

All That Remains Tuning

All That Remains Tuning: The Ultimate Guide to Perfecting Your Guitar Sound If you're a passionate guitarist or a dedicated musician, you've probably heard about All That Remains Tuning, a popular alternative tuning that has gained popularity among metal and rock bands. Proper tuning is crucial for achieving the desired sound quality, tone, and playability of your instrument. In this comprehensive guide, we will explore what All That Remains tuning is, how to tune your guitar to this specific setup, its benefits, common challenges, and tips for mastering it. Whether you're a beginner or an experienced player, understanding this tuning can enhance your musical expression and creativity.

What Is All That Remains Tuning?

All That Remains tuning refers to a specific alternate tuning used mainly by the band All That Remains, as well as other musicians inspired by their sound. It involves adjusting the guitar strings to create a unique tonal palette, often resulting in heavier, more resonant sounds suitable for metal and hard rock genres. Standard Tuning vs. All That Remains Tuning | Aspect | Standard Tuning (E A D G B e) | All That Remains Tuning | |||| | String Notes | E A D G B e | Custom, often lower or altered notes | | Typical Use | General playing, variety | Heavy riffs, drop tunings, specific songs| While the band has used various tunings, one of their most recognized configurations is Drop C tuning, which is often associated with All That Remains's heavier sound.

Common All That Remains Tuning Variations

Although "All That Remains Tuning" can refer to different modified tunings depending on the song or guitarist, some of the most prevalent variations include:

Drop C Tuning (CGCFAD)

- String Notes (from 6th to 1st): C G C F A D - Description: Lowering the standard E tuning down two semitones to C, with the 6th string dropped from D to C, creating a heavy, deep sound.

Drop B Tuning (BEADFB)

- String Notes: B F B E G C - Use: For even lower and heavier riffs.

Alternate Tunings Used by All That Remains

- C Standard (C F A D G C) - Drop D (D A D G B e) - Open C (C G C G C E) Understanding the specific tuning used in a song is essential for accurate reproduction and performance.

How to Tune Your Guitar to All That Remains Tuning

Getting your guitar precisely in the right tuning is fundamental. Here's a step-by-step guide:

Tools Needed

- Electronic tuner or tuning app - Guitar with fresh strings (preferably 9-11 gauge for lower tunings) - Capo (optional, for reference)

Step-by-Step Tuning Process

1. Start from standard tuning: E A D G B e.
2. Decide on your target tuning (e.g., Drop C).
3. Using your tuner, lower the 6th string from E to C.

4. Lower the 5th string from A to G.
5. Lower the 4th string from D to C.
6. Leave the 3rd string (G) as is or adjust as per the desired tuning.
7. Lower the 2nd string (B) to A (if tuning to Drop C, for example).
8. Lower the 1st string (e) to D or keep it standard depending on the tuning variation.

Tip: Always tune slowly and check the pitch multiple times to ensure accuracy. It's advisable to stretch strings after tuning to maintain stability.

Benefits of All That Remains Tuning

Adopting an alternate tuning like All That Remains's offers several advantages:

1. Heavier Sound and Resonance

Lower tunings produce deeper, more powerful sounds, perfect for metal riffs and heavy chord voicings.

2. Easier Power Chord Formation

Many alternate tunings simplify the fingerings for power chords, enabling faster and more straightforward riffing.

3. Unique Sonic Character

Altered tunings provide distinctive tonal qualities that set your playing apart from standard tuning.

4. Creative Inspiration

Changing tunings can inspire new riffs, melodies, and songwriting ideas by expanding your sonic palette.

5. Better for Drop-Heavy Genres

Musicians aiming for drop-tuned, aggressive sounds find these setups more suitable than standard tuning.

Challenges and How to Overcome Them

While alternate tunings offer many benefits, they also come with specific challenges:

1. String Tension and String Life

Lower tunings increase tension on the strings, potentially leading to faster wear or breakage. Solution: Use heavier gauge strings and ensure proper setup.

2. Intonation and Action Issues

Lower tunings can cause fret buzz or intonation problems. Solution: Get a professional setup from a guitar technician to adjust the nut, saddle, and truss rod.

3. Difficulties in Switching Between Tunings

Frequent tuning changes can be time-consuming. Solution: Use a dedicated guitar for specific tunings or invest in quick-change systems like the Floyd Rose tremolo.

4. Learning Curve

Playing in alternate tunings requires adaptation in chord shapes and scales. Solution: Practice slowly and learn the corresponding shapes and patterns for each tuning.

Tips for Mastering All That Remains Tuning

To get the most out of this tuning, consider the following tips:

1. **Practice regularly:** Familiarize yourself with the chord shapes and riffs in the new tuning.
2. **Use a capo:** For certain songs, a capo can help achieve specific tonalities without retuning.
3. **Record and analyze:** Record your practice sessions to identify areas for improvement.
4. **Learn songs:** Play songs by All That Remains and other bands that utilize similar tunings to develop your skills.
5. **Experiment:** Don't be afraid to tweak tunings slightly to find what sounds best for your style.

