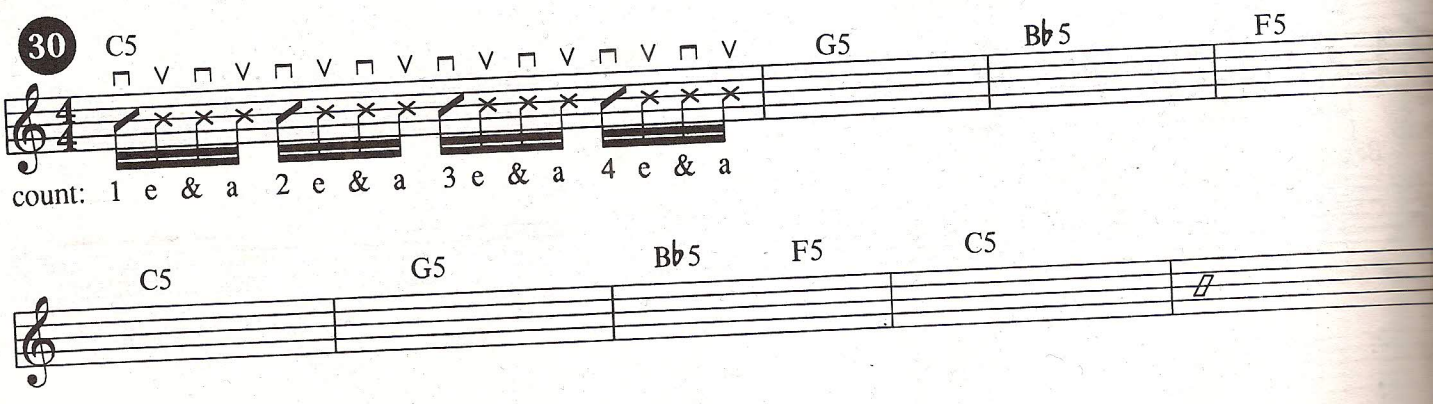
The muted strum may be used with power chords. When this sign ×| is written, the left-hand fingers touch but do not push down on the strings. This creates a muted or "dead" sound.

Practice the following exercises which contain muted strums. If a strum pattern is not written in the measure, continue playing the pattern which is written in the first measure.









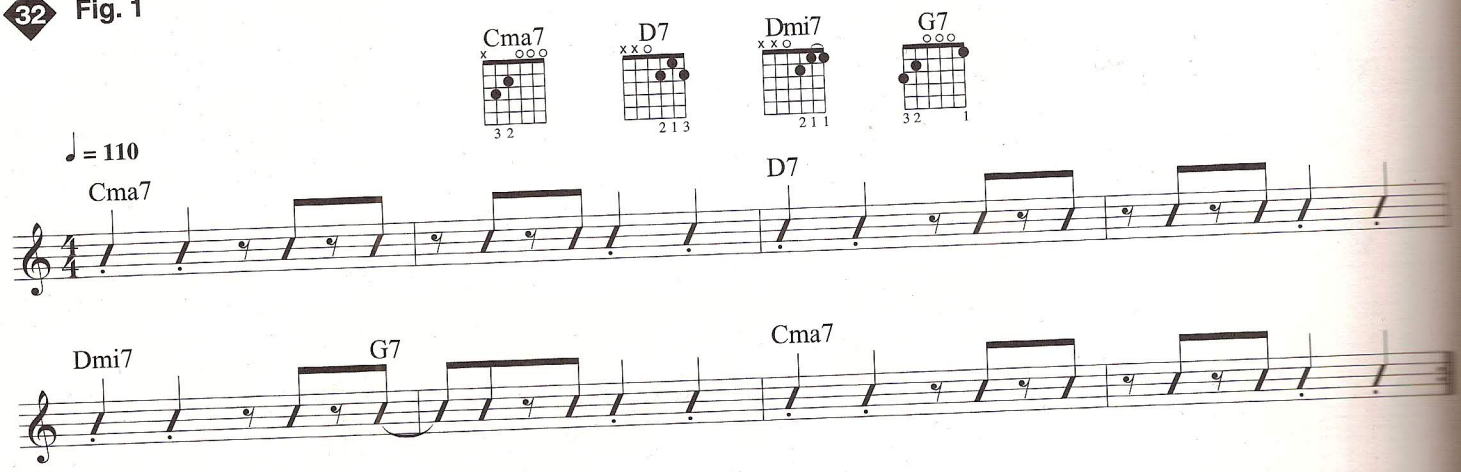
Chapter 5 Latin / Brazilian

Latin music is an extremely rhythmic style, oriented toward dance. Although it has been played throughout South and Latin America, it has entered into the mainstream of American pop music through the success of bands like Santana and the Miami Sound Machine featuring Gloria Estefan.

