





- Easy Graphics for visual learning of guitar techniques, chords, scales and songs
- Audio Examples for instant access to the music you are learning - 
- Video Samples that demonstrate the songs you are learning - 

(all audio and video files can be found at www.thecompleteguitar/guitarnow)

Be sure to have **FUN**, making your practice times adventures in learning to make music. *Allow your own creativity to emerge every time you pick up your instrument.*

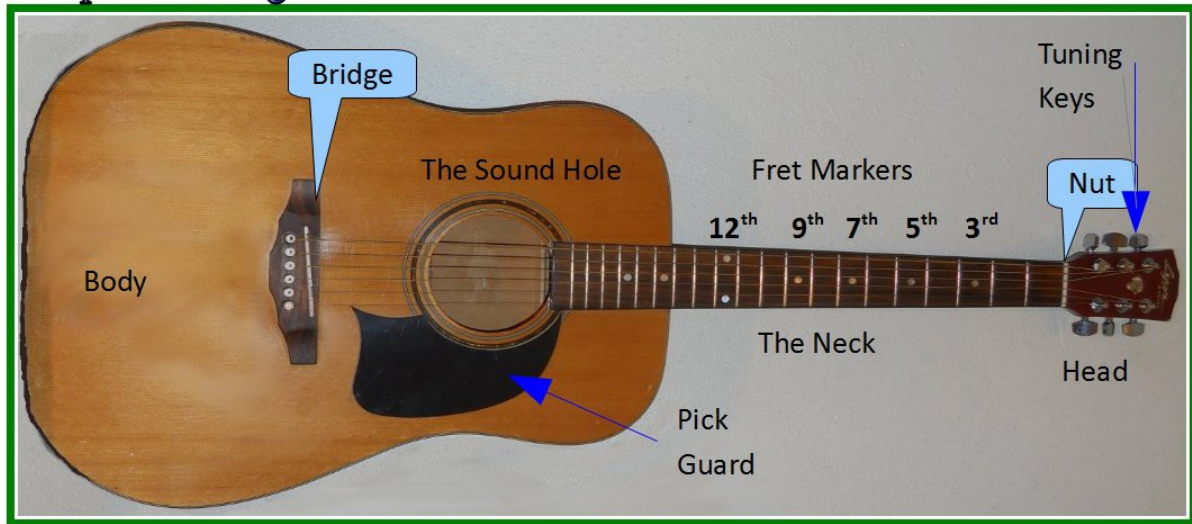
To supplement your learning, please see www.thecompleteguitar.com where you can access a more **advanced on-line version** of this program (**free!**) that includes all of the audio and video examples in this book.

Did I mention **HAVE SOME FUN?** We learn best when **Inspired!**

Wishing you the very best!

Cary

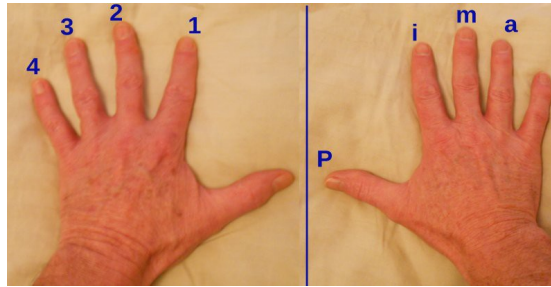
The parts of the guitar:



Beginning with the top string: **E A D G B E**

If that is hard to remember, try a word game:

Eddie Ate Dynamite Good Bye Eddie



The **left hand** has number names, **1- 4**, beginning with the index finger.

The **right hand** has letter names, **P I M A** These are useful for finger picking patterns.



Place guitar on your left leg, left foot propped up a few inches.

The neck of the guitar should be pointed slightly up

Your right arm and hand rest partially on the guitar body

Strumming the guitar can be done with just your fingers, stroking down on all the strings or with a **Guitar Pick**.

