

Bill Alves

Rational Basis

for

8 retuned electric guitars

Rational Basis Notes

Guitar 1 is an electric slide guitar. The instrument may be fretless or the player may use a pencil or similar implement under the strings next to the nut to lift the strings above the frets. Similar instruments may be substituted on this part, for example electric violin or electric viola with appropriate octave transpositions.

Guitar 8 is an electric bass guitar.

Guitars 2, 4, and 6 are tuned as follows:

String	Nominal pitch	Tuning relative to equal temperament	Explanation
1	e'	E +2 cents	Normal tuning
2	b	B +4 cents	Normal tuning
3	g	G -31 cents	7/4 from A
4	d	D -29 cents	4/3 down from G
5	A	A +0 cents	Normal tuning
6	E	E +2 cents	Normal tuning

Guitars 3, 5, and 7 are tuned as follows:

String	Nominal pitch	Tuning relative to equal temperament	Explanation
1	e'	D -29 cents	Same as E string below
2	b	A +0 cents	Concert A pitch
3	g	E +2 cents	4/3 down from A
4	d	C -33 cents	12/7 down from A
5	A	G -31 cents	4/3 down from C
6	E	D -29 cents	4/3 down from G

The electric bass guitar is tuned as follows:

String	Nominal pitch	Tuning relative to equal temperament	Explanation
1	G	G -31 cents	7/4 from A
2	D	D -29 cents	4/3 down from G
3	A	A +0 cents	Normal tuning
4	E	E +2 cents	Normal tuning

Guitars 4, 5, 6, and 7 require capos.

The score and parts are written in scordatura; that is, players should interpret the parts as written, even though the pitches heard will not necessarily correspond to those written. Part 1, however, is written approximately as it should sound, although the player will need to listen and adjust in order to tune to the other players. Except for part 1, all pitches should be played on open strings, natural harmonics, or on the octaves of open strings. For example, the B above the staff should be played on the 12th fret of string 2 (B string), not on string 1.

Guitar timbres should have a healthy amount of distortion but little if any artificial reverberation. Except for long notes, notes should be as dry as possible. Players should damp the strings when possible after eighth notes, for example.

The numbers following the rehearsal numbers indicate the total number of times each section between the repeat signs should be played.

Rational Basis

♩ = 80-88

1 2x

2 4x

The musical score is arranged in a system of eight staves. The instruments are labeled on the left: Electric (slide) guitar 1, Electric guitar 2, Electric guitar 3, Electric guitar 4, Electric guitar 5, Electric guitar 6, Electric guitar 7, and Electric bass guitar. The score is in 3/4 time. A tempo marking of ♩ = 80-88 is at the top left. Above the first staff, there are two boxed first endings: '1 2x' and '2 4x'. The first ending is marked with a double bar line and repeat dots. The second ending is also marked with a double bar line and repeat dots. The electric guitar 4 staff has a melodic line starting in the first ending, marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The electric guitar 5 staff has a melodic line starting in the second ending, also marked with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The other staves (Electric (slide) guitar 1, Electric guitar 2, Electric guitar 3, Electric guitar 6, Electric guitar 7, and Electric bass guitar) contain whole rests throughout the piece.

3 4x

Musical score for measures 3-4. The score includes parts for Slide guitar, Guitar 2, Guitar 3, Guitar 4, Guitar 5, Guitar 6, Guitar 7, and Bass. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The piece is marked *mf* (mezzo-forte). The Slide guitar part consists of a series of horizontal lines, indicating a slide effect. Guitars 2 and 3 play a melodic line with a slur over the first two notes. Guitars 4 and 5 play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. Guitars 6 and 7 are silent.

4 2x

Musical score for measures 4-5. The score includes parts for Slide guitar, Guitar 2, Guitar 3, Guitar 4, Guitar 5, Guitar 6, Guitar 7, and Bass. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The piece is marked *f* (forte). The Slide guitar part consists of a series of horizontal lines, indicating a slide effect. Guitars 2 and 3 play a melodic line with a slur over the first two notes. Guitars 4 and 5 play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes. Guitars 6 and 7 play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes.

