

Opening Lessons
for Guitar

By
Bill Applegate

Left Hand Fingers

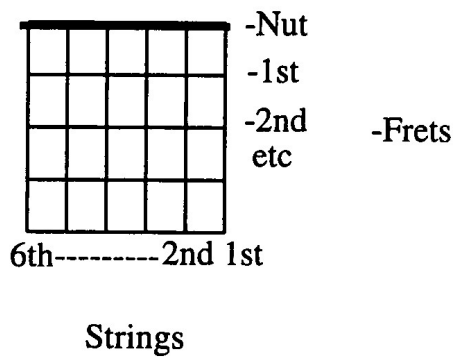
- 1 - 1st Finger - ①
2 - 2nd Finger - ②
3 - 3rd Finger - ③
4 - 4th Finger - ④

FINGERS ON A CHART

Right Hand Fingers

- i - index
m - ring
a - ring
p - thumb

Fretboard Diagram



▮ - Down Stroke(With a flat pick)

▽ - Up Stroke

Rhythm

 = Whole Note = 4 beats

 = Half Note = 2 beats

 = Quarter Note = 1 beat

 = Eighth Notes = 2
sounds per beat (1/2
beat each)

1) Walking Fingers

(PLAY PATTERN ON EACH STRING, WITH REST STROKE)

I Like Gui-tar Mu-sic



2) Pick Time

(PLAY PATTERN ON EACH STRING)

I Like Gui-tar Mu-sic



3)String Changing



STRING (1) (1) (1) (1) (2) (2) (2) (2) (3) (3) (3) (3) → (6) (6) (6) (6) → (1) etc.

4) Backwards Centipede



FINGERS 4 3 2 1 4 3 2 1 4 3 2 1 ...
FRET 12TH 11TH 11TH 10TH 10TH

5) Forwards Centipede



FINGERS 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 ...
FRET 1ST 2ND 3RD

How Are You Today

Part 1

	How	Are	You	To -	day	How	Are	You	To -	day	I	am	fine	ve -	ry	fine	How	Are	You	To -	day			
Count:	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Rhythm:																								
String:	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Fret:	4	4	2	2	0	4	4	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	4	4	2	2	0			
FINGER:	3		1		0	3		1		0	0			1			3		1		0			

Part 2

Count:	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Rhythm:																								
String:	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	2	1	1	2	2
Fret:	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Part 3

Count:	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	
Rhythm:																									
String:	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	
Fret:	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1

Part 4

Count:	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Rhythm:																								
String:	6	6	5	5	6	6	5	5	6	6	5	5	6	6	5	5	6	6	5	5	6	6	5	5
Fret:	0	0	2	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	2	2

CIRCLED NUMBER IS THE STRING

USE WALKING FINGERS IN PARTS 1 - 3, USE THUMB (P) ON PART 4

Russian Song

	Em	Am	Em
<i>Chords:</i>	/ / / /	/ / / /	/ / / /
<i>Count:</i>	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4
<i>Rhythm:</i>			
<i>String:</i>	(1)(1)(1)(1)	(1)(1)(2)	(2)(2)(2)(2)
<i>Fret:</i>	0 0 0 2	0 0 0	1 0 1 3

	Em	Am	Em
<i>Chords:</i>	/ / / /	/ / / /	/ / / /
<i>Count:</i>	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4
<i>Rhythm:</i>			
<i>String:</i>	(1)(1)(1)(1)	(1)(1)(2)	(2)(2)(2)(2)
<i>Fret:</i>	0 0 0 2	0 0 0	1 0 1 3

	Em	Am	Em
<i>Chords:</i>	/ / / /	/ / / /	/ / / /
<i>Count:</i>	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4
<i>Rhythm:</i>			
<i>String:</i>	(1)(1)(1)(2)	(1)(1)(2)	(2)(2)(2)(2)
<i>Fret:</i>	3 2 0 3	0 0 0	1 0 1 3

	Em	Am	Em
<i>Chords:</i>	/ / / /	/ / / /	/ / / /
<i>Count:</i>	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4
<i>Rhythm:</i>			
<i>String:</i>	(1)(1)(1)(1)	(1)(1)(2)	(2)(2)(2)(2)
<i>Fret:</i>	0 0 0 2	0 0 0	1 0 1 3

Are You Sleeping

Traditional Round

	Are	you	sleep -	ing	Are	you	sleep -	ing
Count:	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Rhythm:								
String:	(3)	(3)	(2)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(2)	(3)
Fret:	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0