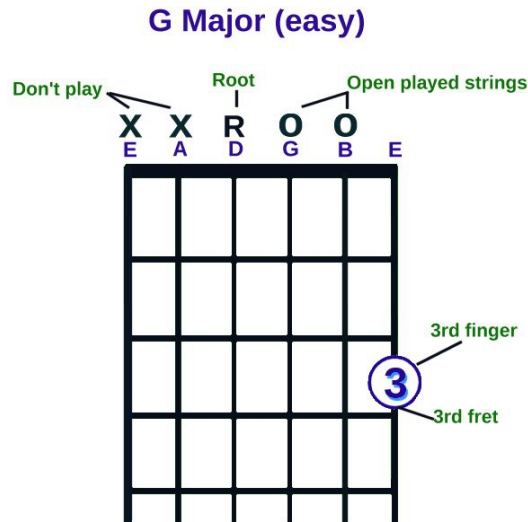
To use a guitar pick, hold it in your right hand with the I and P fingers (index and thumb) with about a 1/3rd of the pick extending out from the two fingers.

Strumming Open Chords

Place your **3rd finger** (left hand) on the **3rd space** of the neck, just touching the **front edge of the 3rd fret**. Pluck with the pick the **4th, 3rd, 2nd, and 1st strings**, then **strum** all four strings with a downward motion, playing each string in one sweeping downward motion.

You have just played your first chord, **G major**!

“Strum Pattern”



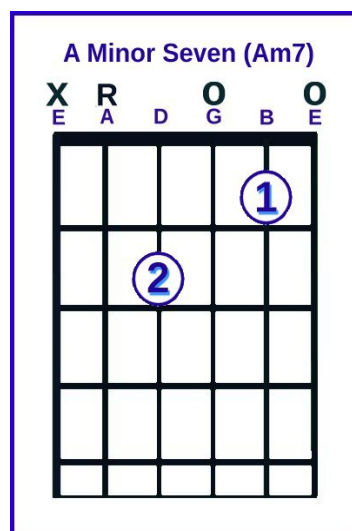
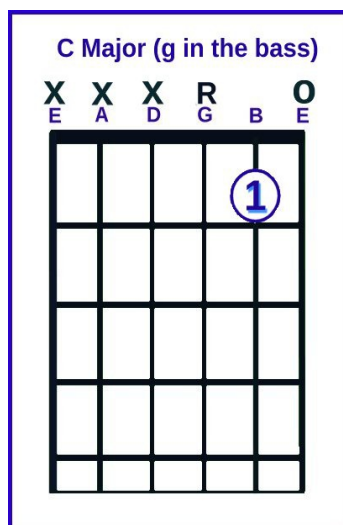
Now try using your **P I M A** right hand fingers to **Arpeggiate** the **G chord**:

- ┌ Use **“P”** to down-stroke the **4th string** root
- ┌ **“i”** strokes upward the **3rd string**
- ┌ **“M”** strokes upward the **2nd string**
- ┌ **“A”** strokes upward the **1st string**

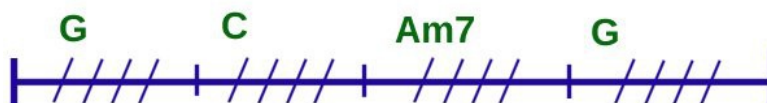
“Pima Pattern”

More Chords and Rhythm

These next two chords are relatives – and as you can see you only add your 2nd finger and play additional open strings to change between the two.



The exercise below will help you memorize and gain speed in changing from one chord to another. **Strum (/)** each chord **four times** before moving to the next. **Now you are making some music!**



You can also practice your finger-picking (**P I M A**) with this exercise. You already know how to finger-pick the “G” chord (P down on 4th, I, M and A up on 3rd, 2nd and 1st strings).

I M and **A** play the **same three strings (3rd, 2nd, and 1st)** on all three chords, **P** will play the given **ROOT (R)** of the chord – for the “**C**” chord **P** will stroke down on the **4th string**. For the **Am7** chord, **P** will stroke down on the **5th string**.



