

EXERCISES EMPLOYING VARIOUS TIME VALUES

(Diagram numbers denote frets - Figures underneath show left hand fingering)

Count three in each bar. A quarter note has one beat - a half note, two.

Count four in each bar. Periods of silence in music are shown by rests. In the last bar note the quarter rest.

Count two in each bar.

TUNING for FIFTH and SIXTH STRINGS

The notes for the two bottom strings are low A and E. Tune the A (5th) an octave lower than A on the third string, second fret. Tune the E an octave lower than E on the fourth string, second fret. An octave is the eighth note above any given one. As A to A, or B to B, or C to C.

SCALE OF C MAJOR

A Scale is a series of seven sounds and the octave of the first, making eight. We are going to play the Scale of C. C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C. This scale establishes the Key of C. As we shall see later there are other keys higher or lower. We can start a scale on any note.

When you have memorized the fingering say the notes aloud as you play them.

SEE THAT THE TIPS
OF THE L.H. FINGERS
ALONE TOUCH THE
FRETS.
STRIKE DOWN WITH
THE PLECTRUM.

DON'T TIGHTEN
YOUR GRIP
ON THE
PLECTRUM

FIRST PIECES

Now try the following easy pieces
Try to make every sound a musical one.

TIP OF THE
FINGER BEHIND
THE FRET FOR
CLEAR TONE

MY BONNIE

The musical score for "MY BONNIE" consists of five systems, each representing a measure of music. Each system includes a guitar staff with fret numbers, a left hand (L.H.) staff with fingerings, and a treble clef staff with a count. The time signature is 3/4.

- System 1:** L.H. fingers: 3 1 3 1 2 2. Count: 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3.
- System 2:** L.H. 1 1 3 3 3 1 3 1 2. Count: 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3.
- System 3:** L.H. 2 2 2 3 1 2 1 1. Count: 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3.
- System 4:** L.H. 1 2 1 1 2 1 3 1. Count: 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3.
- System 5:** L.H. 1 2 1 1 2 1 1. Count: 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 2 3.

* A tie — indicates that the time value is sustained over the second note which is not struck.

† A dot after a note increases the value one half— in this case by a quarter note.

MASSA'S IN DE COLD GROUND

Count 1 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 etc.
(Time)

★ 1 2

L.H. 1 2 3 1 2 2 3 2 3 3 3

★ The figure 1 in bracket means that the bar inside the bracket has to be played first time through. The 'repeat dots' in the middle of the staff indicate that you must go back to the beginning, and repeat the strain. Second time through you ignore the first time bar and take the second which carries you straight on.

SCALES

Now revise your scale of C. Play it up and down, putting fluency before speed.

In the scale of G you will notice a strange sign (#). This is a sharp, which raises the pitch of a note half a tone. In the key of G every note F is played sharp, one semitone (one fret) higher. Thus F, instead of being found at the first fret, will be at the second.

In future pieces these signs (known as Key signatures) will be placed at the beginning of the piece.

A flat (b), as we shall see later, lowers the pitch of a note a semitone.

SCALE OF C

L.H. 3 2 3 2 1 2 3 2 3

SCALE OF G

L.H. 2 1 3 2 3 2 3 1 2 3

EARLY ONE MORNING

Before playing revise the Scale of G on page 7.

ENGLISH

Musical score for 'Early One Morning' in G major, 2/4 time. The score consists of three systems of staves. The first system includes a horn part and a piano part labeled 'L.H.'. The piano part begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 2/4 time signature. The melody is simple and rhythmic, with fingerings indicated by numbers 1-4. The second and third systems continue the melody with similar notation and fingerings.

CLEMENTINE

Musical score for 'Clementine' in 3/4 time. The score consists of three systems of staves. The first system includes a horn part and a piano part labeled 'L.H.'. The piano part begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is more complex than 'Early One Morning', with fingerings indicated by numbers 1-4. The second and third systems continue the melody with similar notation and fingerings. The score is divided into four parts labeled (a), (b), (c), and (d).

NOTE ON "CLEMENTINE"

The time is $\frac{3}{4}$, that is, three quarter notes in each bar. The first bar with its eighth notes and one half for the dot and its sixteenth note make up one quarter only ($\frac{1}{8} + \frac{1}{16} + \frac{1}{16} = \frac{1}{4}$). This is the 'lead in' bar; the remaining two quarters are in the last bar of the piece. The most difficult bars are analysed below. Count a steady ONE TWO, THREE with a slight accent on the one. The Time Analysis shows where the accent falls. Analyse awkward time values in this way and you will never fail to get the rhythm or feel of a piece.

