

# Learn Guitar

## Acoustic Fingerpicking in 30 Days



Patrick O'Malley

# **CHAPTER ONE**

## ***Getting Started***

## **Introduction**

Thank you for reading this Acoustic Guitar Fingerpicking ebook. I'm so excited that you want to take this course and I promise you I'm going to do everything in my power to make sure you've got all the tools you need to be a fantastic acoustic fingerpicker.

### **What You Will Learn**

First thing I want to do is welcome you to the course. Well done for making this commitment. I take it as a privilege that you have chosen me to be your guitar teacher. I have prepared absolutely everything you need to learn the fundamentals of fingerpicking and to play your first song - descriptions, photos, chord charts, guitar tablature etc. Here are some of the things you will learn in this eBook:

- Three chords
- String names
- How to practice
- How to play with a metronome (good rhythm from the start!)
- How to play guitar tab (pick up a guitar book and play!)
- What fingerpicking patters will work over G, C and D chords
- Which right hand fingers to use for each picking pattern
- Five different picking patterns
- How to find bass notes in each chord
- How to isolate and practice your right hand finger technique
- How to isolate and practice your right hand thumb technique

### **Who This Course is For**

Finally, I want to say that you are perfect for this course if you are a beginner or a failed beginner. A 'failed beginner' is someone who tried to learn before, maybe even played a few chords but gave up after a while, maybe because learning wasn't engaging enough or playing guitar didn't stick. If that's you or if you are a complete beginner, then this course is perfect for you. You can call yourself a fingerpicker if you can play the song at the end of this PDF, so good luck!

## **Who Am I?**

My name is Patrick O'Malley. I have been giving guitar lessons for over 15 years and about ten years ago, I started teaching all my new students to fingerpick from lesson one. I noticed that the students who started this way almost always stuck with the instrument and kept returning for more lessons. I also noticed that they were far more musical and creative from an early stage, in comparison to students who began with chords, scales and theory. I still meet and play with many of them to this very day.

Believe it or not, I was very good at maths when I was younger and to many extra money I would give maths lessons to kids (teenagers) when I was in college. I always noticed one thing about maths - wherever anyone was stuck, they were always missing a key building block that was necessary. In my guitar teaching, I have over the years observed what common building blocks students are missing to understand what is required to play guitar and indeed fingerpicking, so I'm confident that the way everything is presented here is going to give you what you need to get to the end of the book and hopefully continue learning far beyond that.

I have a guitar site dedicated to learning fingerpicking at the suitably titled <http://www.learnfingerpicking.com>

I wish you success and hope you soon enjoy playing guitar as much as I do.  
Patrick O'Malley

## Some Resources

There are a few things that you need before you get started:

- 1) Have a guitar
- 2) Be able to string up your guitar
- 3) Be able to tune your guitar
- 4) Be able to read some guitar notation (or tablature).

The chances are that you already have a guitar if you are reading this eBook. But if not, then check out some of the options here [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h03QB\\_iDPqE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h03QB_iDPqE)

If you have an old guitar and you need to buy strings, then it's probably good to get a light set of strings or "11 gauge strings" for your acoustic. You need to be able to put strings on your guitar so if you can't do it yet, then bit the bullet and try. Worst case, you muck it up one time so maybe buy two sets of strings in case. But you can't get out of being able to change your own strings so dive in there if you have to. This is a great YouTube video if you need guidance on how to put strings on your guitar

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vcYS117qyco&list=RDvcYS117qyco->