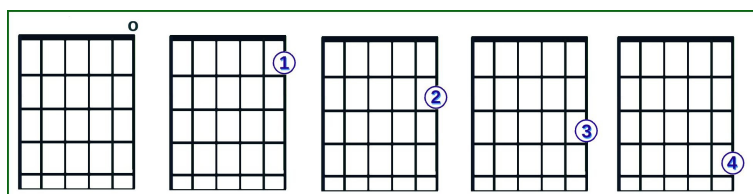
“G Strum”

Warm-up Exercise #1

0 – 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 3 – 2 – 1 – 0

This exercise will help you learn how to properly Finger or Fret individual notes (**melody**) on the guitar.

To begin, pluck the first string “E” open. Then place the **1st Finger on the 1st Fret** of the same string and pluck, then place the **2nd Finger on the 2nd Fret** of the same string, then the **3rd finger and fret**, and the **4th finger and fret**. Then come back down, **4, 3, 2, 1**, and finally open (0).



Play this exercise two times through (012343210 - 012343210) for each string, beginning with the First String “E”, then the 2nd string “B”, etc., etc., until you have done the exercise on all six strings.



Warm-up Exercise”

Some Fingering Tips:

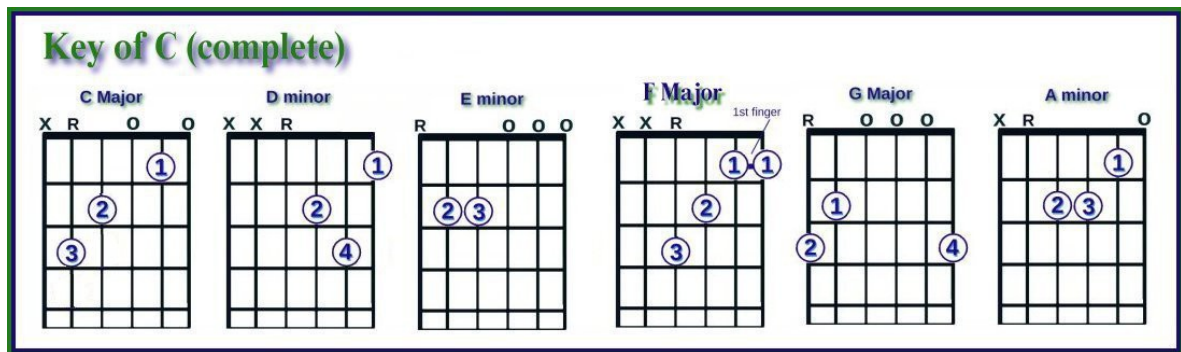
- ┌ Left hand finger arched or curled so that the **finger Tip** presses the string snug against the front of fret bar. Try not to let your finger bend sideways or backwards.
- ┌ Keep the left hand thumb always pointed toward the ceiling, pressing or squeezing the back of the guitar neck.

Different Strokes!

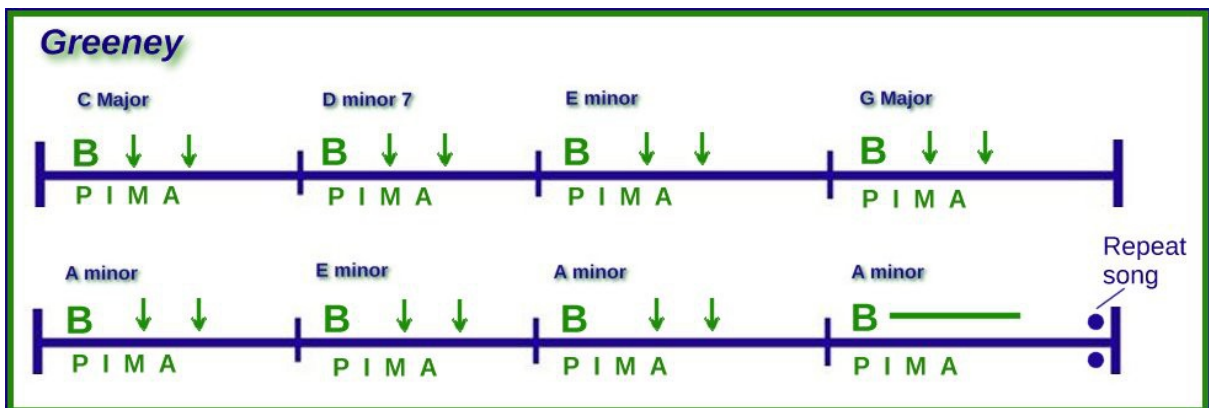
- ┌ When using the pick, alternate picking each stroke: down, up, down, etc, for each succeeding note.
- ┌ When using “i” and “m” **fingers** to pluck each note, rest your **thumb** on the **6th string**, extend your “i” finger and press it into the string being played, then sweep the finger so that it rests on the next string up. For the next note press “m” into the string you are playing, release, resting it on the next string up.