Count 1 2 3

Bar (a) shows a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/4 time signature. The melody consists of a dotted quarter note followed by an eighth note. The first bar is marked with an accent (^) over the first note. The second bar is marked with an accent (^) over the first note. The third bar is marked with an accent (^) over the first note.

Count 1 2 3

Bar (b) shows a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/4 time signature. The melody consists of a dotted quarter note followed by an eighth note. The first bar is marked with an accent (^) over the first note. The second bar is marked with an accent (^) over the first note. The third bar is marked with an accent (^) over the first note.

Count 1 2 3

Bar (c) shows a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/4 time signature. The melody consists of a dotted quarter note followed by an eighth note. The first bar is marked with an accent (^) over the first note. The second bar is marked with an accent (^) over the first note. The third bar is marked with an accent (^) over the first note.

Count 1 2 3

Bar (d) shows a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/4 time signature. The melody consists of a dotted quarter note followed by an eighth note. The first bar is marked with an accent (^) over the first note. The second bar is marked with an accent (^) over the first note. The third bar is marked with an accent (^) over the first note.

TIME TIP:- Play bar (a) as if it were half then accent the dotted note slightly for the extra value required. 'A' denotes accent.

ACCIDENTALS

We have seen that:—

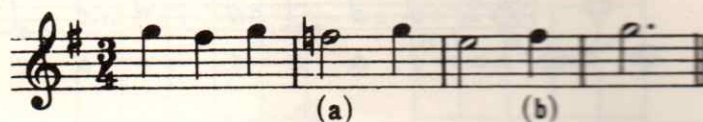
The Sign $\sharp$ (sharp) raises a note one semi-tone

The Sign $\flat$ (flat) lowers a note one semi-tone

The Sign $\natural$ (natural) cancels out a sharp or flat

EXAMPLE OF ACCIDENTAL

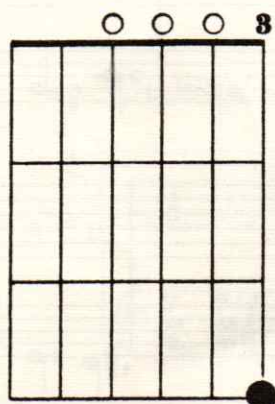
In the second bar opposite we have, at (a) an F natural, though the Key Signature specifies F sharp. This Accidental, as it is called, holds good only for the bar in which it occurs. At (b) in the next bar it is automatically cancelled though a sharp is sometimes written as a reminder.



OVER THE WAVES

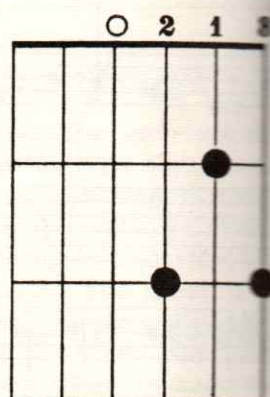
CAMPTOWN RACES

Count time 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 & etc.



CHORDS IN G

Here are two more chords.
This time they are in the Key of G, therefore the F in the D7 chord must be played sharp. The G chord is very easy. The D7 is quite easy too if you are careful to press the tips of the fingers only behind the frets. Square the fingers at the first and second joints.



This Scale is for practice in finding your notes. Don't attempt to play fast. Memorize, then say the note names aloud whilst playing.

