

# Guitar Pedagogy Quick Reference

## Classical

### Right Hand Fingers

P - Thumb - Pulgar

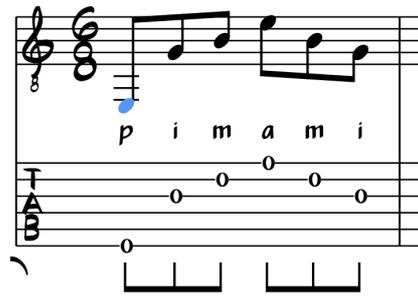
I - Index - Indice

M - Middle Finger - Medio

A - Ring Finger - Anular

Pinky is rarely used

Right arm rests on the lower bout of the guitar with hand over the sound hole - do not compromise wrist



### Left Hand Fingers

1 - Index

2 - Middle

3 - Ring

4 - Pinky

Thumb supports fingers behind the neck of the guitar.

Rest stroke - Finger plucks string and comes to rest on adjacent string - mostly used for bringing out melody and bass

Free stroke - Fingers pluck string without coming to rest on adjacent string, the motion carries through to the palm.

Standard Notation is used

CV - to bar at fret V (C indicates the bar)

1/2 C - use a half bar

Numbers - finger numbers of left hand

3

- Play this note on the string indicated instead of the natural position



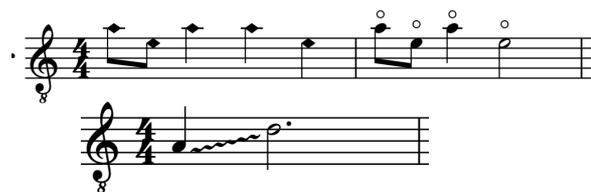
Sul tasto - over the fingerboard

Sul Pont. - pontecello - play close to the bridge

nat - over the sound hole

Diamond Shaped notes indicated harmonics

Line between notes indicates a glissando



Alternate tuning is indicated before music. Number = Letter, ex. 6 = D indicates to tune the sixth string down to D.

## Folk and Modern Fingerstyle

### Right Hand Fingers

- T - Thumb
- 1 - Index Finger
- 2 - Middle Finger
- 3 - Ring Finger
- 4 - Pinky (rarely used)

### Left Hand Fingers

- 1 - Index
- 2 - Middle
- 3 - Ring
- 4 - Pinky
- T - Thumb (only occasionally when wrapped around)

**Travis Pick Pattern** (Basic Patterns)- Thumb alternates between root and fifth of chord. First chord is usually "pinched" Basic patterns seen below with folk fingering.

Musical notation for a C chord Travis pick pattern in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff shows a melody of quarter notes: C4, E4, G4, C5. The bass clef staff shows a bass line of quarter notes: C3, G2, C3, G2. Fingerings are indicated below the notes: T, T, 1, T, 2, T. The guitar tablature shows fret numbers: 0, 1, 0, 0, 3, 3. A '2' is written above the first measure. A slash is present under the first measure of the tablature.

Musical notation for a G chord Travis pick pattern in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff shows a melody of quarter notes: G4, B4, D5, G5. The bass clef staff shows a bass line of quarter notes: G2, B1, D2, G2. Fingerings are indicated below the notes: T, 1, T, 2, T, 1, T. The guitar tablature shows fret numbers: 3, 3, 3, 0, 3, 3. A '2' is written above the first measure. A slash is present under the first measure of the tablature.

### Modern Fingerstyle Techniques

1. Melody notes are added to the picking patterns above
  2. Use thumb for bass notes and finger pick treble strings with fingers 2, 3, 4
  3. Alternate between pick and finger style - this requires right finger to grip pick between the first joint while fingerpicking - John Mayer uses this to alternate between verse and chorus sections
- \*Most of these techniques are more advanced  
\*Remember to separate right from left hand technique.

### Rhythmic Notation

**Slash Marking:** Indicates the rhythm to play the chords

**X notation:** Indicates dead strings - dampen the strings to make a percussive sound

Musical notation for C and Em chords in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff shows a melody of quarter notes: C4, E4, G4, C5. The bass clef staff shows a bass line of quarter notes: C3, G2, C3, G2. A slash is present under the first measure of the tablature.

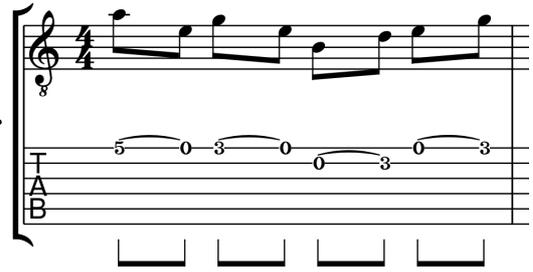
Musical notation for a G chord in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff shows a melody of quarter notes: G4, B4, D5, G5. The bass clef staff shows a bass line of quarter notes: G2, B1, D2, G2. An 'X' is placed over the second measure of the treble staff. The guitar tablature shows fret numbers: 3, 3, 3, 0, 3, 3. A slash is present under the first measure of the tablature.

## Techniques for Acoustic and Electric Guitar

### Left Hand Techniques

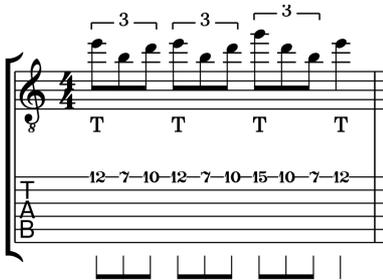
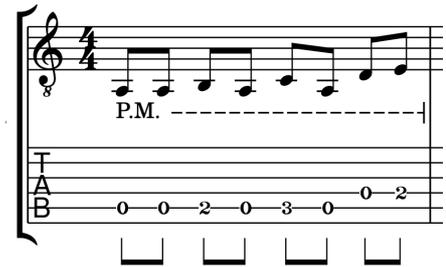
**Hammer-on:** often indicated as a slur in the music from a lower pitch to a higher pitch, pluck the first note with and hammer down the second pitch on the same string using a new left hand finger without replucking the string - the hammer-on should be with enough force to make the string ring again

**Pull-off:** also indicated with a slur between two notes from higher to lower - start with two fingers on same string, pluck higher note with right hand, pull off the left finger in a plucking motion to sound lower note



### Right Hand Techniques

**Palm Muting (P.M.):** use palm of the right hand to dampen the strings slightly - placing palm on the strings near the bridge allows the strings to ring enough to sound notes when plucked



**Tapping:** Indicated with a T in the tablature - hammer on the fret with the right hand at the fret indicated, pull off with the right finger to sound the lower note - another pull off or hammer on may be needed in the left hand to complete the riff - this technique is usually applied to triplet rhythms

### Picking Techniques

1. Start with down picking whole, half and quarter notes and chords
2. Think of an up pick or strum as one that hits the string(s) on the way back to reset
3. Keep the pick moving down and up even when the rhythm varies. Down on beats up on subdivisions
4. Down and up markings are the same as those that are used in orchestra
5. The pick should attack the string on the edge, not flat against the string
6. Bursts are quick down and up picking on one string
7. Sweeps are moving through strings in the same direction before alternating
8. Cross string picking can mean skipping one or more strings between a down and up stroke or alternating down and up from string to string

DOWN      UP  
      