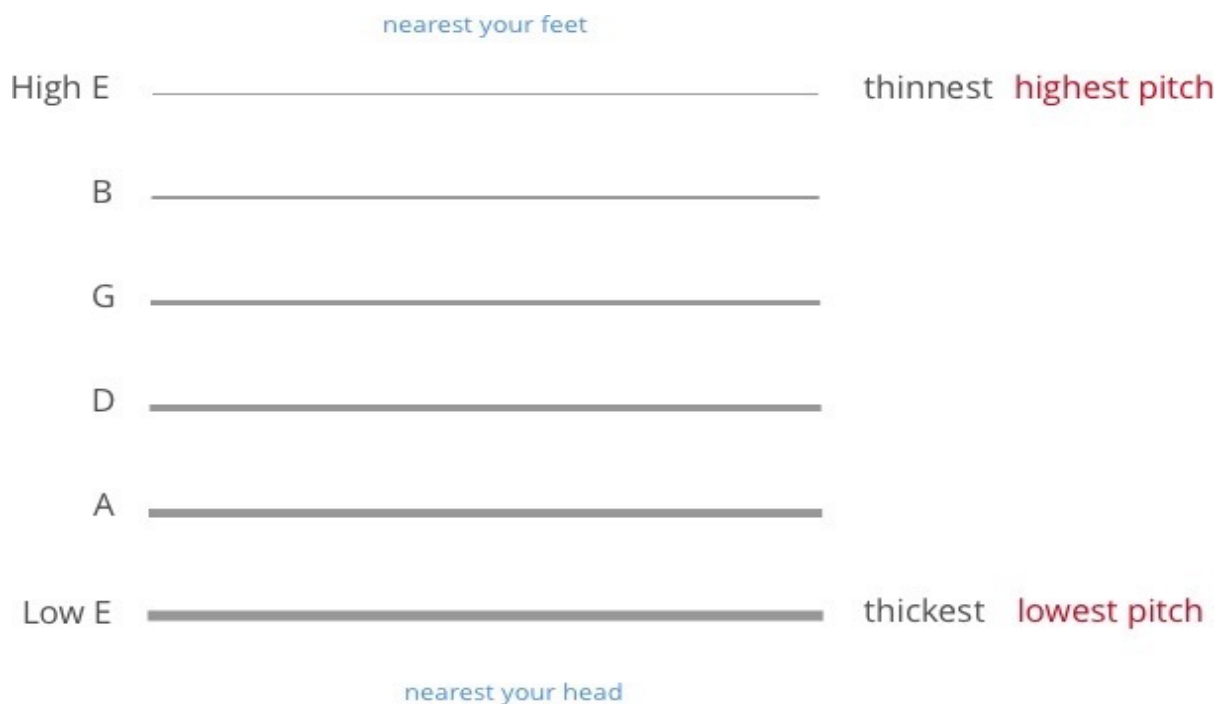
For tuning your guitar, there is a good guide here if you have never done it - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TDw2yWW1ThY>

For reading tablature, we deal with that in a later section so don't worry. You have all the basics you need.

## String Names

Let's start with some basics. The names of the six strings. Look down at the guitar. The string nearest your head, which you will notice is the thickest string also has the most bass sound. It is an E note. We call this the 6<sup>th</sup> string for the rest of the book.

The next string (the next thickest and next nearest your head) is the A string which we call the 5<sup>th</sup> string. Then we have the D string (which we call the 4<sup>th</sup> string), G string (3<sup>rd</sup> string), B string (2<sup>nd</sup> string) and then the thinnest string (furthest from your head) is another E note which we call the 1<sup>st</sup> string.



You will notice two strings are E notes (6<sup>th</sup> string and 1<sup>st</sup> string) but if you play them both you will hear that one is quite bass-sounding (the low E) and one is very high pitched (the high E). It's worth saying that when we say low here, we mean the tonality of the note (and not where the string physically is on the guitar).

There are ways to remember the string names. If you can remember the phrase "Eat Apples Daily Grow Big Ears" then that mnemonic will help you remember EADGBE, the strings in order.

## Three Chords

The first 3 chords we learn are G, C and D.

Have a look at the chord charts below and we'll learn these three chords in

no time! When you look at a chord chart, the number in the black circle is the finger (left hand finger) to use. The low E or thickest string is on the left and the high E or thinnest string is on the right. .

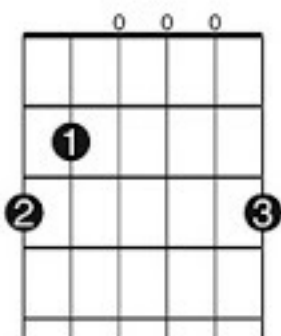
So for the G chord, put the second finger of the left hand on the low E or thickest string at the third fret. Then put the index finger of the left hand on the A string (string below) at the second fret. Then put the third finger of the left hand on the high E or thinnest string at the third fret. Then play all six strings and you get a G chord. Make sure to take your time and play each note individually to make sure they all sound nice and clean.

For the C chord, put the third finger of the left hand on the A string (5<sup>th</sup> string) at the third fret, then the second finger of the left hand on the D string (4<sup>th</sup> string) at the second fret and the index finger or first finger of the left hand on the B string (2<sup>nd</sup> string). This time, you only strum five strings with the right hand - the low E or thickest string you don't need to play.