Conclusion

All That Remains tuning is a powerful tool for guitarists looking to expand their sonic capabilities and craft heavier, more resonant sounds. Whether you're aiming for Drop C, Drop B, or other variations, understanding how to accurately tune your guitar and adapt your playing style is essential. Remember to invest in quality strings, get a proper setup, and practice consistently. With patience and dedication, mastering this tuning can open new creative avenues and elevate your guitar playing to new heights. Embrace the tonal possibilities of All That Remains tuning and let your musical expression thrive!

All That Remains Tuning: An In-Depth Exploration of the Band's Musical Evolution and Sonic Craftsmanship In the vast landscape of American heavy metal and melodic metalcore, All That Remains stands out as a band that has continuously evolved its sound, blending aggressive riffs with melodic sensibilities and introspective lyricism. Central to their identity is their meticulous approach to tuning—an aspect often overlooked by casual listeners but fundamental to shaping their distinctive sonic signature. Tuning not only influences the band's overall tone but also underpins their songwriting, performance dynamics, and emotional impact. This article delves into the intricacies of All That Remains Tuning, exploring its evolution, technical details, and how it contributes to the band's enduring appeal.

Understanding the Role of Tuning in Metal and Rock Music

The Basics of Guitar Tuning

Guitar tuning refers to the process of adjusting the pitch of the strings to a specific set of notes, allowing musicians to achieve desired sonic qualities and facilitate particular playing techniques. Standard tuning, E-A-D-G-B-E, is the most common, but metal bands frequently experiment with alternate tunings to attain heavier, darker, or more complex sounds.

Why Tuning Matters in Metal

In genres like metal and metalcore, tuning plays a pivotal role in creating a powerful, resonant sound. Lower tunings, such as Drop D or Drop C, enable heavier riffs and a more guttural tone, while extended drop tunings like Drop B or even Drop A extend the sonic range downward, providing a deeper, more ominous atmosphere. Proper tuning affects intonation, playability, and the emotional weight of the music, making it an essential component of a band's sonic identity.

All That Remains: A Brief Band Overview

Formed in 1998 in Springfield, Massachusetts, All That Remains initially gained recognition with their debut album *Behind Silence and Solitude* (2002). Over the years, they transitioned from a more death metal-influenced sound to a melodic metalcore style, blending heavy riffs with melodic vocals and introspective lyrics. Notable albums include *The Fall of Ideals* (2006), *Overcome* (2008), and *The Order of Things* (2015). Their evolving sound reflects a band unafraid to experiment and adapt, with tuning choices playing a significant role in shaping each era's tone.

The Evolution of Tuning in All That Remains

Early Years and Standard to Drop D

In their initial recordings, particularly on *Behind Silence* and *Solitude*, All That Remains primarily utilized standard tuning, aligning with their death metal influences. However, as they matured, they began experimenting with drop tunings to achieve a heavier, more resonant sound. For example, on *The Fall of Ideals*, songs like "This Calling" feature tuning in Drop D (D-A-D-G-B-E), which allowed for more aggressive riffs and a broader dynamic range. Drop D provided a balance between playability and heaviness, enabling the band to craft memorable riffs with added depth.

Transition to Drop C and Drop B

By the time of *Overcome* (2008), All That Remains increasingly adopted Drop C (C-G-C-F-A-D), a popular tuning among metalcore bands for its intense heaviness and ease of riffing. Drop C allows for thicker, more powerful riffs while maintaining manageable string tension. In their later albums, particularly *A War You Cannot Win* (2012) and *The Order of Things* (2015), the band often employed Drop B (B-F-B-E-G-C) and even Drop A (A-E-A-D-F-B). These lower tunings contributed to a darker, more crushing sound, aligning with the band's lyrical themes of struggle, resilience, and introspection.

Extended Drop Tunings and Experimental Approaches

In their pursuit of sonic experimentation, All That Remains occasionally used extended drop tunings like Drop A (A-F-A-D-G-C), especially in live performances or specific tracks. These tunings provide an even lower fundamental pitch, adding a visceral weight to the music. Furthermore, some songs feature alternate tunings or hybrid arrangements, such as open tunings or custom setups, to achieve unique textures or facilitate particular melodic lines.

Technical Aspects of All That Remains Tuning

String Gauges and Tension

The choice of string gauges is critical when tuning to lower pitches. Heavier strings (e.g., .10-.59 or .11-.52 sets) are often used to maintain tension, prevent floppy notes, and sustain clarity. All That Remains's guitarists typically select heavier gauge strings for their lower tunings, ensuring tightness and articulation.

Intonation and Action Setup

Lower tunings can cause intonation issues if guitars are not properly set up. The band's technicians often adjust neck relief, saddle height, and intonation to ensure accurate pitch and comfortable playability. This meticulous setup is essential to preserve both the technical precision and sonic integrity of their riffs.