Bro -	ther	John,	Bro -	ther	John,
1	2	3 4	1	2	3 4
(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
0	1	3	0	1	3

Morn -	ing	bells	are	ring -	ing	Morn -	ing	bells	are	ring -	ing
1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4				
(2)	(1)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(3)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(3)
3	0	3	1	0	0	3	0	3	1	0	0

Ding, Ding, Dong...	Ding, Ding, Dong...
1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4
(3)	(3)
0	0

Bingo

	There	was	a	far - mer	had	a	dog and	bin - go	was	his	name -	o
Count:	3 4	1 2	3 4	1 2	3 4	1 2	3 4	1 2	3 4	1 2	3 4	
Rhythm:												
String:	(3)	(2)	(2)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(3)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(1)
Fret:	0	1	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	1	1	3

	B	I	N	G	O	B	I	N	G	O
Count:	1 2	3 4	1 2	3 4	1 2	3 4	1 2	3 4	1 2	3 4
Rhythm:										
String:	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(2)	(1)	(1)	(1)
Fret:	0	0	1	1	1	3	3	0	0	0

	B	I	N	G	O	and	Bin - go	was	his	name -	o
Count:	1 2	3 4	1 2	3 4	1 2	3 4	1 2	3 4	1 2	3 4	
Rhythm:											
String:	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(3)	(3)	(2)	(2)	(2)
Fret:	1	1	3	3	3	1	0	0	2	0	1

Lightly Row

Chords: C G7 C G7

Count: 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4

Rhythm: | | |

String: (1) (1) (1) | (1) (2) (2) | (2) (2) (1) (1) | (1) (1) (1)

Fret: 3 0 0 | 1 3 3 | 1 3 0 1 | 3 3 3

C **G7** **C** **G7** **C**

/// // /// // // // /// //

1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

(1) **(1)** **(1)** **(1)** **(2)** **(2)** **(2)** **(1)** **(1)** **(1)** **(1)** **(1)** **(1)**

3 **0** **0** **1** **3** **3** **1** **0** **3** **3** **0** **0** **0**

G7 **C**

/// // /// //

1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4

② ② ② ② | ② ① ① | ① ① ① ① | ① ① ①

3 3 3 3 | 3 0 1 | 0 0 0 0 | 0 1 3

C G7 C G7 C

/// / / / / / / /

1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4 1234





3 0 0 0 1 3 3 3 1 0 3 3 1

Sonatina

8

Part 1

Count: 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4

Rhythm: 

String: (2) (1) (2) (3) (3) | (2) (1) (2) (3) (1) | (1) (1) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (2) (3) (3) |

Fret: 1 0 1 0 0 | 1 0 1 0 3 | 1 0 3 1 0 1 0 1 3 1 0 2 0

1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4



(2) (1) (2) (3) (3) | (1) (1) (1) (2) (1) | (1) (1) (1) (2) | (2) (3) (2) ||

1 0 1 0 0 | 0 3 0 1 0 3 | 1 0 3 1 0 1

Part 2

Count: 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4

Rhythm: 

String: (3) (3) (4) | (3) (3) (4) | (3) (3) (4) (4) | (2) (3) (4) |

Fret: 0 0 2 | 0 0 2 | 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 0

1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4



(3) (3) (4) | (3) (3) (4) | (4) (3) (2) (3) | (3) (4) (4) ||

0 0 2 | 0 0 2 | 0 0 0 0 | 0 0 2

Part 3

Count: 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4

Rhythm: 

String: (5) (5) | (5) (5) | (5) (5) (6) (6) | (6) (3) (4) (4) (4) |

Fret: 3 3 | 3 3 | 2 2 3 3 | 3 0 3 2 0

1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4



(5) (5) | (5) (5) | (6) (5) (4) (4) | (5) (5) (5) ||

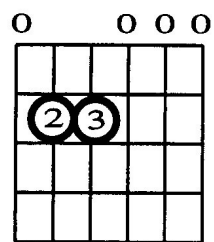
3 3 | 3 3 | 3 2 0 0 | 3 2 3

FIRST CHORDS

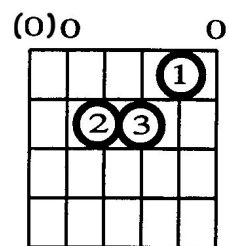
Frist Chords

Minor Chords

Em



Am



Em Am

Exercise

$\frac{4}{4}$ Em measure(4 beats)

