

# **Rock 101**

by Joe Deninzon

[WWW.JOEDENINZON.COM](http://WWW.JOEDENINZON.COM)

## Welcome to ROCK 101!

Rock is an attitude as much as it is a musical art form. It has shaken the world and continues to push boundaries and start revolutions. Rock is about rebellion, freedom, screaming at the world. It has been used as an inspirational rallying cry, a call to arms, a call to dance, to love... It is about waking up the animal inside of you, and holding nothing back!

The main thing I love about Rock n Roll is the "Jeckyl and Hyde" aspect of it, or the "Superman /Clark Kent," if you will. You can be a mild-mannered accountant, doctor, lawyer, parent by day, and be a rock demon by night! The escapism and theatrical elements of rock music always intrigued and inspired me. It's NOT just about the music, it is also about putting on a show and celebrating your true self.

## **The Great String Players of Rock**

### Violin

Jean Luc Pointy

Didier Lockwood

Jerry Goodman

Papa John Creach

Mark Wood

Tracy Silverman

Don "Sugar Cane" Harris

Eddie Jobson

David Cross

Christian Howes

Zack Broch

### Cello

Apocalyptica

2 Cellos

Ian Maksin

Greg Byers

Mark Summer

Miike Block

## **The DNA of Rock N Roll**

Power Chords:

-The Root & 5<sup>th</sup> of a chord. Signified in a chord chart with a 5 (IE: C5, A5, G5)  
Made popular by hard rock and heavy metal guitar players  
Blues and Pentatonic Scales:  
-Most common scales used for rock and blues solos  
-Most common scales used for creating hooks and riffs for songs.

Modes, especially the following:

### **Dorian**

“So What” (Miles Davis)  
“Footprints” (Miles Davis)  
“Impressions” (John Coltrane)  
“Invitation” (Bronislau Kaper)  
“King Kong”, “Cosmik Debris”, “Blessed Relief” (Frank Zappa) “Be Still My Beating Heart” (Sting)  
  
“Scarborough Fair” (Simon & Garfunkel) “Eleanor Rigby” (The Beatles)  
“Light My Fire” (The Doors)  
“Billie Jean” (Michael Jackson)  
  
“Born to be Wild” (Steppenwolf)  
“Rooster”, “Down in a Hole” (Alice in Chains) “YYZ” (Rush)  
Another Brick in the Wall” (Pink Floyd) “Fêtes” (Claude Debussy)  
“15 Step” (Radiohead)  
  
“Give it to me Baby” (Rick James)  
“Reptilia” (The Strokes)  
“Little Sunflower” (Freddie Hubbard) (“A” section is Dorian, “B” section is Lydian/Ionian)  
“Equinox” (John Coltrane)  
“Actual Proof” (Herbie Hancock)  
“I Heard it Through the Grapevine” (Marvin Gay)

### **Phrygian**

“For the Love of God” (Steve Vai)  
“White Rabbit” (Jefferson Airplane) “Calling to You” (Robert Plant) “Wherever I May Roam” (Metallica) “Sullen Girl” (Fiona Apple)  
“Would?” (Alice in Chains)  
“Caravan” (Duke Ellington) (“A” section) “London Calling” (The Clash)  
  
“White Rabbit” (Jefferson Airplane) “Symphony of Destruction” (Megadeth)

### **Lydian**

“Divertimento” (Torrie Zito/Eddie Daniels)  
“Lords of Karma”, “Flying in a Blue Dream” (Joe Satriani) “Dreams” (Fleetwood Mac)  
“Reeling in the Years” (Steely Dan)  
“Theme from The Simpsons” (Danny Elfman)  
“Theme from The Jetsons” (Hoyt Curtin)  
“Maria” from “West Side Story (Leonard Bernstein) “Inca Road” (Frank Zappa)

