Hey - welcome to eBassGuitar.Com!

James here... if this is your first experience with eBassGuitar.Com, I want to say a massive welcome. We’re here to help rookie through to intermediate bass players make progress faster than they ever thought possible. We do this by breaking complex ideas down into simple, bite size ideas. This tutorial is no different...

In this cheat sheet we’re going to take the verse and chorus of Hotel California and break the song down into two simple grooves... make sure you watch the two video tutorials that accompany this PDF.

**Part One - The Verse Groove**

In this part of the cheat sheet we are going to focus entirely on the groove from the verse of Hotel California...

Here are some tips:

- This is a two bar bass groove.
- The rhythm is identical in each bar but the notes change.
- This groove just uses the Root, fifth and Octave of each chord.
- The emphasis of bar one is landing on the 5th, on the last note. (F# in Bar 1 of ex.1)
- The emphasis of bar two is resolving to the root, on the last note. (Low F# of Bar 2 of ex.2)
- Pattern 1 has bracket 1 above and pattern 2 has bracket 2 above.

**Example 1:**

![Example 1](image-url)
The Verse Chord Sequence:

Once you have learned the two bar groove above you need to apply it to the 8 bar chord sequence that creates the verse.

Here are some notes:

- Patterns 1 & 2 are superimposed over the 8 bar chord sequence.
- The two patterns alternate.
- The brackets above each bar show which pattern you should be playing.
- You can practise the groove in 2 bar pairs. Bars 1&2, bars 3&4, bars 5&6, bars 7&8.

Example 2:

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Part Two - The Chorus

The Chorus Groove

If you've already watched part one of this tutorial you will know that the basic groove of the verse of Hotel California is based on a two bar bass groove. The chorus is based on a one bar groove:

Here are some notes:

- Notice how the pattern at the front of the bar is now ‘descending’. In the verse section the first 4 notes ‘ascend’.
- Always aim for the notes on the beat. This is particularly important with beats 3 and 4.
- Treat the note on beat 4+ as a transition note to get to the next chord. In my opinion this is not a major part of the ‘core groove’.

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The Chorus Chord Sequence:

Once you’ve learned the ‘groove’, try playing the full chorus:

Here are some tips:

- Notice how the ascending bass line in bar 4 breaks away from the groove and gives the chorus section light and shade.
- Try to play the articulation in each bar as this will give your groove subtlety. Notice how bars 1 and 2 have shorter notes (dot above the note) and bars 3 & 4 have long notes (line above the note)
- Try playing this chord sequence using different positions on the neck... the D chord sounds great at fret 10 on the E string, but equally it'll work well at fret 5 on the A string too.

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Keep grooving hard...
James

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