Key of C

Once you are used to the simplified chords (above), you will want to learn the full versions of the C, G and A minor chords. The new ones below, **E minor** and **D minor 7** chords just about completes the list of most common chords used in songs written in **C Major**:



The song below will give you practice in changing from chord to chord as well as working a new strum pattern: **B** ↓ ↓ The pick plucks down on the Root or Bass string alone, then strums twice the rest of strings in the chord.



You can use this song to also practice your finger-picking. Remember “P” will pluck down on the **Root** of the chord, “i”, “m” and “a” will then pluck upward the 3rd, 2nd, and 1st strings in succession. **Variation:** try each pattern twice per chord!



“Greeney Demo”

Daily Practice Routine

Guitar is a challenging instrument to play; to gain strength and ability requires **PRACTICE**. By giving the instrument **15-30 minutes each day**, you will find your ability improve consistently.

Your daily practice should now be as follows:

1. Warm-up Exercise #1: 0-1-2-3-4-3-2-1-0 x 2 per string, all six strings

- ┌ Use the guitar pick, alternating down, up, down, etc., for the exercise.
- ┌ Use “i” and “m” fingers, alternating each, “i” for the 1st note, “m” 2nd note, etc, etc.

2. Chord/Song Work

- ┌ Review the chords learned so far.
- ┌ Play the chord exercises several times, paying attention to correct fingerings and clear sounds from each note of the chord.
- ┌ Practice using both the strum pattern (**B** ↓ ↓) as well as the finger-picking pattern for the exercise.

Remember: Placing the left hand fingers **snugly to the front of the fret** insures a clear tone and requires less pressure to make the note.

Are you having fun? Be sure to bring *enthusiasm* into your practice time, as well as *intent to explore, invent, and be creative* with your instrument. If you do, you will learn very quickly!

Getting In Tune

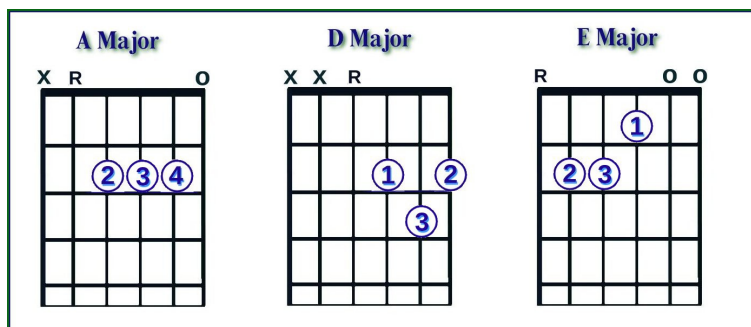
If you find your chords sounding bad, you may need to be sure each string is properly tuned. The easiest way to tune the guitar is with a **PITCH PIPE, ELECTRONIC GUITAR TUNER, or PIANO**. You may

also learn to tune your guitar on-line at www.thecompleteguitar.com/guitarnow . Just select the **Tuner Application** from the menu.

Rhythm & Blues!