SCALE OF G IN TWO OCTAVES

Each F is # in Key G

G A B C D E F G A B C D E F G

ROSE OF TRALEE

IRISH AFFAIRS

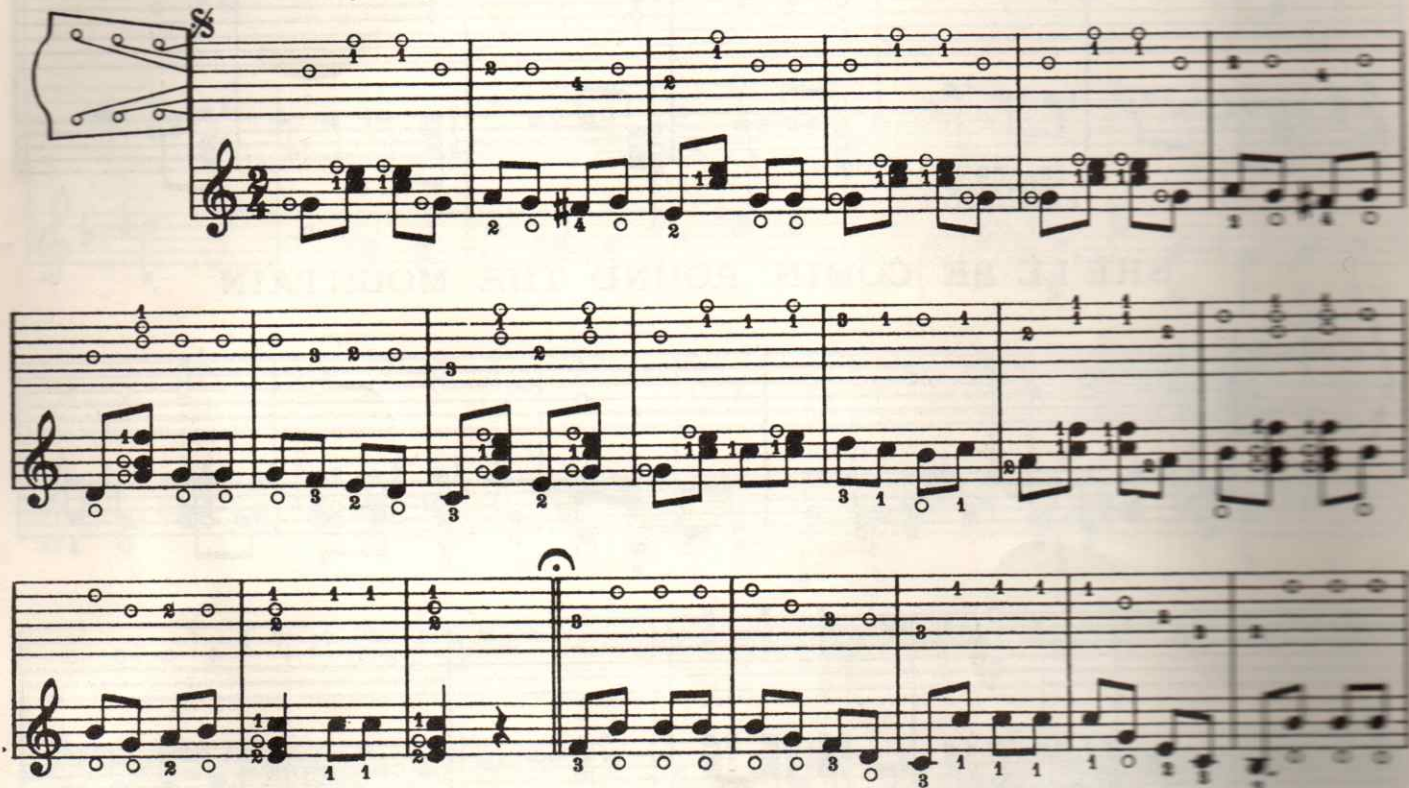
The image shows a musical score for the song "The Rose Tree". It is written for a four-part vocal ensemble (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 2/4. The score is arranged in four systems, each with a vocal staff and a piano staff. The piano part features a prominent melody in the right hand and a supporting bass line in the left hand. The vocal parts are arranged in a traditional SATB format, with the Soprano part at the top and the Bass part at the bottom. The lyrics "The Rose Tree" are written below the vocal staves. The score includes various musical notations such as notes, rests, and fingerings, as well as a piano part with a treble and bass clef. The overall style is that of a traditional folk song arrangement.

ANNIE LAURIE

The image shows a musical score for the song "The Rose Tree". It consists of two systems of music. The first system features a large, stylized illustration of a rose tree on the left, with its branches extending into the musical staff. The music is written for a single melodic line, likely for a voice or a single instrument. The second system continues the melody. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and bar lines, indicating the rhythm and pitch of the melody. The overall style is that of a traditional folk song manuscript.



TAVERN IN THE TOWN

*Dal Segno*

THE BARRÉ



sink into the fleshy wrinkles on the 'hinge' part of the knuckle. Bring the thumb round to the back of the neck to give more direct pressure when executing the barré.

In many cases you are called upon to stop two notes at the same fret with one finger. The first finger is nearly always used for this purpose as in the chord of F illustrated. Place the first finger across the first two strings then add the second where indicated. If you get a buzz on your barré, as this double stopping is called, roll the finger back slightly on to the bony part. Often the strings



LITTLE BROWN JUG

Playing in Position means that a group of notes are all played by movement of the fingers alone. Often, as indicated by bracket below, it is necessary to change position—move the entire hand up or down the fingerboard.

