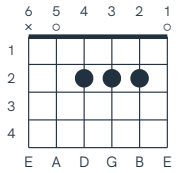
Boom-Chick Bass Check

Find each chord's two bass notes, fill a chart, finish two walks, and tell boom from chick. Key of A. Goes with Handout 497.

1 · ROOT AND ALTERNATE BASS

The **root** (R) is the lowest note of the shape. The **alternate** (5) is the chord's 5th; on this sheet take it one string away: the next string toward string 6, or, for E and Em (root on string 6), string 5. It may be an open string the shape leaves out (○ open, × not in the shape). Write string, fret and note name for both. (G on Handout 497 is an exception: its 5th is open string 4.)

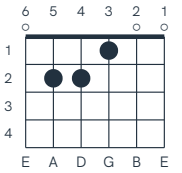
a **A**



R string ____ fret ____ note ____

5 string ____ fret ____ note ____

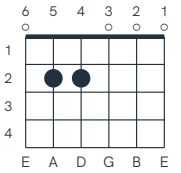
b **E**



R string ____ fret ____ note ____

5 string ____ fret ____ note ____

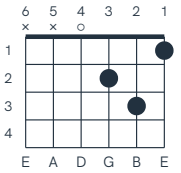
c **Em**



R string ____ fret ____ note ____

5 string ____ fret ____ note ____

d **Dm**



R string ____ fret ____ note ____

5 string ____ fret ____ note ____

e Do E and Em have the same two bass notes? Why? _____

2 · FILL THE CHART IN A

Boom-chick in every bar: root on 1, alternate on 3. Write the two bass note names (letters) under each chord.

bar 1	bar 2	bar 3	bar 4	bar 5	bar 6	bar 7	bar 8
A	**A**	**D**	**D**	**E**	**E**	**A**	**A**
1 ____	1 ____	1 ____	1 ____	1 ____	1 ____	1 ____	1 ____
3 ____	3 ____	3 ____	3 ____	3 ____	3 ____	3 ____	3 ____

3 · COMPLETE THE WALKS

Root on 1, strum on 2, two walk notes from the A major scale (A B C♯ D E F♯ G♯) on 3 and 4, and the new root lands on the next 1. All on strings 5 and 4, frets 0–4. Fill each blank.

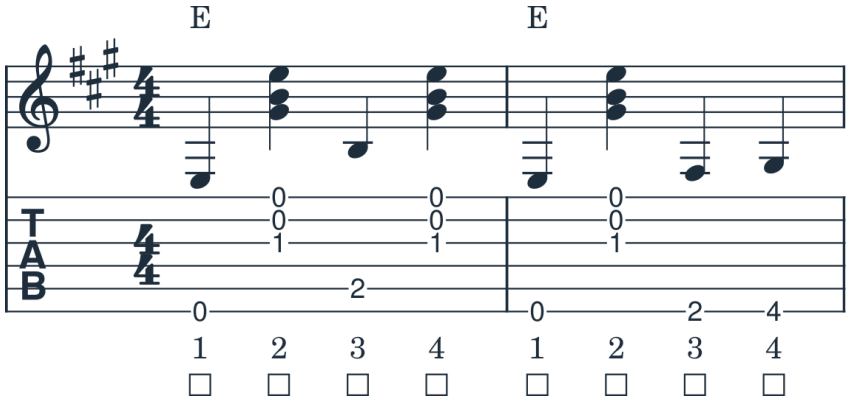
Walk up, A to D

1	2	3	4	1
A	*strum*	note ____	note ____	**D**
string 5		string ____	string ____	string 4
open		fret ____	fret ____	open

Walk down, D to A

1	2	3	4	1
D	*strum*	note ____	**B**	note ____
string 4		string ____	string 5	string ____
open		fret ____	fret 2	fret ____

4 · WHICH BEAT?



Write **B** (boom: one bass note) or **C** (chick: the strum) in the box under each count; here B and C are codes, not note names. Careful in bar 2: the bass walks up the A major scale toward A on the next beat 1.

Staff notes are written an octave higher than they sound; in the tab, the top line is string 1.

Check it Play each part at quarter = 80, then listen. Three recordings play the completed chart, the two walks and the Part 4 bars, each after two bars of clicks. They are a synthesized pitch-and-rhythm model. Listen: scan or visit tissimo.co/worksheets/guitar-boom-chick-bass-check

Answers. 1 a (A): R = A, string 5, open; 5 = E, string 6, open. b (E): R = E, string 6, open; 5 = B, string 5, fret 2. c (Em): R = E, string 6, open; 5 = B, string 5, fret 2. d (Dm): R = D, string 4, open; 5 = A, string 5, open. e: yes, same root and 5th; only the 3rd changes (G♯ / G). 2 A E | A E | D A | D A | E B | E B | A E | A E. 3 up: beat 3 B string 5, fret 2, beat 4 C♯ string 5, fret 4; down: beat 3 C♯ string 5, fret 4, beat 1 A string 5, open. 4 B C B C | B C B B (B = boom, C = chick; codes, not note names).

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