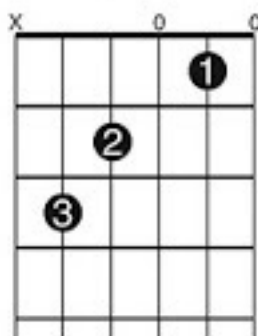
For the D chord, you put the index finger on the G string (3<sup>rd</sup>), the third finger on the B string (2<sup>nd</sup>) and the second finger on the high E string (1<sup>st</sup>). Now you strum four strings with the right hand (not the two lowest the E and A strings).

Take your time, play each chord slowly and make sure you do two things with the right hand, strum the whole chord then pick each note individually. When playing individual notes, listen for any bad or wrong notes and then correct (by taking a good look at what the left hand is actually fretting!). Playing individual notes of the chord is the way to know if you make a mistake.

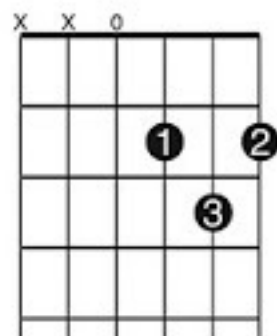
G Major Chord



C Major Chord



D Major Chord

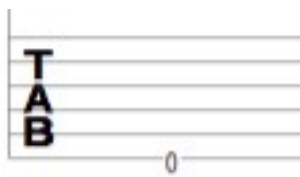


## Reading Tab

Guitar Tablature (or guitar tab) is a way of notating music for guitar. It is not quite reading "sheet music" like our piano playing friends, it is a little bit easier but still takes a little getting used to.

We'll start by playing a melody on one string. Then we will add other strings. Then we will look at how chords are written in tab.

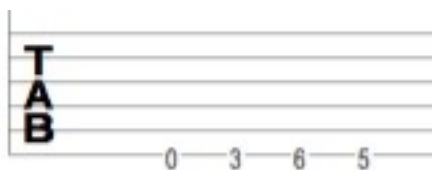
So we'll start by looking at playing one note - the 6<sup>th</sup> string (low E). This is just playing an open string so don't fret anything with your left hand - just play the thickest string on your guitar and let it ring. Note if you are not fretting a string, then we call that an open string and it is denoted in tab as a '0'.



Now if we play that same string (the low E string) three times: first as an open string, then at the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> fret, it would have guitar tab that looks like this

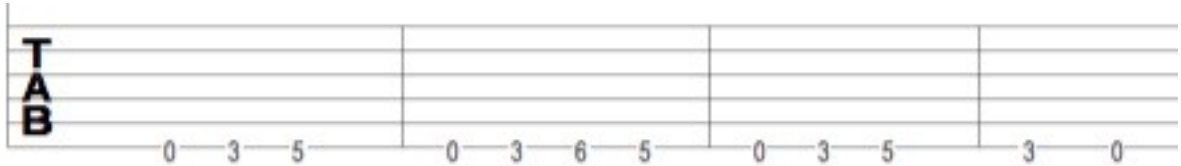


Now if we play the same string low E four times - first open, then 3<sup>rd</sup> fret, then 6<sup>th</sup> fret then 5<sup>th</sup> fret, it would look like this.



Finally if we play both patterns above then follow by play the low E string open, 3<sup>rd</sup> fret, 5<sup>th</sup> fret, 3<sup>rd</sup> fret, open string, you are playing Smoke on the Water by Deep Purple. You do know this riff! Google it if you are not familiar with it and then hum it and then play this tab until it matches. Now you will have followed tab to play a song on one string and from here adding other strings is relatively easy.





### Notes on Several Strings

So now let's play the 1<sup>st</sup> string (high E / thinnest string) three times open. Repeat.

And now play the high E string open, then at the third fret. And now the 2<sup>nd</sup> string (B string) at the first fret then third fret.

And finish by playing the 1<sup>st</sup> string (high E) open.



Congratulations. You have just played Jingle Bells - but really this is kinda cool because this is reading tab on two strings!

### Playing Notes at the Same Time

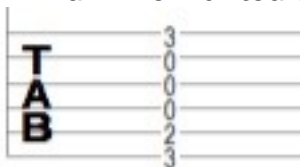
Up until now, we have played notes sequentially, meaning one then the next one after that.

But what if we want to play two notes at the same time?

Well if we play the 6<sup>th</sup> string (low E) open and the 5<sup>th</sup> string (A) at the second fret - at the same time - then it looks like this



And if we wanted to show a G chord using tab, it would look like this.