//// / / / / / / / /

Am

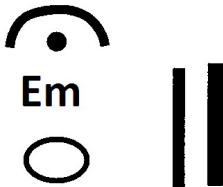
//// / / / / / / / /

Em Am

//// / / / / / / / /

Em Am

//// / / / / / / / /

Em 

1)  = 4 beats = / / / /

2)  = 4 beats

3)  = 4 beats

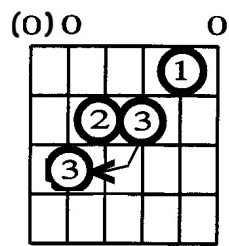
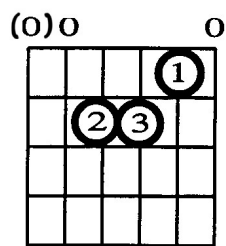
 - Down Stroke(With a flat pick)

 - Up Stroke

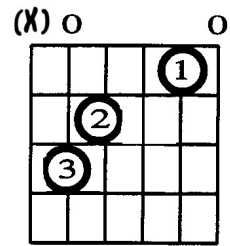
First Chords

C Chord

Am



C



Am C

Exercise

$\frac{4}{4}$ Am
 // // // // // // //

C
 // // // // // // //

Am C
 // // // // // // //

Am C Am
 // // // // // // //

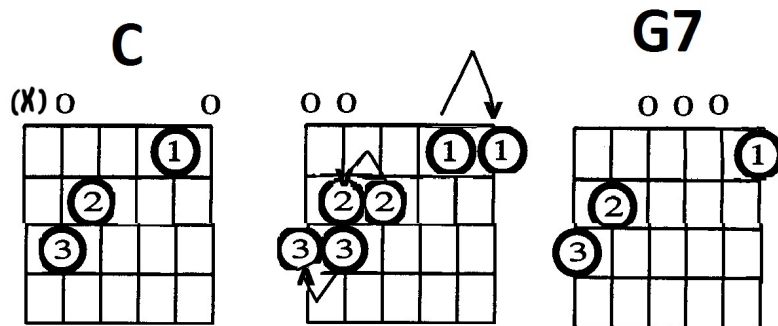
1)  = 4 beats

2)  = 4 beats

3)  = 4 beats

First Chords

G7 Chord



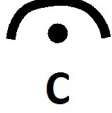
C G7

Exercise

$\frac{4}{4}$ C
 // // // //

G7
 // // // //

C G7
 // // // //

C G7
 // // // //   ||

1)  = 4 beats

2)  = 4 beats

3)  = 4 beats

Chord Exercise

2 chords per measure

4/4

1) Em Am Em Am Em Am Em Am Em

2) C Am C Am C Am C Am

3) C G7 C G7 C G7 C G7

4) Em Am C Am Em Am C Am

1) // // = 4 beats

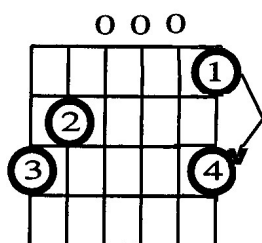
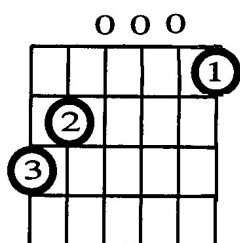
2) // // = 4 beats

3) // // = 4 beats

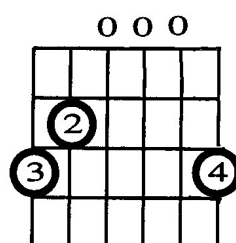
First Chords

G Chord

G7



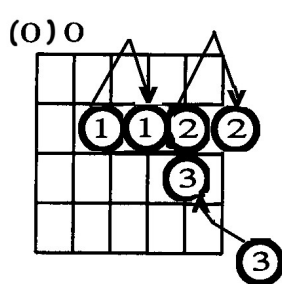
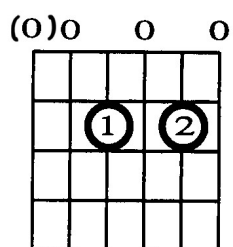
G



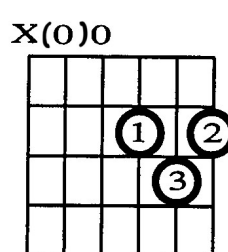
First Chords

A7 D Chords

A7



D



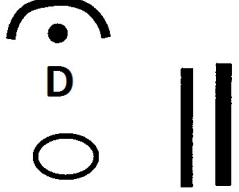
D A7

Exercise

$\frac{4}{4}$ D
 // // // //

A7
 // // // //

D A7
 // // // //

D A7
 // // // // 

1)  = 4 beats

2)  = 4 beats

3)  = 4 beats

Hot Cross Buns

Part 1

	Hot Cross Buns!				Hot Cross Buns!				One a pen ny Two a pen ny				Hot Cross Buns!			
Count:	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Rhythm:																
String:	①	①	①		①	①	①		①	①	①	①	①	①	①	①
Fret:	4	2	0		4	2	0		0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2

