

# Deep Purple's 'Smoke On The Water' Voted 'Best Guitar Riff Ever'

Ahead of Nirvana...

April 02, 2008 by [Jason Gregory](#)

**The guitar riff in Deep Purple's 'Smoke On The Water' has been voted the best ever written by students from guitar schools across London.**

The riff beat Nirvana's 'Smells Like Teen Spirit' into [second place](#), while Aerosmith's 'Walk This Way' was third.

In a list dominated by veteran acts, The White Stripes' 'Seven Nation Army' is the most current entry.

Released in 2003, the simple riff came in at number nineteen in the poll.

Guns N' Roses feature twice on the rundown, with 'Sweet Child O Mine' and 'Paradise City' charting at number five and six respectively.

The rest of the top-five is completed by [Jimi Hendrix](#) 🎸, whose guitar riff 'Purple Haze' was voted the fourth best of all time.