Remember from the last section how to play a G chord. We fret the 6 string (or low E or thickest string) at the third fret. Then we play the 5<sup>th</sup> string (A string) at the second fret. The 4<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> strings (D and A) are open. Then we play the 6<sup>th</sup> string (the high E or thinnest string) at the third fret.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### *Fingerpicking*

## **Starting To Fingerpick - The Big Rule**

In order to play fingerpicking guitar, the real key to begin with is the right hand. So for the first few lessons, we will play something easy with the left hand like a G chord or a D chord - that's it! So start by fretting a G chord with your left hand. That's all we're going to do for the rest of the lesson with the left hand.

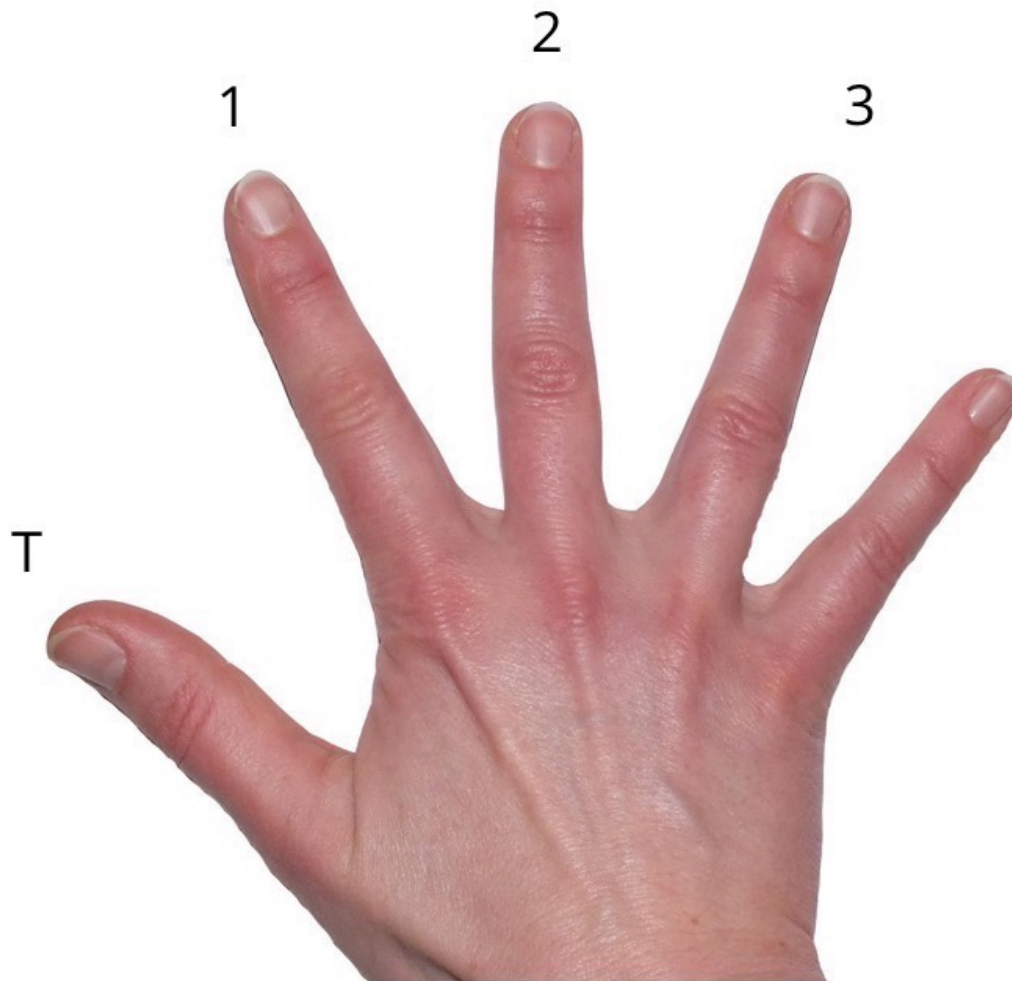
### **The Big Rule**

When you play guitar, you use two hands obviously and the right hand frets chords or individual notes and the left hand hits the strings. When you play a chord, you hit all the strings at once. But when you want to do fingerpicking, then each finger will hit individual strings.

In playing guitar with the fingers, there is one big rule:

- The thumb plays the bottom three strings (the bass strings which are the 6<sup>th</sup>, the 5<sup>th</sup> and the 4<sup>th</sup>) and it has ownership for any notes played on those three strings (the one nearest your head) and the other three fingers play one string each!
- If there is a note on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> string, the thumb must play it.
- The index finger always plays the G string or third string.
- The middle finger always plays the B string or second string.
- The ring finger always plays the high E string or first string.