5 2x 6 4x

Slide guitar

Guitar 2

Guitar 3

Guitar 4

Guitar 5

Guitar 6

Guitar 7

Bass

f

f

f

7 4x 8 4x

Slide guitar

Guitar 2

Guitar 3

Guitar 4

Guitar 5

Guitar 6

Guitar 7

Bass

mp

mp

mp

mp

9 8x

10 4x

Slide guitar

Guitar 2

Guitar 3

Guitar 4

Guitar 5

Guitar 6

Guitar 7

Bass

f

f

f

f

f

f

f

f

Put capo on 4th fret (up major third)

Put capo on 3rd fret (up minor third)

Put capo on 4th fret (up major third)

Put capo on 3rd fret (up minor third)

11 4x

12 6x

Slide

(Last time only)

f

f

Guitar 2

Guitar 3

Guitar 4

Guitar 5

Guitar 6

Guitar 7

Bass

Slide guitar

(Continue while other players repeat)

Slide guitar

13 4x

(1st time only)

14 2x

Guitar 2

Guitar 3

Guitar 4

Guitar 5

Guitar 6

Guitar 7

Bass

p

15 4x

Slide guitar
Improvise on these pitches (also octave above)

Guitar 2

Guitar 3

Guitar 4

Guitar 5

Guitar 6

Guitar 7

Bass

16 4x

(1st time only)

f

f

f

f

17 4x

Slide guitar
Improvise on these pitches (also octave above)

Guitar 2

Guitar 3

Guitar 4

Guitar 5

Guitar 6

Guitar 7

Bass

18 4x

Stop playing

gradually get softer

gradually get softer

19 4x

Musical score for measures 19-21. The score is for a 7-string guitar ensemble with a slide guitar. The instruments are labeled on the left: Slide guitar, Guitar 2, Guitar 3, Guitar 4, Guitar 5, Guitar 6, Guitar 7, and Bass. Measure 19 is marked with a box containing '19' and '4x'. The slide guitar part is mostly silent. Guitars 2 and 7 play chords. Guitars 3, 4, 5, and 6 play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, with Guitars 3 and 6 marked 'p' and 'Strum all strings while damped'. Guitars 4 and 5 play a melodic line of eighth notes, also marked 'p'. The bass line is mostly silent.

20 4x

21 4x

Musical score for measures 20-21. The score is for a 7-string guitar ensemble with a slide guitar. The instruments are labeled on the left: Slide guitar, Guitar 2, Guitar 3, Guitar 4, Guitar 5, Guitar 6, Guitar 7, and Bass. Measure 20 is marked with a box containing '20' and '4x'. The slide guitar part is marked 'Improvise on these pitches (also octave above)'. Guitars 2 and 3 play a melodic line of eighth notes, marked 'p'. Guitars 4, 5, and 6 play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, with Guitars 4 and 5 marked 'p' and 'Strum all strings while damped'. Guitars 6 and 7 play a melodic line of eighth notes, marked 'p'. The bass line plays a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, marked 'p'. Measure 21 is marked with a box containing '21' and '4x'. The slide guitar part is silent. Guitars 2 and 3 play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, marked 'p' and 'Strum all strings while damped'. Guitars 4, 5, 6, and 7 play a rhythmic pattern of eighth notes, marked 'p'.

22 4x 23 4x

Slide guitar

Guitar 2

Guitar 3

Guitar 4
gradually get louder

Guitar 5
gradually get louder

Guitar 6

Guitar 7
Remove capo

Bass
gradually get louder

24 4x 25 1x

Slide guitar

Guitar 2
f

Guitar 3
f

Guitar 4
f
Remove capo

Guitar 5
f
Remove capo

Guitar 6
f

Guitar 7
f
Remove capo

Bass
f

26 4x

Musical score for measures 26-29, repeated 4 times. The score includes parts for Slide guitar, Guitar 2, Guitar 3, Guitar 4, Guitar 5, Guitar 6, Guitar 7, and Bass. The Slide guitar part features a melodic line with slurs and accents. Guitars 2-7 play rhythmic patterns, with Guitars 2, 3, 4, and 5 marked with a forte (*f*) dynamic. The Bass line provides a steady accompaniment. The section concludes with a double bar line.

