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Technique Exercises for Guitar p.3

Now, play the technique exercises in a new rhythm: **eighth notes**. An *eighth note* gets 1/2 beat (two eighth notes equal 1 beat). Notice eighth notes divide a quarter note into two smaller parts. The first eighth note is played with a down pick, the second eighth note with an up pick.

It's important to feel the rhythm in your body by tapping your foot. The first eighth note meets the down of your foot (and the down of your right hand), the second eighth note meets the up of your foot (and the up of your right hand). Notice your foot-tapping motion and right hand picking motion are in sync.

Play technique exercise #1 on all six strings; in an eighth note rhythm:

↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ — Picking motion & foot-tapping motion are in sync.

1. 0 0 1 1 2 2 3 3 4 4 3 3 2 2 1 1



Play technique exercise #2 on all six strings; in an eighth note rhythm. Also, when ascending, continue to place and add fingers (leave fingers down, don't lift):

↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ Hold 1, add 3. Hold 2, add 4.

2. 0 0 2 2 1 1 3 3 2 2 4 4 3 3 1 1



Play each of these technique exercises on all six strings; in eighth notes. Also, when ascending, place and add (hold your fingers down):

↓ ↑ ↓ ↑

3. 0 0 3 3 1 1 3 3

4. 0 0 4 4 1 1 4 4

5. 0 0 4 4 2 2 4 4 1 1 4 4 2 2 4 4

6. 0 0 4 4 1 1 4 4 2 2 4 4 3 3 4 4 2 2 4 4 1 1 4 4

7. 0 0 1 1 3 3 1 1

8. 0 0 1 1 4 4 1 1

9. 0 0 4 4 3 3 4 4 2 2 4 4 1 1 4 4 2 2 4 4 3 3 4 4

Music Staff



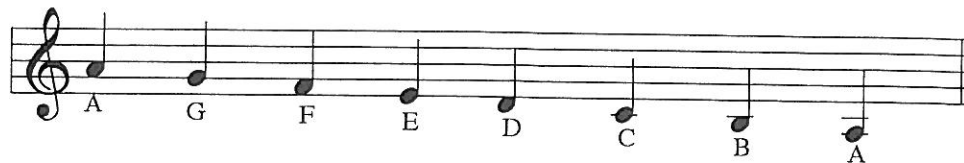
The 2nd space of the *staff* -- the 5 horizontal lines and 4 spaces -- is 'A.' Memorize this note's location on the staff and use it as a reference landmark for naming the other notes.



Ascending from A, the lines and spaces are named by going forward through the music alphabet: A B C D E F G.



Descending from A, the lines and spaces are named by going backward through the music alphabet: A G F E D C B.



This is the range of written notes for the guitar; notice the recurring A to G music alphabets.

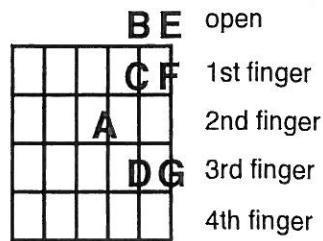


Fingerings

Left Hand Fingers: Index = 1
Middle = 2
Ring = 3
Pinky = 4

Use the same finger as the number of the fret.

Play 1st fret notes with the 1st finger.
Play 2nd fret notes with the 2nd finger.
Play 3rd fret notes with the 3rd finger.
Play 4th fret notes with the 4th finger.

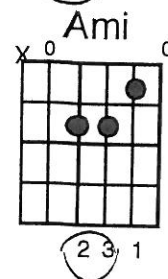
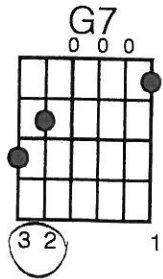
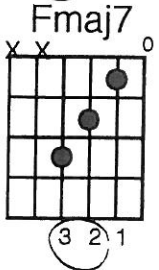
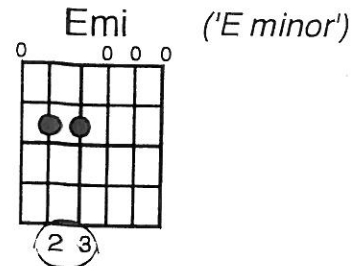
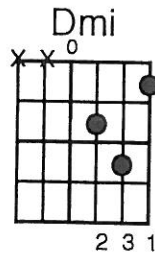
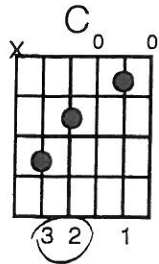