And that's it!



It sounds simple. It is simple! But at first, it will take a little bit of practice for those fingers to obey you. In particular, in a rush to play what the brain is telling it, some students end up playing it with one finger - because it is easier. Well, if you notice that, just make yourself practice using the right fingers per string again. And here's a great exercise if you notice that happening.

### **One Finger Per String Exercise - Open Strings**

What we will do now is play a G chord.

The bass note is on the sixth string (low E string). Let's play that four times with the thumb (T)

The G string is played by the index finger - let's play that four times

The B string is played by the middle finger - let's play that four times.

The high E string is played by the ring finger - let's play that four times.



### Exercise 1

It's actually really nice to play each of these notes four times. Because when you do so, it gives your mind some time to play and also to think about 'am I using the right finger there?'.

So as a beginner, feel free to play this exercise a few times. If you think it's really super easy, then try to speed it up. But the most important thing is using the right finger, not speed.

### One Finger Per String Exercise - G chord



### Exercise 2

Here we play the 6<sup>th</sup> string (the low E string, the thickest one!) at the third fret, then the open 3<sup>rd</sup> string (G) and the open 2<sup>nd</sup> string (B) and finally the open 1<sup>st</sup> string (the high E).

Here we are not focused on speed; instead we focus on using the right fingers of the left hand and having a nice clean note! That's the most important thing.

### Assignment 1

So your assignment after our first lesson is to play this pattern (exercise 2) for a few minutes until you are comfortable with it. Feel free to stick with just the G chord. But try something new also with the right hand. Experiment! Do something different! Maybe it is to play the notes backwards (from highest E to the low E). Or maybe you play each note twice? Maybe you skip a note? I

cannot emphasise enough how great it is for you musically to just experiment and mess around with everything I show you.

As a bonus, if you know some other chords, try this pattern - you might notice it sounds great with other chords and sometimes not. Any idea why that is? We'll explain it in lesson 2, but it's worth thinking about now.

## Fingerpicking with Two Chords

### Last Assignment

So how did playing your first pattern go? Did you experiment a bit and try some new permutations? If you did, was that fun? Here's a question - when you started playing with other variations, did you keep using the designated right hand fingers per string? If so, awesome.

Sometimes we may notice as beginners that you start off playing each string with the right fingers but then if we relax our concentration, we find that one finger may take over. So for example, maybe the index finger tries to play all the strings!

This might be the easiest way to play something today but the problem is that if we want to play something complex or start to speed up, it's going to be impossible. So it's important that during the first week, we pay particular attention to using the Big Rule of which finger play which strings. Even at a really slow speed (like super slow!) if you are using the correct right hand fingers and thumb to hit the appropriate string, then I am happy.

If it was a bit difficult to keep the right finger hitting each string, go back and play exercise 1 again. That will iron that out for you, guaranteed! Play exercise 1 for a while and then go back to exercise 2 and see that the right fingers are being used!



### Using a Metronome

The next thing we will do to help us practice is use a metronome. A metronome is just a tool that plays a solid beat, and our goal is to play along with one. I suggest that you buy one. This Snark metronome is nice and does the job but any metronome will do. If you don't have one, it's ok as you can play along with me when I'm using the metronome and that will be enough for now. But I'd recommend buying one anyway - it will be huge for your progress.

I use a Snark Metronome because it costs around \$20 and has different volumes which is great if you want to be able to practice sometimes a bit more loud and sometimes more softly if there are other people you don't want to

disturb. There's also free online metronomes that you can use. They will work fine today if you don't have a physical metronome, but it means you need to turn it on and off at your computer or laptop and I prefer to be able to press a physical button.

Here is a link to a good free online metronome - <https://www.metronomeonline.com/legacy>

### **Playing Exercise 2 with a Metronome**

Let's start at 40 b.p.m.



So try it yourself, play one note for each hit on the metronome. I'll let it play for a little while so that you can try that. So how did that feel? If it was too hard you can slow the metronome down even more. Or if it was too easy then you can speed it up!

But for now, you just want to use the right fingers of the right hand and make a good connection. Speed will come in time, believe me!