27 2x

Musical score for measures 27-30, repeated 2 times. The score includes parts for Slide guitar, Guitar 2, Guitar 3, Guitar 4, Guitar 5, Guitar 6, Guitar 7, and Bass. The Slide guitar part is silent. Guitars 2 and 3 continue with rhythmic patterns. Guitars 4 and 5 are instructed to "Strum all strings while damped" and marked with an *x* symbol. Guitars 6 and 7 play chords marked with a sforzando (*sfz*) dynamic. The Bass line continues with a rhythmic accompaniment. The section concludes with a double bar line.

28 2x

Musical score for measures 28-30. The score is for a band consisting of Slide guitar, Guitar 2, Guitar 3, Guitar 4, Guitar 5, Guitar 6, Guitar 7, and Bass. Measure 28 is marked with a box containing '28' and '2x'. The Slide guitar part features a melodic line with slurs. Guitars 2-7 play rhythmic patterns, with Guitars 2-5 using eighth-note chords and Guitars 6-7 using quarter-note chords. The Bass line provides a simple harmonic foundation.

29 2x

30 2x

Musical score for measures 29-30. Measure 29 is marked with a box containing '29' and '2x'. In this measure, Guitars 2-7 play dense, multi-voice chords, while the Slide guitar and Bass play simple accompaniment. Measure 30 is marked with a box containing '30' and '2x'. A text instruction above the Slide guitar staff reads: "Improvise on these pitches (also octave above)". The Slide guitar part in measure 30 consists of a melodic line with slurs. Guitars 2-7 continue with their rhythmic patterns, and the Bass line remains consistent.

31 2x

Slide guitar

Improvisation continues

32 1x

8va

Guitar 2

Guitar 3

Guitar 4

Guitar 5

Guitar 6

Guitar 7

Bass

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

ff

Electric
(slide) guitar 1

Rational Basis

Bill Alves

♩ = 80-88

1 2x 2 2 4x 2 3 4x 4 4 2x 4 5 2x 4

6 4x 2 7 4x 2 8 4x 4 9 8x 2 10 4x 2 11 4x (Last time only) Slide

f

12 6x

(Continue while other players repeat)

13 4x 14 2x 4 15 4x

(1st time only)

Improvise on these pitches
(also octave above)

16 4x 17 4x 18 4x 2 19 4x 4

(1st time only)

Improvise on these pitches
(also octave above)

Stop playing

20 4x 21 4x 2 22 4x 4 23 4x 2

Improvise on these pitches
(also octave above)

24 4x 2 25 1x 2 26 4x 27 2x 4 28 2x

f

29 2x 2 30 2x 31 2x 32 1x 8va

Improvise on these pitches
(also octave above)

Improvisation continues

Electric
guitar 2

Rational Basis

Bill Alves

$\text{♩} = 80-88$

The musical score consists of 20 measures, each with a boxed number and specific performance instructions:

- Measure 1:** 2x, 2, 2, 3 4x. Dynamics: *mf*. Includes an 8va line.
- Measure 4:** 2x (8va), 5 2x. Dynamics: *f*. Includes an 8va line.
- Measure 6:** 4x, 7 4x. Dynamics: *f*.
- Measure 8:** 4x (8va), 9 8x. Dynamics: *f*. Includes an 8va line.
- Measure 10:** 4x, 11 4x, 12 6x, 13 4x. Dynamics: *f* and *p*.
- Measure 14:** 2x.
- Measure 15:** 4x, 16 4x, 2.
- Measure 17:** 4x, 2, 18 4x, 2, 19 4x. Dynamics: *p*.
- Measure 20:** 4x. Dynamics: *p*.

