



Hello friends,

And welcome to another rhythm guitar tutorial! In today's session I'll be showing you how to add percussive elements to a common finger-style groove in 4/4 time. We'll begin by applying the pattern over a single chord shape before experimenting with variations of A minor, and a progression in the open position. Let's get started!

Section #1: Rhythm Over Am7, 5th fret Position

Getting started we'll apply the overall rhythm to a single chord, Am7. We'll be using our thumb to control the bass notes, as our index and middle fingers are used to pluck the G and B strings. Percussive elements will be emulating the sound of a drummer's snare, falling on beats 2 & 4 as they would in a traditional rock and pop rhythm.

```

E |-----|-----|
B |-8---X---8-8-X-8-|-----X---8-8-X---8-|
G |-5---X---5-5-X-5-|-----X---5-5-X---5-|
D |-----|-----|
A |-0---X-0-----X-0-|-----X-0-----X-0---|
E |-----|-----|
    1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &    1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & a
    
```

Note: When slapping the strings, your fingers should land in position, this way they are ready for the next beat.

Section #2: Applying Rhythm to Chord Variations

Now that we have committed this percussive rhythm technique to muscle memory, let's try adding in some melodic chord variations.

```

Am7           Am6
E |-----|-----|
B |-8---X---8-8-X-7-|-----X---7-7-X---7-|
G |-5---X---5-5-X-5-|-----X---5-5-X---5-|
D |-----|-----|
A |-0---X-0-----X-0-|-----X-0-----X-0---|
E |-----|-----|
    1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &    1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & a
    
```

Section #3: Applying Rhythm to Open Position Progression

Now that you've learned to incorporate this percussive rhythm over a pair of chord variations, let's apply it to an open position chord progression for a more common musical scenario.

```

Am           G           D
E |-----|-----|-----|-----|
B |-1---X---1-1-X-0-|-----X---0-0-X---0-|-3---X---3-3-X-3-|-----X---3-3-X---3-|
G |-2---X---2-2-X-0-|-----X---0-0-X---0-|-2---X---2-2-X-2-|-----X---2-2-X---2-|
D |-----|-----|-----|-----|
A |-0---X-0-----X-0-|-----X-0-----X-0-|-----X-0-----X-0---|
E |-----X-3-|-----X-3-|-----X-3-|-----|
    1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &    1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & a    1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &    1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & a
    
```