Please don't skip this exercise. Playing something very slowly in time to a metronome and then upping the speed to a higher tempo and then to a higher tempo again is a really fundamental part of being able to play accurately in time. At the very least, play along at 60 bpm. It should sound pretty nice and we're using the right fingers of the right hand and it's a great start to building our fingerpicking technique, which will get pretty complex - but it all starts here.

### **Another Pattern**

So now we are going to play a very similar pattern. Except now we're playing the C chord with our left hand. The one thing to note here is that the thumb hits a bass note on the fifth string.





### Exercise 3

Start slowly and make sure the right fingers are hitting the right strings.

### Assignment 2

Your exercise is to play the G pattern above followed by the C pattern, If you know the chords well already, then your job is to think about the fingers of the right hand - are they sticking to the right strings? Is the thumb hitting the 6<sup>th</sup> string for the G bass note and the 5<sup>th</sup> string for the C bass note?



### Exercise 4

If you are completely new to guitar, then don't worry about this being difficult. It's great practice and I'm going to give you a great tip for how to change chords quickly in the next section. But don't go there yet! Spend 10-15 minutes trying to change chords and using the right fingers of the picking hand (left hand).

If you have done your 15 mins homework and you want to mess around, try new things, experiment and see what sounds musical, feel free!

## Doing More - With Just Two Chords!

### Last Assignment

I'm so excited to see you do that last exercise:

- We have two chords
- We are changing between them
- We are fingerpicking each chord
- We are using the thumb to play different bass notes on each chord

Now let's just consider for a second if you found that hard, your fingers wouldn't behave themselves and it was just tough to play it the way you wanted. Don't get frustrated! It's going to take some time. You can't just pick up the guitar and do everything, but I've three helpful tips and routines so that nobody gets left behind.

### Assignment Help 1 - Big Rule Exercise

First question, did you stick to the Big Rule? If one finger started to play each string (instead of one per string) we play exercise 1. This will help here.

### Assignment Help 2 - Thumb String Changing Exercise

Second question, how was it to play different bass notes with the thumb? We had one bass note on the 6<sup>th</sup> string and one bass note on the 5<sup>th</sup> string. It does take some practice and concentration. If it was really hard to master, here is an exercise that I would suggest the following exercise. Play your G chord with the left hand and then just hit the 6<sup>th</sup> string four times (with the right hand thumb). Then play your C chord and just hit the 5<sup>th</sup> string four times (with the right hand thumb). And repeat. Eventually the thumb should get used to the distance between the strings and like any practice - eventually it becomes second nature. You could be having a conversation with somebody and doing this! But in the early days, it takes some attention and conscious practice.

The image shows musical notation for Exercise 5. It consists of two staves. The top staff is in 4/4 time and contains two measures. The first measure is labeled '1' and contains four quarter notes on the G string, with a 'G' chord symbol below. The second measure is labeled '2' and contains four quarter notes on the C string, with a 'C' chord symbol below. The bottom staff is labeled 'T A B' and contains two measures. The first measure has four '3' triplets under the strings, and the second measure has four '3' triplets under the strings. A '3' is also written at the end of the second measure.

### Exercise 5

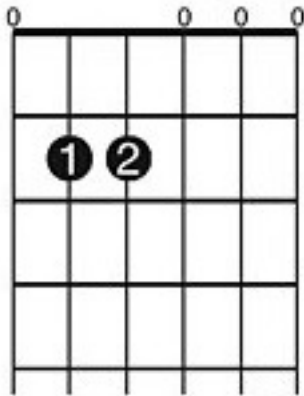
### Assignment Help 3 - Easier Chord Changing Options

Third question, what if the changing of chords was too hard? Maybe once the chord was fretted, you were doing great. You could fingerpick away, and you could use the Big Rule and it was all fine. But when it came time to get to the C

chord, it took a long time to get those fingers in place. Here's a little exercise in case the chord changing was hard.

If we look at an Em chord chart, it looks like this.

## E Minor Chord



Now if we choose to play the 6<sup>th</sup> string then 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> strings of the Em chord, we might notice that all of those strings are strings that the left hand does not fret (they are called open strings for this chord).

What that means is that if you take your whole left hand away from the guitar and play the 6<sup>th</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup> strings (the left hand is not used at all) it sounds the same as when you play the Em chord.

So that gives us a really easy exercise. Play the G chord and do our last exercise and then take the left hand off the guitar (slightly off the fretboard) and play and then put the G chord back on with the left hand).

### Exercise 6

#### Up & Down Exercise in G

Our exercises so far have been in one direction - ascending.