21 4x

Strum all strings while damped

22 4x

23 4x

2

24 4x

f

25 1x

26 4x

f

27 2x

28 2x

29 2x

30 2x

31 2x

ff

32 1x

Electric guitar 3

Rational Basis

Bill Alves

♩ = 80-88

The musical score consists of 20 measures, each with a boxed number and specific guitar techniques and dynamics. The notation is in treble clef with a 3/4 time signature. Measure 1: 1^{2x} 2, 2^{4x} 2, 3^{4x} 8^{va}. Measure 2: 4^{2x} (8^{va}), 5^{2x}. Measure 3: 6^{4x}, 7^{4x}. Measure 4: 8^{4x} 8^{va}, 9^{8x}. Measure 5: 10^{4x}, 11^{4x} 2, 12^{6x} 2, 13^{4x}. Measure 6: 14^{2x}. Measure 7: 15^{4x}, 16^{4x} 2. Measure 8: 17^{4x} 2, 18^{4x} 2, 19^{4x}. Measure 9: 20^{4x}. Dynamics include *mf*, *f*, and *p*. A instruction 'Strum all strings while damped' is placed above measure 19. The score includes various techniques such as double stops, bends, and vibrato.

21 4x
Strum all strings while damped

22 4x

23 4x

4

2

24 4x

25 1x

f

26 4x

f

27 2x

28 2x

29 2x

30 2x

31 2x

32 1x

ff

Electric guitar 4

Rational Basis

Bill Alves

♩ = 80-88

1 2x 2 4x

p

3 4x

4 2x

f

5 2x

6 4x 7 4x

8 4x 9 8x

mp *f*

10 4x 11 4x 12 6x

2

Put capo on 4th fret (up major third)

f

13 4x 14 2x 15 4x 16 4x

2 4 4

f

17 4x 18 4x

gradually get softer

19 4x

p

20 4x

Strum all strings while damped

21 4x

p

22 4x

gradually get louder

23 4x

24 4x

25 1x

2

f

Remove capo

26 4x

f

27 2x

Strum all strings while damped

f

28 2x

29 2x

f

30 2x

f

31 2x

32 1x

ff

Electric guitar 5

Rational Basis

Bill Alves

♩ = 80-88

The musical score consists of 16 numbered exercises, each on a single staff in 3/4 time. The exercises are as follows:

- Exercise 1:** 2x, starting with a fermata and a '2' above the staff. Dynamics: *p*.
- Exercise 2:** 4x, starting with a fermata and a '2' above the staff. Dynamics: *p*.
- Exercise 3:** 4x, starting with a fermata and a '2' above the staff.
- Exercise 4:** 2x, starting with a fermata and a '2' above the staff. Dynamics: *f*.
- Exercise 5:** 2x, starting with a fermata and a '2' above the staff.
- Exercise 6:** 4x, starting with a fermata and a '2' above the staff.
- Exercise 7:** 4x, starting with a fermata and a '2' above the staff.
- Exercise 8:** 4x, starting with a fermata and a '2' above the staff. Dynamics: *mp*.
- Exercise 9:** 8x, starting with a fermata and a '2' above the staff. Dynamics: *f*.
- Exercise 10:** 4x, starting with a fermata and a '2' above the staff. Dynamics: *f*. Includes the instruction: "Put capo on 3rd fret (up minor third)".
- Exercise 11:** 4x, starting with a fermata and a '2' above the staff. Dynamics: *f*.
- Exercise 12:** 6x, starting with a fermata and a '2' above the staff. Dynamics: *f*.
- Exercise 13:** 4x, starting with a fermata and a '2' above the staff. Dynamics: *f*.
- Exercise 14:** 2x, starting with a fermata and a '2' above the staff. Dynamics: *f*.
- Exercise 15:** 4x, starting with a fermata and a '2' above the staff. Dynamics: *f*.
- Exercise 16:** 4x, starting with a fermata and a '2' above the staff. Dynamics: *f*.