Samba Clave

Most Latin rhythm is based on what is called the *samba clave* rhythm. Fig. 1 demonstrates the samba clave in its basic form. Notice that this is essentially a two-measure rhythm, applied to a series of chords. If you need to play two measures of a chord, the pattern poses no problem; however, a small change is necessary if the chord progression changes every measure. If that happens—as it does in measure 5 below—the chord in the second measure of the pattern is anticipated by playing it on the last eighth note of the previous measure. By the way, this pattern can be played with a pick; however, I'm using my thumb and fingers in unison here, playing four-note chord voicings.

32 **Fig. 1**



Clave Variations

Figs. 2, 3, 4, and 5 are popular variations of the basic clave rhythm. If the song being played falls into the category of bossa nova, samba, or Latin rock, any of the rhythms in Figures 1 through 5 may be played on the chord progression.

33 **Fig. 2**

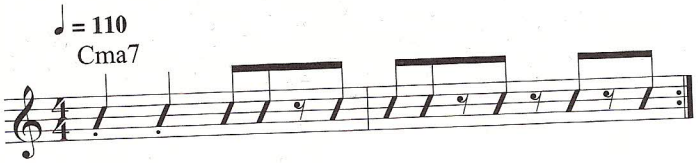


Fig. 3

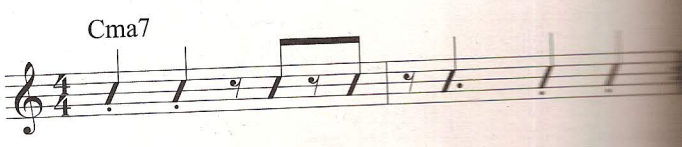


Fig. 4

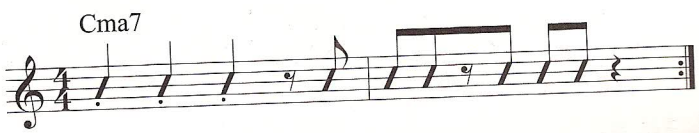
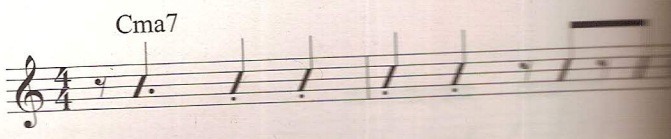
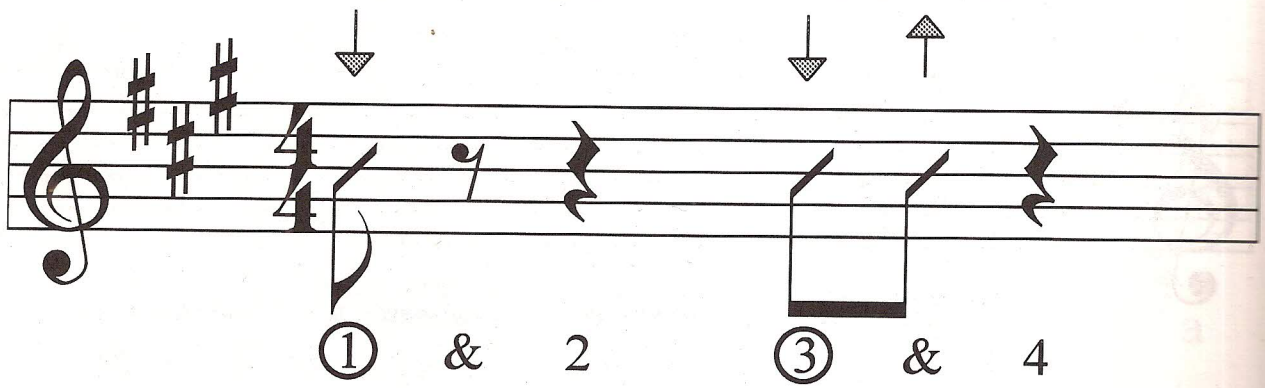


