

Swift Guitar Lessons

"Jailhouse Rock" As Done By Elvis Presley

Key of Eb | Tuned 1/2 Step Down | 85 bpm | Released Sept. 1957 | RCA Victor Records



Intro

Intro guitar notation with chords D# and E. The notation shows a 4/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (Eb). The chords are D# and E. The guitar tab below the staff shows the fretting for each chord.

T							
A	4	5	(5)	4	5	(5)	4
B	3	4	(4)	3	4	(4)	3
	5	6	(6)	5	6	(6)	5
	6	7	(7)	6	7	(7)	6

Verse 1

E D#
The warden threw a party in the county jail

E D#
The prison band was there and they began to wail

E D#
The band was jumpin' and the joint began to swing

E
You should've heard those knocked out jailbirds sing

Chords Needed

D#

Diagram showing the fretting for the D# chord (D major sharp) on a guitar. The fretting is: 3rd fret on the G string, 4th fret on the A string, 5th fret on the D string, and 5th fret on the G string. The strings are numbered 1 to 6 from top to bottom.

Chorus 1 *See tabs on pg.2*

A E
Let's rock... Everybody, let's rock!

B A
Everybody in the whole cell block

E D#
Was dancin' to the Jailhouse Rock

E

Diagram showing the fretting for the E chord (E major) on a guitar. The fretting is: 4th fret on the G string, 5th fret on the A string, 5th fret on the D string, and 5th fret on the G string. The strings are numbered 1 to 6 from top to bottom.

Verse 2

E D#
Spider Murphy played the tenor saxophone

E D#
Little Joe was blowin' on the slide trombone

E D#
The drummer boy from Illinois went crash, boom, bang

E
The whole rhythm section was a purple gang

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Chorus 2

A E
Let's rock... Everybody, let's rock!
B A
Everybody in the whole cell block
E D#
Was dancin' to the Jailhouse Rock

Verse 3

E D#
Number 47 said to number 3
E D#
"You're the cutest jailbird I ever did see
E D#
I sure would be delighted with your company
E
Come on and do the Jailhouse Rock with me"

Chorus 3

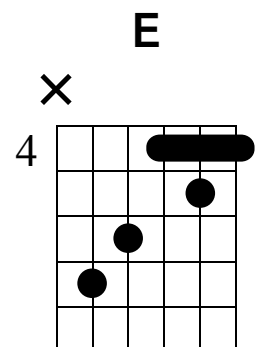
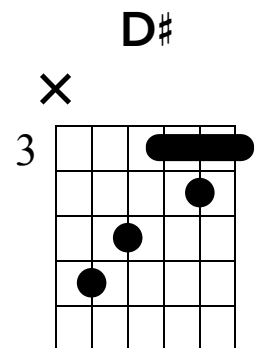
A E
Let's rock... Everybody, let's rock!
B A
Everybody in the whole cell block
E D#
Was dancin' to the Jailhouse Rock

Guitar Solo

Verse 3

E D#
Sad Sack was sittin' on a block of stone
E D#
Way over in the corner weepin' all alone
E D#
The warden said, "Hey, buddy, don't you be no square
E D#
If you can't find a partner use a wooden chair"

Chords Needed



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Chorus 4

A E
Let's rock... Everybody, let's rock!
B A
Everybody in the whole cell block
E D#
Was dancin' to the Jailhouse Rock

Verse 3

E D#
Shifty Henry said to Bugs, "For Heaven's sake
E D#
No one's lookin', now's the chance to make a break"
E D#
Bugsy turned to Shifty and he said, "Nix nix
E D#
I wanna stick around a while and get my kicks"

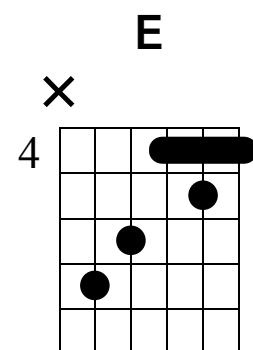
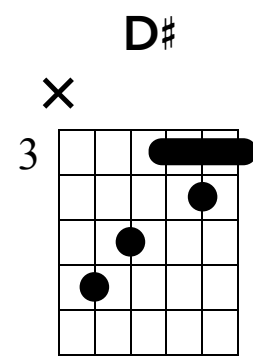
Chorus 5

A E
Let's rock... Everybody, let's rock!
B A
Everybody in the whole cell block
E D#
Was dancin' to the Jailhouse Rock

Coda

E
Dancin' to the Jailhouse Rock
E
Dancin' to the Jailhouse Rock
E
Dancin' to the Jailhouse Rock
E D# E
Dancin' to the Jailhouse Rock

Chords Needed



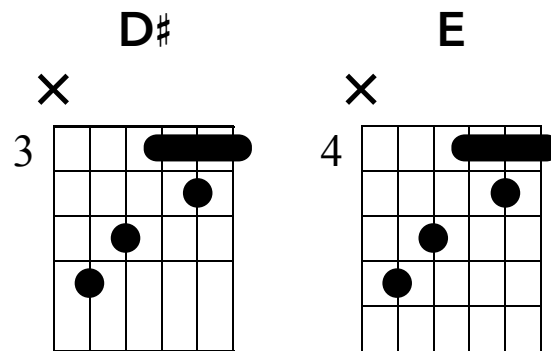
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Tune down 1/2 step

① = E \flat ② = B \flat ③ = G \flat ④ = D \flat ⑤ = A \flat ⑥ = E \flat

$\text{♩} = 168$



Verse Sections

Verse Section 1: Chords D# E D# E D#

Verse Section 2: Chords E D# E

Chorus Sections

Chorus Section 1: Chords A E B

Chorus Section 2: Chords A E D# E

Guitar Solo

A5

Musical notation for guitar solo A5, measures 19-20. The treble clef staff shows a sequence of chords in A5. The guitar tablature below shows fret numbers 12 and 8 for both strings in each measure, with a 0 on the bass string.

E5

Musical notation for guitar solo E5, measures 21-22. The treble clef staff shows a sequence of chords in E5. The guitar tablature below shows fret numbers 9 and 12, with half-bend (1/2) markings above the notes.

B5

A5

E

D#

E

Musical notation for guitar solo B5, A5, E, D#, E, measures 23-27. The treble clef staff shows a sequence of chords in B5, A5, E, D#, and E. The guitar tablature below shows various fret numbers (0, 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7) and accidentals (X) for the strings.

Guitar Solo Bassline

A

E

B

Musical notation for guitar solo bassline A, E, B, measures 28-32. The treble clef staff shows a sequence of notes in A, E, and B. The guitar tablature below shows fret numbers 0, 2, 4, 5.

E

D#

E

Musical notation for guitar solo bassline E, D#, E, measures 33-36. The treble clef staff shows a sequence of notes in E, D#, and E. The guitar tablature below shows fret numbers 0, 2, 4, 5.