

## Exercises

This section contains the exercises mentioned in the Section Analysis. These exercises are specifically designed to help incorporate technique and music theory while you play. Unless otherwise indicated, practice everything with strict down-up alternate picking until you're comfortable with the phrases.

### Exercise Series #1

The first series of exercises focuses on using sweep and economy picking, especially in playing arpeggios. The intro section of the Presto is an ideal example to use for this idea. When you initially learn the arpeggio patterns, definitely use alternate picking, but then, try it like this:

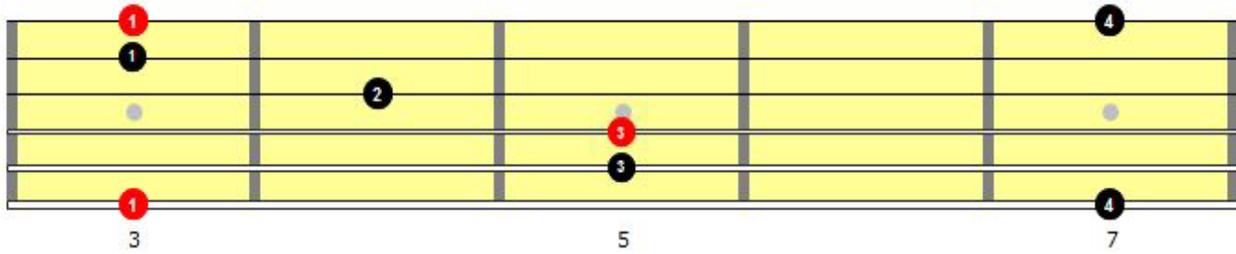
The image shows two systems of musical notation for guitar arpeggios. The first system consists of five measures. Above the staff, picking directions are indicated by 'V' (down) and '□' (up). Fingerings are shown as numbers 1-5 on the strings. The second system also consists of five measures with similar notation. The notation includes fret numbers (e.g., 3, 6, 3, 3, 3) and specific string numbers (T, A, B) to indicate which strings are played.

The idea is to set the places where you change picking direction for the most picking-hand efficiency. Let's break the sequence down into basic arpeggio patterns for G minor and G major:

### Gm arp.

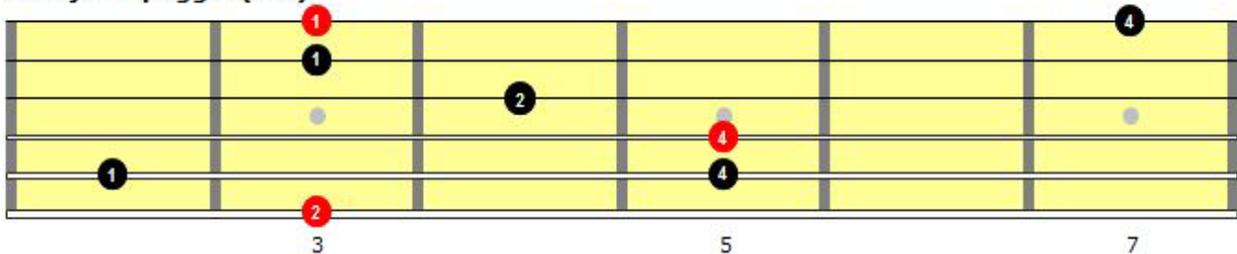
The diagram shows a G minor arpeggio on a guitar fretboard. The strings are highlighted in yellow. The notes are: G (3rd fret, low E), Bb (1st fret, A), D (2nd fret, G), F (3rd fret, F), Ab (4th fret, E), and G (7th fret, high E). The notes are numbered 1 through 6. The 1st, 3rd, and 5th notes (G, F, Ab) are circled in red, and the 2nd, 4th, and 6th notes (Bb, D, G) are circled in black.

### G Major arpeggio

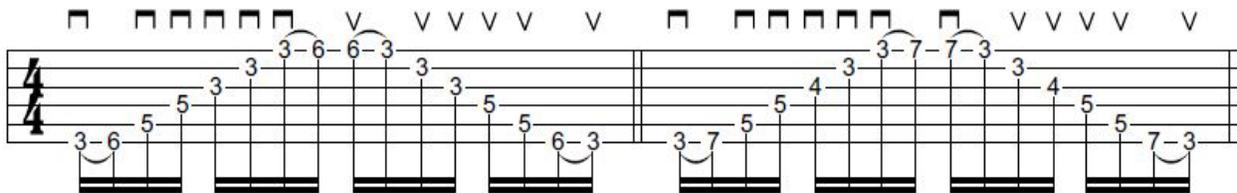


Use the suggested fingerings in the diagrams. The four-fret stretch may be tough down this far on the neck, but should come with practice. The major arpeggio can also be played this way:

### G Major arpeggio (alt.)



Try the following tab that alternates back and forth between the two arpeggios:



Play them nice and slow, and rhythmically and dynamically even. The trick with sweep picking, especially at first, is letting notes have their proper duration, but playing them so that they don't ring into each other. It feels almost like strumming a chord, so it's tempting to do so, but you want each note to stand out on its own, and not ring into the next one.

You'll notice that hammer-ons and pull-offs are suggested here, this is to simplify the sweep and reduce the changes of picking direction. If you want to alternate-pick those notes, you can, but if your legato technique is tight, you will achieve a smoother, cleaner sound playing it as suggested above.

The stepwise arpeggio in the intro is also worth breaking down and practicing with economy technique. Here's the G minor arpeggio ascending stepwise:

Notice where you change picking direction, as you move back from one string to a previous string. If you've never tried economy picking before, this will feel awkward, but take it slow and strive for clarity and evenness, and it will feel and sound more comfortable. Here's another stepwise progression, going up then back down in sextuplets:

Again, take it nice and slow, using a metronome, and focus on consistency. Using a clean tone (or unplugged) can help pinpoint mechanical issues, as distortion tends to mask mild picking flaws that can become an issue at higher speeds. The reverse-sweep ending is a nice touch that you will probably find yourself using in other situations!

Let's close out this exercise series with a quick progression, back and forth from Gm to D major:

The image shows two systems of guitar tablature. The first system begins with a Gm chord and contains four measures of music. The second system contains three measures of music, ending with a tremolo. Chords Gm and D are indicated above the staffs. Fingerings (1-4) and string numbers (3-10) are provided for each note. Bar lines are present at the end of each measure.

This is a great one for navigating up and down the neck fairly quickly and melodically.