Fig. 5

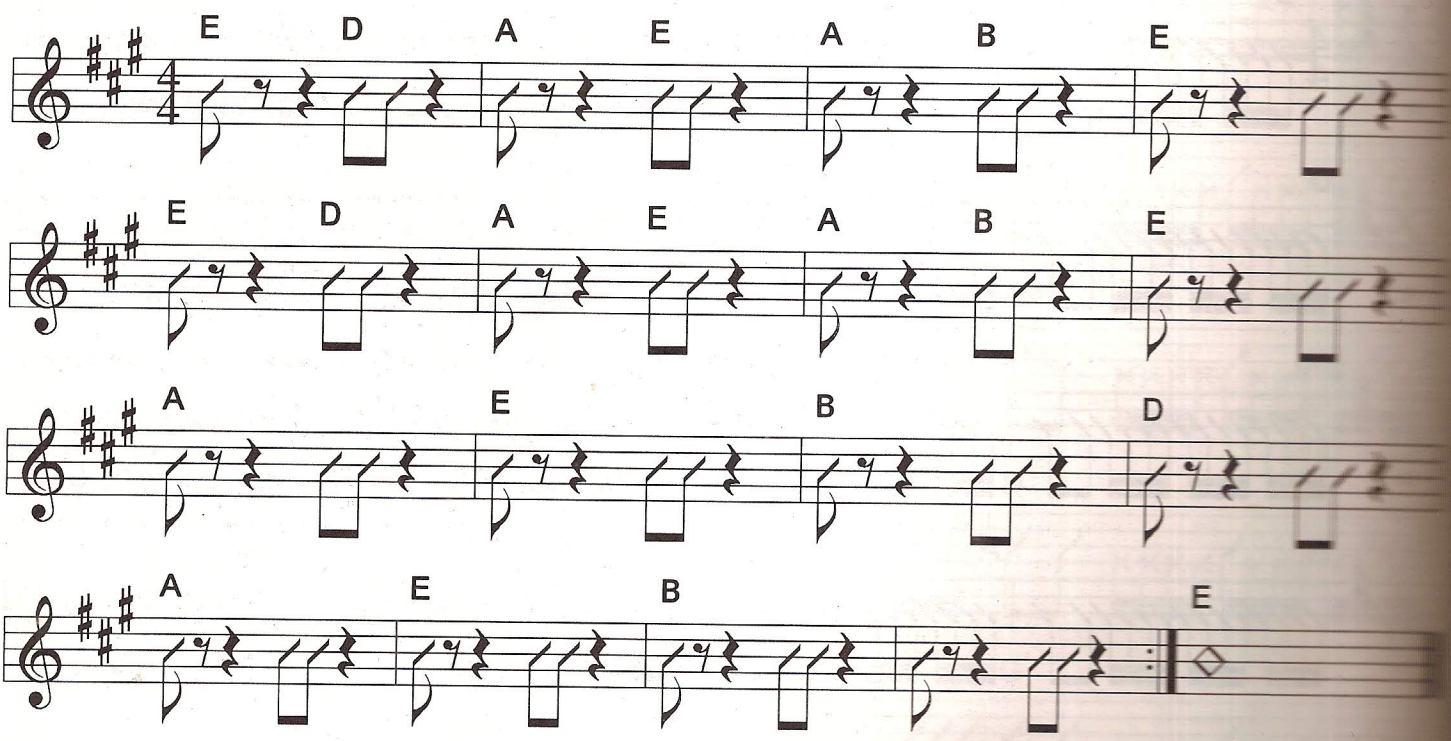


RHYTHM LESSON 22

PETE TOWNSHEND STYLE ROCK

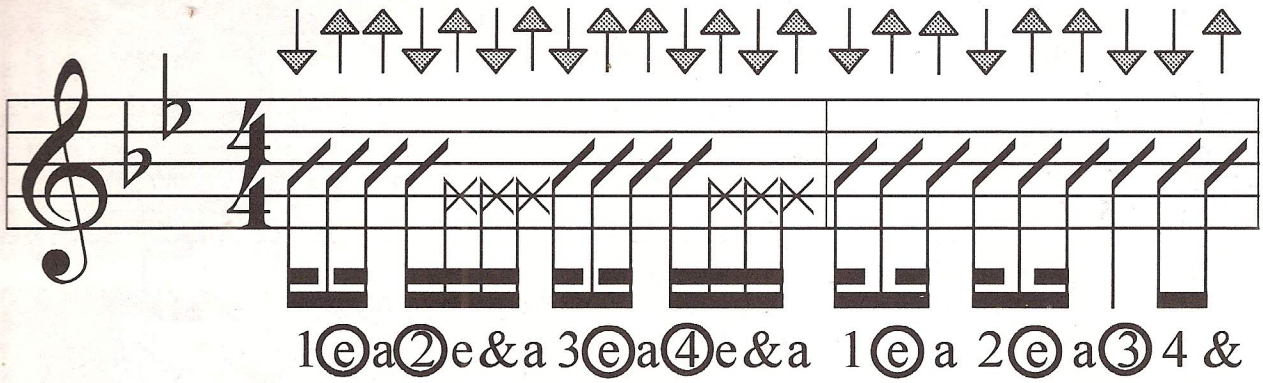
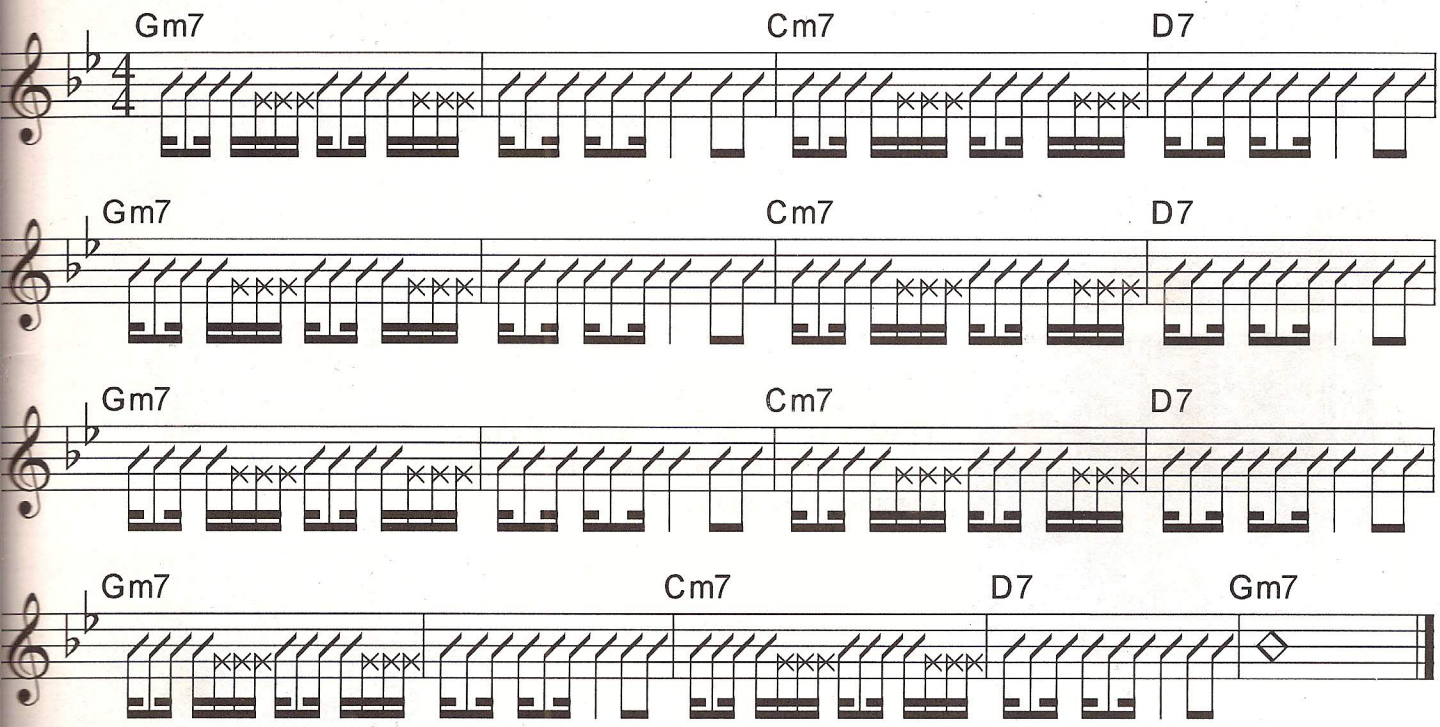


Here's a Pete Townshend style rhythm using the powerful rhythmic tool *less is more*. The guitar cuts through and lets the music breathe by playing less. It's played almost exclusively on the accents. Be sure to stop the chords from ringing during the rests.



RHYTHM LESSON 27

FUNK



Look out for the muting in the first bar. Notice if you divide the first bar in half, the first and second half are the same. Also, the second bar is the same as the second bar of Rhythm Lesson 26.