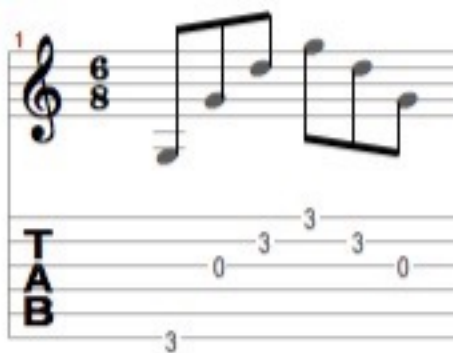
What I mean by that is that we started at the thumb and then each note was higher in pitch. Play them again and hum along and you'll see what I mean



### Exercise 2 (again)

Now we want to play this again but add two notes - which looks like this. Fret a G chord. So you will play the bass note on the 6<sup>th</sup> string with your thumb. If we look at the right hand, play the 6<sup>th</sup> string with the thumb, then index, middle, ring, middle, index.

You could write that (right-hand) pattern like this: T-1-2-3-2-1  
 Now what you are playing looks like this:



### Exercise 7

Now we can try that in C. Note that the bass note for C is on the 5<sup>th</sup> string (you might remember that from the last section)



### Exercise 8

If you put those last two together, you get this

The image shows a musical exercise in 6/8 time. The top staff is a treble clef staff with a 6/8 time signature. It contains two measures of music. The first measure starts with a red '1' above the staff and contains a sequence of notes: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter). The second measure starts with a red '2' above the staff and contains: D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), G3 (quarter), F3 (quarter). The bottom staff is a guitar TAB staff with three lines. It contains two measures. The first measure starts with a red '1' above the staff and contains: 3 (on the 3rd line), 0 (on the 2nd line), 3 (on the 3rd line), 3 (on the 3rd line), 0 (on the 2nd line). The second measure starts with a red '2' above the staff and contains: 3 (on the 3rd line), 0 (on the 2nd line), 1 (on the 1st line), 0 (on the 2nd line), 1 (on the 1st line), 0 (on the 2nd line). The TAB staff is labeled 'TAB' on the left side.

### Exercise 9

#### Assignment 3

This exercise above is your exercise for today.

But I want you to mess around with it. Honestly, the best way to master music is to learn something and then do as many different things with that as you can.

Play it with happy thoughts in your mind. Now play it with a sad feel.

Can you play it using different chords? Maybe get your Em in there, or your easy Em (taking the left hand off the guitar altogether).

Play with different permutations of G, C and Em and anything else you can think of. There are no right things to do, apart from enjoy yourself!

## The Backwards Pattern

### Last Assignment

Let's have another look at the last exercise.

- You are really fingerpicking now - you have G, C and Em
- You are using different fingerpicking patterns
- You are playing the thumb on different bass notes

The image shows a musical score for Exercise 9. It consists of four measures of music. The first two measures are G chords, and the last two are C chords. The notation includes a treble clef, a 4/4 time signature, and a key signature of one flat. The first measure has a red '2' above it, the second a red '3', the third a red '4', and the fourth a red '4'. The bass line is shown below the treble clef with fingerings: 3, 0, 3, 3, 0 for the first two measures, and 3, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0 for the last two. The treble clef line has fingerings: 0, 3, 3, 0 for the first two measures, and 0, 1, 0, 1, 0 for the last two.

### Exercise 9

### Challenge

Either that exercise went really well, in case I'm going to challenge you to get your metronome back out and try to play it a little faster! Maybe from 60 bpm to 70 bpm. Playing each note cleanly and playing to the beat are the key. This is such a good exercise for you.

Or if it was tough, get your metronome out and try and play it at a really slow speed but using the correct fingers of the right hand (our Big Rule) and in time with that (slow) metronome beat. If it's taking some time to master, don't worry, it will come eventually.

### A New Pattern - The Backwards Pattern

We have seen this pattern before. It is one of the first we looked at. Here the thumb plays the 6<sup>th</sup> string (as we know now is the default bass note we play for our G chord with the thumb). And then we play index, middle, ring fingers.

We write this a T-1-2-3

(Thumb of right hand, first finger of right hand, second finger of right hand, third finger of right hand)



### Exercise 2

I love this pattern I use it myself a lot. It sounds so musical, with the bass followed by three notes that decrease in pitch.

Now we play those same four notes, but in a different order.



### Exercise 10

We write this as T-3-2-1.