The musical score for "Little Brown Jug" is written for a mandolin in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. It consists of three systems of staves. The first system includes a mandolin icon and a treble clef staff. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4 below notes. A bracket labeled "CHANGE OF POSITION" is placed under the final measure of the first system. The second and third systems continue the melody and accompaniment with similar fingering and a second "CHANGE OF POSITION" bracket in the third system.

SHE'LL BE COMIN' ROUND THE MOUNTAIN

The musical score for "She'll Be Comin' Round the Mountain" is written for a mandolin in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. It consists of three systems of staves. The first system includes a mandolin icon and a treble clef staff. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4 below notes. The second and third systems continue the melody and accompaniment. The score concludes with a final chord in the third system.

KEY OF F

We have had an example of a sharp key, G.
Here is the Key of F. Play every B a semitone lower.



WALTZ

D. SADLER

Musical notation for the Waltz piece. It consists of five systems of two staves each. The top staff of each system has a bell-shaped icon on the left. The notation includes various musical symbols such as notes, rests, and fingerings (1, 2, 3) for both hands. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 3/4. The piece concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

HOW TO READ TIME CORRECTLY

COMMON TIME

Time can be counted in an automatic manner but this method fails to give you the 'feel' of a tune.

Look at the Time Signature— in this case, four quarter beats to the bar. Beat out four steady beats for a few bars with your foot. Now at (A) fit in the top line notes with your hand tapping on the table; top line hand—bottom line foot. At (B) you have hand and foot together, the hand BETWEEN the beat, then both together. A dotted line shows where the beat comes between the hand taps. Analyse all difficult bars in this way.

Common Time is often written C or C , count four quarters just the same.



THREE-FOUR TIME

Probably the easiest time in which to get the 'swing' or rhythmic feel of a composition. Best tip is to strongly accent the first beat.

In examples like (L) hand to hand beating as used by a drummer may be found even more simple than hand and foot.

Write out bars from any music you come across and tap the rhythms. Write them as rhythms— all notes on one line, time values only, don't worry about pitch.



TWO-FOUR TIME

Count two quarters to the bar.

At (D) tap and beat together. At (E) tap between beats. At (F) beat between taps, the simplest form of syncopation. At (G) the 'cut' note. At (H) and (I) we have groups of sixteenth notes. See how the tails are joined in the beat group to which the notes belong. This is done for convenience in reading. If you have difficulty with (H) and (I) try beating four eighth notes instead of two quarters.



SIX-EIGHT TIME

Often used for lively marches.

Remember that the normal accents are on the first and fourth. Count 1 2 3 4 5 6. These are the beats on which the foot falls in marching.

You may try hand tapping with six eighths in the bottom line

For foot and hand the first and fourth accented beats alone have been written.

THE FOGGY FOGGY DEW



BLOW THE MAN DOWN



MINOR MUSIC

Much beautiful music is written in the Minor Key. A minor scale—that of A minor is given opposite. The ear will immediately detect a difference in the intervals from those of the accustomed major key.

Minor music is often plaintive in character, the minor mode lending itself to this type of music.

A characteristic Tango in the minor key follows. Note the simplicity with which runs in 'Position' can be played.

SCALE OF A MINOR



RIO NIGHTS

D. SADLEIR

SONG OF THE VOLGA BOATMEN

The musical score is written for guitar and voice. It consists of six systems of staves. The guitar part is on the top staff of each system, and the voice part is on the bottom staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/4. The guitar part includes various chords and single notes, with some notes marked with fingerings (1, 2, 3, 4). The voice part is a melody with lyrics in Russian. There are two asterisks (*) and one dagger symbol (†) in the score, corresponding to the footnotes.

★ See note below

★ In the third bar play the first chord and the following single note in position, then slide the same shape up five frets for the next chord. Avoid unnecessary movement.

† The reverse is true here. Play the first chord take the two single notes in position, simply take down the 4th finger and raise it again, then move the hand down in the same shape.

BLACK EYES

3rd String Solo

TONE STUDY

This beautiful folk song has been arranged as a tone study. The object to be aimed at is to sustain the melody which has been kept on the third string. The covered third (plain wire should never be used) gives a mellow tone.

This style of playing sustained melodies on the third string sounds very effective.

In numbers of this type practise the *vibrato*. This effect may be employed on both chords and single notes. To produce the vibrato set the finger or fingers firmly on the note, stopping cleanly with the tips only, then move the wrist back and forward slowly. An unbroken wavering tone should be produced.

Remember that slow tone studies are the quickest route to clean, snappy playing.

TO MAKE A FURTHER ADVANCE
IN YOUR STUDIES
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MODERN PLECTRUM GUITAR PLAYING

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