Capos and Alternate Tuning Devices

While not extensively used in their recordings, live performances sometimes employ capos or tuning slides to experiment with different tonal colors within their chosen tunings. These tools allow for rapid changes and creative flexibility during performances.

Impact of Tuning on Composition and Performance

Riff Crafting and Songwriting

Lower tunings facilitate the creation of heavier, more resonant riffs that form the backbone of All That Remains's sound. They enable the band to craft memorable hooks and powerful breakdowns that resonate with audiences. For example, songs like "Stand Up" (Drop C) showcase how tuning influences energy and intensity.

Vocal Compatibility

The band's vocalists adapt their singing techniques based on tuning. Lower tunings often require different vocal approaches to avoid strain and maintain clarity. All That Remains's lead vocalist Phil Labonte employs a versatile vocal style that complements the band's tuning choices, shifting between melodic singing and aggressive vocals.

Live Performance Considerations

Lower tunings demand precise intonation and guitar setup for live shows. The band's technical team ensures guitars are properly tuned and maintained, enabling seamless performances that stay true to their studio sound.

Analyzing Signature Tracks and Their Tuning Choices

- "This Calling" (The Fall of Ideals): Tuning in Drop D, facilitating accessible riffing with a heavy edge. - "Two Weeks" (Overcome): Also in Drop D, emphasizing rhythmic groove and melodic hooks. - "Stand Up" (A War You Cannot Win): In Drop C, with a more aggressive and crushing tone. - "No Knock" (The Order of Things): Utilizes Drop B, delivering a deep, resonant sound that underpins the song's intensity. - "Broken" (The Fall of Ideals): Features alternate tuning elements, showcasing their experimentation.

The Broader Context: Tuning Trends in Metal and Influence on All That Remains

The band's tunings reflect broader trends within metal and metalcore genres. The move toward lower tunings has been driven by a desire for heavier, more resonant sounds, as well as aesthetic choices to evoke darker atmospheres. All That Remains's tuning evolution mirrors these industry shifts but also demonstrates their commitment to sonic experimentation. Their willingness to shift from standard to extended drop tunings exemplifies a band that values sonic diversity and adapts to the expressive possibilities tuning offers.

Conclusion: The Sonic Signature of All That Remains Through Tuning

All That Remains exemplifies how thoughtful tuning choices underpin a band's sonic identity. From their early standard tuning roots to their embrace of Drop C, Drop B, and even lower, the band has consistently used tuning as a tool for emotional expression, technical precision, and sonic experimentation. Their meticulous approach to guitar setup, string selection, and tuning adjustments enables them to craft riffs that are not only powerful but also dynamically nuanced. In the broader landscape of metal, their tuning evolution highlights the importance of technical detail in achieving emotional resonance. As they continue to evolve, their tuning practices will undoubtedly adapt, reflecting their ongoing pursuit of sonic innovation. For fans and musicians alike, understanding All That Remains Tuning offers deeper insight into their artistry and the complex interplay between gear, technique, and musical expression that defines their enduring legacy.

Questions & Answers About all that remains tuning

No	Question	Answer
1	What is the standard tuning for All That Remains' guitar playing?	All That Remains typically uses Drop D tuning (D A D G B e) for many of their songs, which gives their riffs a heavier and more aggressive sound.
2	Are there any alternative tunings used by All That Remains?	Yes, besides Drop D, they sometimes experiment with other tunings like Drop C and Drop C to achieve different tonal qualities in their songs.
3	How can I learn the tuning for All That Remains' most popular tracks?	You can find guitar tab and tuning tutorials online on sites like Ultimate Guitar, or watch YouTube tutorials specifically focusing on their song tunings.
4	What gear or capo positions do All That Remains use for their tuning setups?	They often tune their guitars down to drop tunings without a capo, but sometimes use capos higher up the neck to change key or ease playability, depending on the song.

5	Has All That Remains ever changed their tuning style over the years?	Yes, over their career, they've experimented with various tunings to match evolving musical styles, including standard tuning, Drop D, Drop C, and more experimental tunings.
6	Can I replicate All That Remains' heavy sound with alternate tunings?	Absolutely! Using Drop D or Drop C tunings allows you to play heavier riffs similar to their style, especially when combined with appropriate amp settings and distortion.
7	Are there specific songs by All That Remains that require special tunings?	Yes, songs like 'Two Weeks' and 'Forever in Your Hands' are often played in Drop D tuning, while others might use different tunings for unique sound effects.
8	What are some tips for tuning my guitar to match All That Remains' style?	Use a reliable tuner, start by tuning to standard E, then drop the 6th string to D for Drop D tuning, and verify each string to ensure accurate pitch for authentic sound.
9	How do I maintain tuning stability when using drop tunings like All That Remains?	Use high-quality, well-setup strings, lock your tuning with a good nut and bridge setup, and consider heavier gauge strings to maintain tuning stability during aggressive playing.

All That Remains, Tuning, Metalcore, Post-Hardcore, Heavy Metal, Guitar Tuning, Drop C, Songbook, Guitar Tabs, Music Lessons