(Thumb of right hand, third finger of right hand, second finger of right hand, first finger of right hand). I would advise just to play this for 2-3 minutes to get used to the feel of it. I love this pattern I use it myself a lot. It sounds so musical, with the bass followed by three notes that decrease in pitch.

Now we can try to play a T321 with a C chord. Notice the bass of the C chord which we play with the thumb of the right hand is on the 5<sup>th</sup> string.



### Exercise 11

And you can do the same thing in Em. The bass of Em is the low E string (the 6<sup>th</sup> string). The easy version of Em is when the left hand doesn't play anything.



### Exercise 12

#### Assignment 4

Play the T321 for at least 15 minutes.

Your exercise is to vary the chords as much as you can. One example could be this: Do the pattern in G twice then C twice then Em once then C once (for example).

It's fine if you just want to change between G and C for now. But if you want to mess around with other chords and the length of time you spend in each chord, I think that would be fun!

#### Assignment 5

Now play a G-C chord change but vary the pattern of the strings picked by the left hand. Instead of IMA, can you think of another combination (mai or aim or anything else would work, or whatever your mind's eye sees, or whatever is just playable. So feel free to have that thought in mind when you practice.



## The PIMA Notation

For this lesson, we will focus a little bit on theory. This is just to take a little bit of a break from learning new patterns .

If you are serious about being a guitar fingerpicking you are going to want to be able to go out there and play music that you find online, in guitar magazines or through DVDs, so it is good to be familiar with the standard of notation used so that you can comfortably get and play music from other sources.

In the past we have played something like this and we have used the notation for the right hand as T-1-2-3 (thumb, then index, middle, ring of the right hand):



### Exercise 2

#### A Little Spanish

Another way to describe this is a PIMA notation.



In Spanish:

- ◆ Pulgar = Thumb
- ◆ Indecio = Index
- ◆ Medio = Middle
- ◆ Anular = Ring

So if you translated “thumb, index finger, middle finger, ring finger” into Spanish, you would get “Pulgar, Indecio, Medio, Anular”. And because the origins of fingerpicking are from that part of the world, that is now a well used standard.

#### Two PIMA Examples

TAB	NUMBER SYSTEM	PIMA SYSTEM
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	T-1-2-3	P-I-M-A
	T-3-2-1	P-A-M-I

Here in the second example, it is what we practised in our last exercise. So you know how to play that.

Now it's simple - call the right hand pattern T-3-2-1 like we did.

Or call the right-hand pattern P-A-M-I if you wish.

Either way, they both describe the same order of strings you hit with right hand fingers.

I'm now going to return to our T123 notation for our next section. Why? Because it is just easier. But it's always good to be aware of what other musical sources will use.

## Everybody Hurts

This is a great example of how a simple picking pattern can be really effective in song-writing. This example from REM is a great song for you to learn. Here's a tip: once you have learned the patterns, play the CD or open the song in YouTube and play along. This might be your first time playing along with the CD but it's a great intermediate step to being able some day to play with other musicians (and stay in time!)

### The Verse

Do this (down and up) picking in G

The image shows musical notation for a D chord pattern in G major. The top staff is a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It contains two measures of music. The first measure has a quarter note on G4, followed by eighth notes on A4, B4, and C5, then a quarter note on B4, eighth notes on A4 and G4, and a quarter note on F#4. The second measure has a quarter note on G4, followed by eighth notes on A4, B4, and C5, then a quarter note on B4, eighth notes on A4 and G4, and a quarter note on F#4. A red '2' is written above the second measure. Below the staff is a guitar fretboard diagram for the D chord, showing the 6th string open (0), 5th string 2nd fret (2), 4th string 3rd fret (3), 3rd string 2nd fret (2), 2nd string 3rd fret (3), and 1st string 2nd fret (2).

Very similar pattern (down and up) but this time we play a bass note on the 6<sup>th</sup> string because we are picking a G chord.

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Putting it all together, you get this. It should be sounding familiar now.

D

G

### The Chorus

Then for the chorus, the chords are Em and A

9

10

Em

And

11

12

13

A

## CHAPTER THREE

### *What Next?*

Congratulations on finishing this course.

The first thing I would recommend is listening to as many of the great guitar players as you can. This twitter account is great for highlighting some of the great guitarists around - [https://twitter.com/guitar\\_picking](https://twitter.com/guitar_picking).

Also you can go to the site <http://learnfingerpicking.com> where I will put more materials online in video format on a regular basis.

Keep playing your 15-20 minutes each day and look forward to seeing you soon!