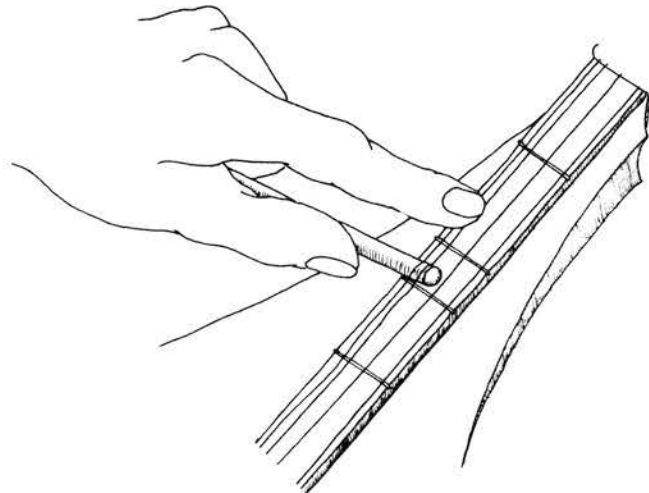


There are drawbacks to using the noter, although the effect is quite pleasing, and one of these is that you have minimal contact with the strings, and therefore limited string control.

One interesting technique employs a noter made of slippery surfaced “wet” plastic. While playing a song, quickly move the noter off the strings and insert it underneath the melody strings at the cutaway portion of the fretboard. Then slide it back to the area where the melody was being played. This is like having a movable nut and creates a “blues” sound. Also, you can depress the strings behind the noter with your middle finger, and make the tone waver up a half-step or more. This sounds very much like a “Bottleneck” guitar.

SLIDING THE NOTER UNDER THE
UNISON STRINGS



BENDING NOTES

Bending notes resembles the technique of separating the melody strings to play thirds, but in this case you simply move the string slightly with your fingertip while it is depressed to the fret in order to alter its tone. You “bend” the note’s sound to make its tone climb a maximum of a half-tone or so. Again, strictly speaking, doing this takes you out of mode, but a well-placed bent note can add a great deal to a melodic passage. One thing to watch out for is the elusiveness of the melody strings when you’re bend-