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A Note About the Video

The DVD video corresponds to lessons in the book and the two are intended to be used together. The video will make it more fun and easier to learn. For lessons that use Jam Tracks, go to the DVD menu and select DVD-ROM, where you can access the tracks that correspond with specific lessons.

There is a video lesson for every example marked with this icon: . Every example is numbered, whether it is demonstrated on the video, or not.

Have fun!



BABY ARPEGGIOS THAT GROW UP TO BE MONSTERS

So, baby *arpeggios*? What is an arpeggio? It's a way of playing a chord with single notes picked, swept, tapped, or however we wish. Arpeggios can add a new fresh sound to your playing and they are not hard to play!

We are going to start by learning three simple arpeggio shapes: major, minor, and diminished. First, let's just play a simple ascending G Major scale on one string as a guide before we start.

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Scale degrees: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 1

G Major G Minor G Diminished

We need to understand what major, minor, and diminished mean before we can move on. It is very simple; if we look at the major scale above, and pick out the 1st (G), 3rd (B), and 5th (D) scale degrees, then play them separately as in the G Major example, we have our first baby arpeggio just like that. So, a major arpeggio includes 1-3-5 of the major scale. For a minor arpeggio, one note is changed; we lower the 3rd a half step, so it's 1-b3-5 of the major scale. Lastly, let's look at how to make a diminished arpeggio. Notice that it has the same b3rd as the minor arpeggio, but the 5th is also lowered by a half step, making our formula for diminished, 1-b3-b5.

Let's look at some different ways to pick these baby arpeggios. We have alternate, legato, sweeping legato, and hybrid picking. I suggest mastering all of these methods first.

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Alternate Legato Sweeping Legato Hybrid Picking

Now, let's start putting this lesson together. We are going to start out with the major shapes and apply them to the G Major one-string scale that we learned above. Try them on G, C, and D, as well as the octave G, and back down.

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♩ = 120 G Major C Major D Major G Major D Major C Major