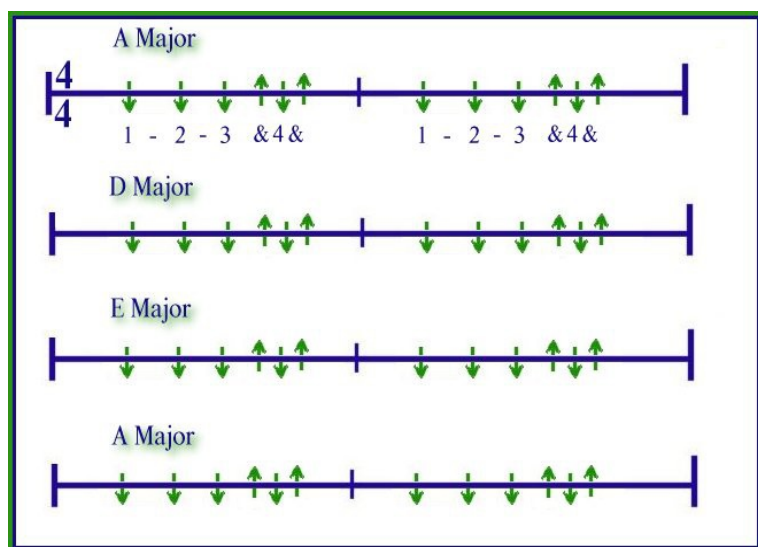
Most Rock, Pop, Country, Rhythm and Blues, and Folk songs have two things in common:

Similar *rhythms* and common *keys*, such as the key of C, A and E. Study the new chords in the key of A, then practice the blues song with the new rhythm as shown.



Time Signatures ($4/4$, $3/4$) appear in the 1st bar of a song and tell you how many **beats per measure (top number)** and what kind of **note gets the beat (bottom number)**. This song in $4/4$ has **four beats** per measure, and a quarter note or **one down-stroke** per beat.

Notice that the 3rd and 4th beat you play both a down-stroke and an up-stroke in a single beat.



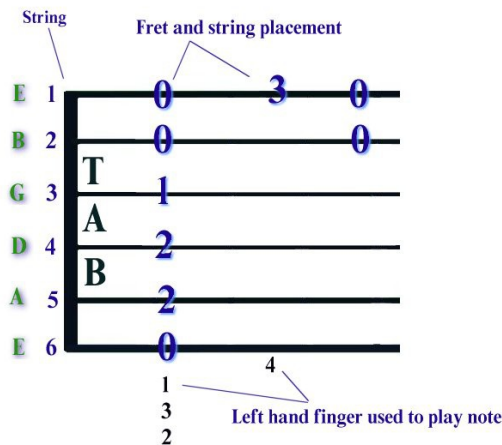
“Rhythm & Blues Demo”

Rock Guitar!



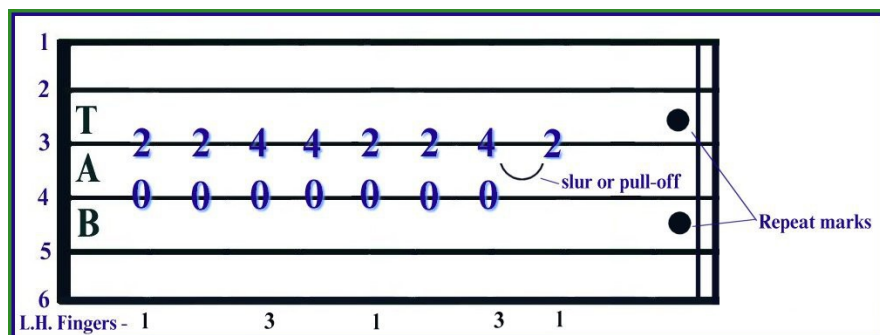
Most of the popular songs played today can be learned by downloading the **TABLATURE** for the song, which provides both the guitar rhythm, chords and lead notes and expressions.

How to read tablature: The music reads from left to right, indicating the sequence of the notes to be played. Notes appearing **vertically** are played at the same time (a chord).