The diagram shows two musical staves. The first staff is in 4/4 time and contains a sequence of notes: A (1st fret), B (2nd fret), A (1st fret), B (2nd fret), C (3rd fret), and D (4th fret). Lines with labels point to these notes: '2nd finger' points to the first A, '1st finger' points to the first B, and '3rd finger' points to the C. The second staff continues the sequence with notes E (5th fret), F (6th fret), G (7th fret), A (8th fret), B (9th fret), and C (10th fret).

Remember, there are two aspects to learning to read notes: one is to identify the letter name of the note on the staff; the other is to learn where each note is on the guitar fingerboard. On the guitar, make it a goal to be able to visualize the letter names of the notes, just as you see them on the fingerboard diagram above.

Basic Chord Motions

Being thoughtful about how you move your fingers helps your playing. The sentences to the right of each exercise, and the fingerboard diagrams on the next page, are helpful tips toward moving your fingers in a thoughtful, efficient way. The goal of your practice is to train your fingers to move efficiently, based on common shapes and common notes shared by chords.



Repeat each exercise many times.

Repeat sign

1 C Fmaj7

Efficient motion tips:

Common shape -- move 2nd & 3rd fingers together.
Common note -- don't move 1st finger.

2 G7 C

Common shape -- move 2nd & 3rd fingers together.

3 Fmaj7 G7

Common shape -- move 2nd & 3rd fingers together.

4 Emi Ami

Common shape -- move 2nd & 3rd fingers together.

5 C Ami

Common notes -- don't move 1st or 2nd finger.

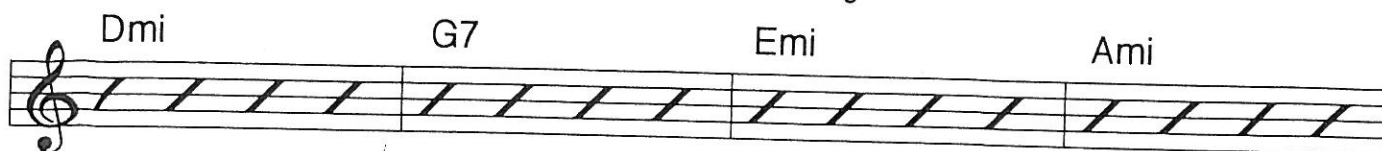
6 Dmi G7

Common note -- don't move 1st finger.

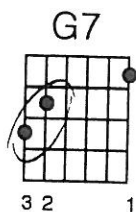
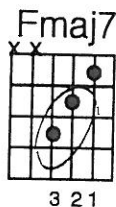
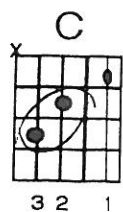
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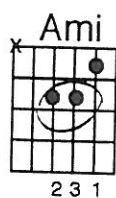
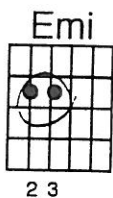
Efficient motion tip:
Common note -- don't move 2nd finger.



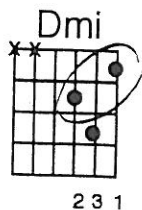
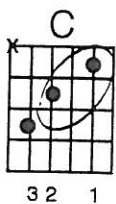
Efficient motion tips:



Common shape -- move 2nd & 3rd fingers together.



Common shape -- move 2nd & 3rd fingers together.



Common shape -- move 1st & 2nd fingers together.

Recommendation: Play more songs using these chords. Examples: Best of My Love - Eagles, Angel of Harlem - U2.