Rational Basis

Electric guitar 5

17 4x 18 4x

gradually get softer

19 4x

p

20 4x 21 4x

Strum all strings while damped

p

22 4x

gradually get louder

23 4x 24 4x 25 1x

f Remove capo

26 4x

f

27 2x

Strum all strings while damped

28 2x

29 2x 30 2x

31 2x 32 1x

ff

Electric
guitar 6

Rational Basis

Bill Alves

♩ = 80-88

1 2x 2 2 4x 2 3 4x 4

4 2x

f

5 2x

6 4x 7 4x

8 4x

mp

9 8x 10 4x 2

f Put capo on 4th fret (up major third)

11 4x 12 6x 13 4x 2

14 2x 4 15 4x 4 16 4x 17 4x

f

Detailed description: The score is written for electric guitar in 3/4 time. It consists of 17 numbered measures. Measures 1-4 are whole notes with fret numbers and repeat signs. Measures 5-8 are eighth-note patterns with dynamics *f* and *mp*. Measure 9 is an eighth-note pattern with *f*. Measure 10 is a whole note with a capo instruction. Measures 11-13 are eighth-note patterns. Measures 14-17 are eighth-note patterns with dynamics *f*. The score includes various guitar techniques like double stops (2x, 4x, 6x, 8x) and a capo instruction.

Rational Basis

Electric guitar 6

18 4x 2 19 4x
Strum all strings while damped
p

20 4x 21 4x
p

22 4x 4 23 4x 2 24 4x
f

25 1x 2 26 4x
f

27 2x 28 2x
sfz

29 2x 30 2x

31 2x 32 1x
ff

Electric guitar 7

Rational Basis

Bill Alves

♩ = 80-88

The musical score consists of 20 numbered measures, each with a fret number in a box above it. The measures are as follows:

- Measure 1: Fret 1, 2x. Dynamics: *f*.
- Measure 2: Fret 2, 4x. Dynamics: *f*.
- Measure 3: Fret 3, 4x. Dynamics: *f*.
- Measure 4: Fret 4, 2x. Dynamics: *f*.
- Measure 5: Fret 5, 2x. Dynamics: *f*.
- Measure 6: Fret 6, 4x. Dynamics: *f*.
- Measure 7: Fret 7, 4x. Dynamics: *f*.
- Measure 8: Fret 8, 4x. Dynamics: *mp*.
- Measure 9: Fret 9, 8x. Dynamics: *f*.
- Measure 10: Fret 10, 4x. Dynamics: *f*.
- Measure 11: Fret 11, 4x. Dynamics: *f*.
- Measure 12: Fret 12, 6x. Dynamics: *f*.
- Measure 13: Fret 13, 4x. Dynamics: *f*.
- Measure 14: Fret 14, 2x. Dynamics: *f*.
- Measure 15: Fret 15, 4x. Dynamics: *f*.
- Measure 16: Fret 16, 4x. Dynamics: *f*.
- Measure 17: Fret 17, 4x. Dynamics: *f*.
- Measure 18: Fret 18, 4x. Dynamics: *f*.
- Measure 19: Fret 19, 4x. Dynamics: *f*.
- Measure 20: Fret 20, 4x. Dynamics: *p*.

Additional annotations include a tempo marking of 80-88 bpm, a dynamic marking of *f* at the start of measure 4, a dynamic marking of *mp* at the start of measure 8, and a dynamic marking of *p* at the start of measure 20. A text instruction "Put capo on 3rd fret (up minor third)" is located below measure 10. The score is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature.