“Tab Demo 1”

Do you recognize the chord played? Yes, it is an **E Major chord**, followed by the 4th finger playing the 3rd fret of the 1st string, then open 1st and 2nd strings. Sounds nice! Now try this basic rock pattern in the key of A. Notice the REPEAT and the SLUR! Use the pick in a down-stroke for each pair of notes.



"Tab Demo 2"

Rock Tab #1

Once you have the idea of playing **tablature** from the previous exercise, you are ready to learn the whole song. Notice it is actually a variation of the Blues song learned on page 9, using notes from the **A**, **D**, and **E** chords combined with a rock rhythm.

A Major

L.H. Fingers - 1 3 1 3 1

D Major

L.H. Fingers - 1 3 1 3 1

E Major

L.H. Fingers - 1 3 1 3 1

A Major

L.H. Fingers - 1 3 1 3 1



"Rock Tab #1"



Common Chords & Keys

As you gain experience playing songs you want to learn, you will find them to be in common keys written for the guitar. The three most popular are the **keys of C, A and E**.

You already know most of these chords. The new chords here for you in the key of C is **D minor** and **F Major** (notice the 1st finger lays on it's side to cover the 1st two strings!)

Key of C (complete)

C Major	D minor	E minor	F Major	G Major	A minor
X R O O	X X R	R O O O	X X R	R O O O	X R O

There are two ways to **BARR CHORDS**, the easy 2 or 3 string barr, and the FULL barr, which will take some practice to get it sounding good. **TIP** – Curl the 1st finger slightly to play the 1st two strings and the root.

Key of A (complete)

A Major	B minor	C# minor	D Major	E Major	F# minor
X R O	X R	X R	X X R	R O O	R

One more key, the **KEY OF E**, and you will have learned the most popular keys and chords used in popular songs today:

Key of E (complete)

E Major	F# minor	G# minor	A Major	B7 Seventh	C# minor
R O O	R	R	X R O	X R O	X R

To help you memorize and gain speed moving from chord to chord, practice the various finger-picking and strum patterns shown below. Play the pattern two times per chord then move to the next chord in the grid, starting with the key of C, then A and finally E.

Key	I	ii m	iii m	IV	V	vi m
C	C Major	D minor 7	E minor	F Major	G Major	A minor
A	A Major	B minor	C# minor	D Major	E Major	F# minor
E	E Major	F# minor	G# minor	A Major	B7 Seventh	C# minor

Strum Patterns

4 Count - 4/4

1. $\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$
1 2 3 4
2. $\text{B} \downarrow \text{B} \downarrow$
1 2 3 4
3. $\text{B} \downarrow \uparrow \text{B} \downarrow \uparrow$
1 2 & 3 4 &
4. $\text{B} \downarrow \text{PAUSE} \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$
1 2 3 & 4 &

3 Count - 3/4

5. $\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$
1 2 3
6. $\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \uparrow$
1 2 3 &
7. $\text{B} \downarrow \downarrow$
1 2 3
8. $\text{B} \downarrow \uparrow \downarrow$
1 2 & 3

Finger-picking Patterns

4 Count - 4/4

1. p i m a
1 2 3 4
2. p a m i
1 2 3 4
3. p i m a m i m a
1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

3 Count - 3/4

4. p i m a
1 2 & 3 &
5. p a m i
1 2 & 3 &
6. p i m a m i
1 & 2 & 3 &

Key of C (complete)

C Major, D minor, E minor, F Major, G Major, A minor

Key of A (complete)

A Major, B minor, C# minor, D Major, E Major, F# minor

Key of E (complete)