### **Mixolydian**

“Norwegian Wood: (Beatles)  
“Maiden Voyage” (Herbie Hancock)  
“All Blues” (Miles Davis)  
“Mercy Mercy Mercy” (Joe Zawinul)  
“Dancing in the Street” (Martha Reeves & the Vandelles) “You Really Got Me” (The Kinks)  
“Baba O’Reilly”-violin solo (The Who)  
“Shake Your Body (Down to the Ground” (Jackson 5) “Sweet Child of Mine” (Guns N Roses)  
“Born This Way” (Lady Gaga)

### **Aolean**

“Smells Like Teen Spirit” (Nirvana) “Self Esteem” (The Offspring) “One” (Metallica)  
“Losing My Religion” (REM)

All Along the Watchtower (Bob Dylan)

### **Dorian**

“Be Still My Beating Heart” (Sting) “Scarborough Fair” (Simon & Garfunkel) “Eleanor Rigby”  
(The Beatles)  
“Light My Fire” (The Doors)  
“Billie Jean” (Michael Jackson) “Born to be Wild” (Steppenwolf)  
“Rooster”, “Down in a Hole” (Alice in Chains)

“YYZ” (Rush)  
Another Brick in the Wall” (Pink Floyd) “Fêtes” (Claude Debussy)  
“15 Step” (Radiohead)  
“Give it to me Baby” (Rick James)  
“Reptilia” (The Strokes)  
“I Heard it Through the Grapevine” (Marvin Gay)

### **Phrygian**

“For the Love of God” (Steve Vai)  
“White Rabbit” (Jefferson Airplane) “Calling to You” (Robert Plant) “Wherever I May Roam”

(Metallica) "Sullen Girl" (Fiona Apple)  
"Would?" (Alice in Chains)  
"London Calling" (The Clash)

"White Rabbit" (Jefferson Airplane) "Symphony of Destruction" (Megadeth)

### **Lydian**

"Divertimento" (Torrie Zito/Eddie Daniels)  
"Lords of Karma", "Flying in a Blue Dream" (Joe Satriani) "Dreams" (Fleetwood Mac)  
"Reeling in the Years" (Steely Dan)  
"Theme from The Simpsons" (Danny Elfman)  
"Theme from The Jetsons" (Hoyt Curtin)  
"Maria" from "West Side Story" (Leonard Bernstein) "Inca Road" (Frank Zappa)

### **Mixolydian**

"Norwegian Wood: (Beatles)  
"Maiden Voyage" (Herbie Hancock)  
"All Blues" (Miles Davis)  
"Mercy Mercy Mercy" (Joe Zawinul)  
"Dancing in the Street" (Martha Reeves & the Vandelles) "You Really Got Me" (The Kinks)  
"Baba O'Reilly"-violin solo (The Who)  
"Shake Your Body (Down to the Ground" (Jackson 5) "Sweet Child of Mine" (Guns N Roses)  
"Born This Way" (Lady Gaga)

### **Aolean**

"Smells Like Teen Spirit" (Nirvana) "Self Esteem" (The Offspring) "One" (Metallica)  
"Losing My Religion" (REM)  
"All Along the Watchtower (Bob Dylan)

### **Examples of Iconic Power Chord songs**

Smoke on the Water-Deep Purple  
Iron Man-Black Sabbath  
Smells Like Teen Spirit-Nirvana  
You Shook Me All Night Long-AC/DC  
Godzilla-Blue Oyster Cult  
All the Small Things-Blink 182  
Blitzkreig Bop-The Ramones  
All Day and All Night-The Kinks  
You Really Got Me-The Kinks  
Paranoid-Black Sabbath

### **Examples of Iconic Pentatonic Riff-based Songs**

Sunshine of Your Love-Cream

Whole Lotta Love-Led Zeppelin

Seven Nation Army-White Stripes

Purple Haze-Jimi Hendrix

Walk This Way-Aerosmith

Back in Black-AC/DC

Superstition -Stevie Wonder