

# BASS TIPS

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## Bend and Release

### STRING BENDING

According to the definition of [melbay.com](http://melbay.com), bending, is the act of pushing or pulling a string sideways across the a fret to raise the pitch of a note by a half to full tone or more. Used extensively in rock and blues playing as well as in jazz.

### SUPPORT YOUR BENDING FINGER

*\*You will need to develop the required strength of your left-hand with the support of the other fingers to make a good bending.*

### What is bend and release?

Bend and release is when you play a note and gradually bend to the next pitch, then release to the original note. The most practical bends are half-step bends and whole-step bends.

- A half-step bend is the equivalent of one fret (one half step).
- A whole-step bend is the equivalent of two frets (one whole step).

*\*The string bending is a very expressive technique and a great effect for your playing.*

Fig. 1 - An example of a half-step bend and a whole-step bend.