E Major, F# minor, G# minor, A Major, B7 Seventh, C# minor

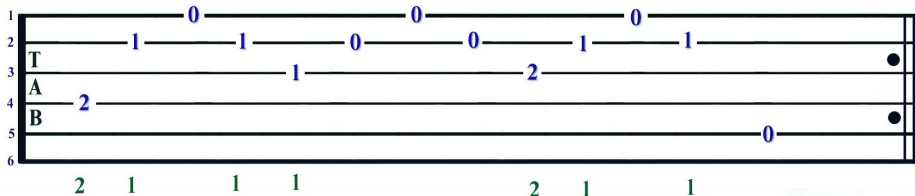
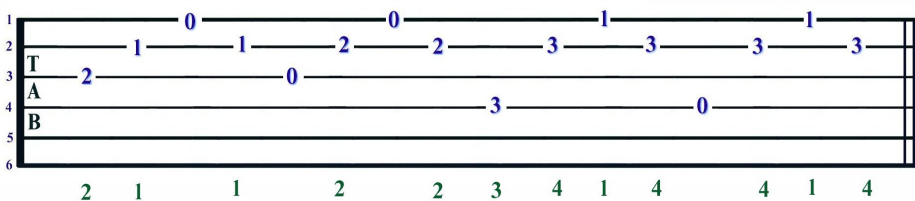
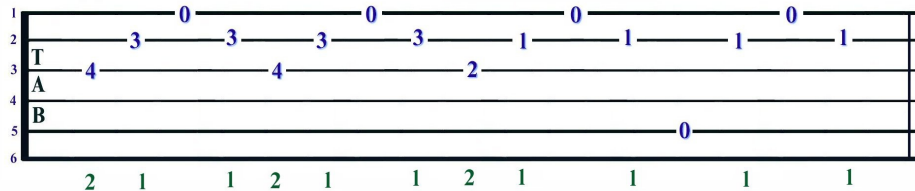
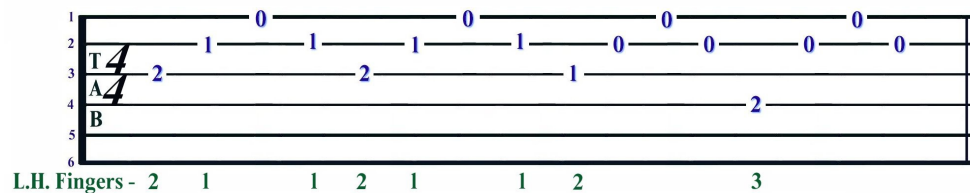


The final lesson in this book gives you the opportunity to learn a lovely little classical song written a few hundred years ago by *Fernando Sor*, called "**Estudio**". You will be able to play this beautiful song quickly because it will be presented to you in guitar tablature.

Finger-picking tips: "p" plucks down on the lowest note, "l", "m", and "a" play the 3rd, 2nd, and 1st string notes, respectively. **HAVE FUN!**

Estudio

R.H. Finger-picking: p i m a, p i m a, etc, etc.



'Estudio Demo''

Book One of *Guitar Now* does not teach the NOTES and STAFF for reading classical guitar music, but will give you an introduction to the notes used in **Estudio**.

This song is based on the "**C**" scale in the **Key of "A minor"**. You should learn this first scale, as it can help you gain dexterity as part of your daily practice. It also gives you the notes used to play lead and melody to the chords and rhythms you have learned so far in the key of C.

Notes in the Key of "C"

L.H. Fingers - 2 3 2 3 2 1 3 1 3

There are two ways to sound the notes to a scale or lead:

- ┌ Use the guitar pick, alternating down-stroke, up-stroke, etc., etc., for each note.
- ┌ Finger-pick each note using "i" and "m", alternatively



"C Scale Demo"

Once you learn all of the notes above, you will want to run the scale from low "A" all the way up to high "G", and then back down all the way to the starting note, low "A". That completes the scale.

Next are the actual **notes** to **Estudio**, as well as the **Tablature** you've just learned. This is also your introduction to the Classical Guitar. If you like this kind of music, you can further all these studies we we've covered so far, as well as learn to read music written for the guitar in book two, [The Complete Guitar](#).

Daily Practice Routine #2 Audio - Notes and Tab

The image displays four systems of musical notation for a guitar exercise. Each system consists of three parts: a treble clef staff with a 4/4 time signature, a guitar tablature staff, and a left-hand fingerings staff. The music is written in G major (one sharp) and features ascending and descending eighth-note patterns.