Rational Basis

Electric guitar 7

21 4x 22 4x



23 4x 24 4x 25 1x 2

f Remove capo



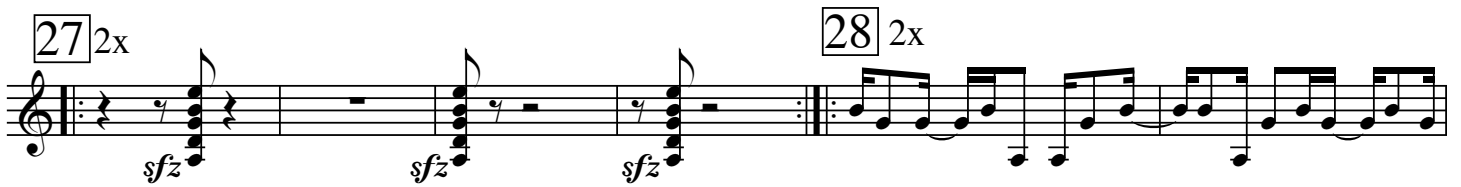
26 4x

f

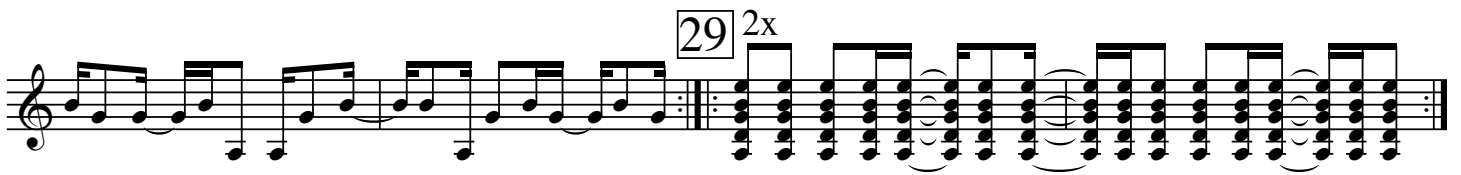


27 2x 28 2x

sfz



29 2x

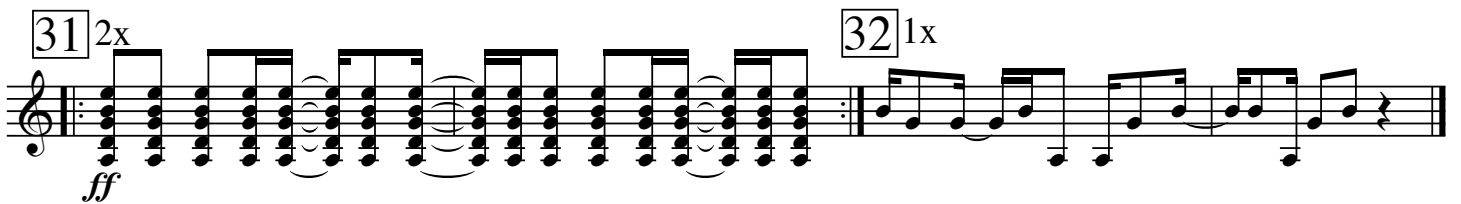


30 2x



31 2x 32 1x

ff



Electric
bass guitar

Rational Basis

Bill Alves

$\text{♩} = 80-88$

1 $\frac{2x}{2}$ 2 $\frac{4x}{2}$ 3 $\frac{4x}{4}$ 4 $\frac{2x}{4}$ 5 $\frac{2x}{4}$ 6 $\frac{4x}{4}$

7 $\frac{4x}{4}$ 8 $\frac{4x}{4}$ 9 $\frac{8x}{4}$ *f*

10 $\frac{4x}{2}$ 11 $\frac{4x}{2}$ 12 $\frac{6x}{2}$ 13 $\frac{4x}{2}$ 14 $\frac{2x}{2}$ *p*

15 $\frac{4x}{2}$ 16 $\frac{4x}{2}$ 17 $\frac{4x}{2}$ 18 $\frac{4x}{2}$ 19 $\frac{4x}{4}$

20 $\frac{4x}{2}$ 21 $\frac{4x}{2}$ 22 $\frac{4x}{4}$ *p*

23 $\frac{4x}{2}$ 24 $\frac{4x}{2}$ 25 $\frac{1x}{2}$ *gradually get louder* *f*

26 $\frac{4x}{2}$ 27 $\frac{2x}{2}$ *f*

28 $\frac{2x}{2}$

29 $\frac{2x}{2}$ 30 $\frac{2x}{2}$

31 $\frac{2x}{2}$ 32 $\frac{1x}{2}$ *ff*