System 1: The treble staff shows an ascending eighth-note scale from G4 to D5, followed by a descending eighth-note scale from D5 to G4. The tablature staff shows the corresponding fret numbers: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 0. The left-hand fingerings staff shows the sequence: 2, 1, 1, 2, 1, 1, 2, 3.

System 2: The treble staff shows an ascending eighth-note scale from G4 to D5, followed by a descending eighth-note scale from D5 to G4. The tablature staff shows the corresponding fret numbers: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 0. The left-hand fingerings staff shows the sequence: 2, 1, 1, 2, 1, 1, 2, 1, 1, 1, 1.

System 3: The treble staff shows an ascending eighth-note scale from G4 to D5, followed by a descending eighth-note scale from D5 to G4. The tablature staff shows the corresponding fret numbers: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 0. The left-hand fingerings staff shows the sequence: 2, 1, 1, 2, 2, 3, 4, 1, 4, 4, 1, 4.

System 4: The treble staff shows an ascending eighth-note scale from G4 to D5, followed by a descending eighth-note scale from D5 to G4. The tablature staff shows the corresponding fret numbers: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 0. The left-hand fingerings staff shows the sequence: 2, 1, 1, 1, 2, 1, 1.

Your daily practice should now be as follows:

1. **Warm-up Exercise #1:** 0-1-2-3-4-3-2-1-0 x 2 per string, all six strings, using the pick or "i" and "m" fingers, alternating.
2. **Scale Work:** Practice the "C" Scale, using the **pick** or "i" and "m" fingers, *alternating*.
3. **Chord Work** - Review the chords in the Grid using either a strum or finger-picking pattern for each chord in a given key. Review all the chord songs.
4. **Song Work** – Review the *Tablature* songs in the book: **Rock Tab #1** and **Estudio**.

Key	I	ii m	iii m	IV	V	vi m
C	C Major	D minor 7	E minor	F Major	G Major	A minor
A	A Major	B minor	C# minor	D Major	E Major	F# minor
E	E Major	F# minor	G# minor	A Major	B7 Seventh	C# minor

Strum Patterns

4 Count - 4/4	3 Count - 3/4
↓ ↓ ↓ ↓ 1 2 3 4	↓ ↓ ↓ 1 2 3
B ↓ B ↓ 1 2 3 4	↓ ↓ ↓ ↑ 1 2 3 &
B ↓ ↑ B ↓ ↑ 1 2 & 3 4 &	B ↓ ↓ 1 2 3
B ↓ PAUSE ↓ ↑ ↓ 1 2 3 & 4 &	B ↓ ↑ ↓ 1 2 & 3

Finger-picking Patterns

4 Count - 4/4	3 Count - 3/4
p i m a 1 2 3 4	p i m a 1 2 & 3 &
p a m i 1 2 3 4	p a m i 1 2 & 3 &
p i m a m i m a 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &	p i m a m i 1 & 2 & 3 &

Exploration!

Congratulations on completing **Guitar Now!** You now have a few of the basic fundamental techniques for playing a wide variety of music. To further your studies you will want to get the second book in this series, "**The Complete Guitar**", which goes into more detail in **chords**, **lead theory**, **scales**, **tablature**, and **notation** for learning instrumental or classical guitar.

Visit now www.thecompleteguitar.com/guitarnow to access all of the **exercises** and **audio examples** of this book, as well as work with the **FREE** on-line version of the '**The Complete Guitar**'.

Now that you have a good foundation in chords, rhythms and tablature, you will want to use the Web Search Engines to find the chords or tablature to your favorite songs, most of which include the audio of the song as well. One of the most complete catalog of tab and chords songs is:

<http://www.ultimate-guitar.com/>

There are also many song books available at music stores and on-line that contain both the chords and tablature versions of popular songs.

Wishing you the very best in your creativity and soulful expressions as you explore the wonderful world of music.

Cary

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www.thecompleteguitar.com