Part 2

Count:	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Rhythm:																
String:	①	②	①		①	②	①		①	①	②	②	①	②	①	
Fret:	0	0	0		0	0	0		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

Part 3

Count:	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Rhythm:																
String:	②	②	③		②	②	③		③	③	②	②	②	②	③	
Fret:	0	0	1		0	0	1		1	1	0	0	0	0	1	

Part 4

Count:	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Rhythm:																
String:	⑥	⑤	⑥		⑥	⑤	⑥		⑥	⑥	⑤	⑤	⑥	⑤	⑥	
Fret:	0	2	0		0	2	0		0	0	2	2	0	2	0	

Indian Song

Part 1

Count: 1 2 3 4 :||: 1 2 3 4 :||: 1 2 3 4 :||: 1 2 3 4 1234 ||

Rhythm: ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ :||: ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ :||: ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ :||: ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ | ○ ||

String: (1) (1) (1) (1) (2) (2) (2) (2) (1) (1) (1) (1) (2) (2) (2) (2) (1)

Fret: 3 0 0 0 3 0 0 0 3 0 0 0 3 0 0 0 0

Part 2

Count: 1 2 3 4 :||: 1 2 3 4 :||: 1 2 3 4 :||: 1 2 3 4 1234 ||

Rhythm: ♪ ♪. :||: ♪ ♪. :||: ♪ ♪. :||: ♪ ♪. | ○ ||

String: (1) (1) (2) (2) (1) (1) (2) (2) (1)

Fret: 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

Part 3

Count: 1 2 3 4 :||: 1 2 3 4 :||: 1 2 3 4 :||: 1 2 3 4 1234 ||

Rhythm: ♪ ♪. :||: ♪ ♪. :||: ♪ ♪. :||: ♪ ♪. | ○ ||

String: (1) (1) (2) (2) (1) (1) (2) (2) (2)

Fret: 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 0

Part 4

Count: 1 2 3 4 :||: 1 2 3 4 :||: 1 2 3 4 :||: 1 2 3 4 1234 ||

Rhythm: ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ :||: ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ :||: ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ :||: ♪ ♪ ♪ ♪ | ○ ||

String: (6) (6) (6) (6) (5) (5) (5) (5) (6) (6) (6) (6) (5) (5) (5) (5) (6)

Fret: 0 0 0 0 2 2 2 2 0 0 0 0 2 2 2 2 0

:||: - Repeat sign

Jingle Bells

	Jin	-	gle	Bells		Jin	-	gle	Bells		Jin	-	gle	all	the	way
Count:	1		2	3 4		1		2	3 4		1		2	3	4	1 2 3 4
Rhythm:																
String:	(1)		(1)	(1)		(1)		(1)	(1)		(1)		(1)	(2)	(2)	(1)
Fret:	0		0	0		0		0	0		0		3	1	3	0

	Oh	what	fun	it		is	to	ride	in a	one	horse	op -	en	sleigh	hey
	1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2 3 4
	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)		(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)
	1	1	1	1		1	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	3	3

	Jin	-	gle	Bells		Jin	-	gle	Bells		Jin	-	gle	all	the	way
	1		2	3 4		1		2	3 4		1		2	3	4	1 2 3 4
	(1)		(1)	(1)		(1)		(1)	(1)		(1)		(1)	(2)	(2)	(1)
	0		0	0		0		0	0		0		3	1	3	0

	Oh	what	fun	it		is	to	ride	in a	one	horse	op -	en	sleigh
	1	2	3	4		1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1 2 3 4
	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)		(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(2)
	1	1	1	1		1	0	0	0	3	3	1	3	1

Part 1

Count:	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4
Rhythm:				
String:	(1) (1) (1)	(1) (1) (1)	(1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1)	(1) (1) (1)
Fret:	4 2 0	4 2 0	0 0 0 0 2 2 2 2	4 2 0

Part 2

Count:	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4
Rhythm:				
String:	(1) (2) (1)	(1) (2) (1)	(1) (1) (2) (2)	(1) (2) (1)
Fret:	0 0 0	0 0 0	0 0 0 0	0 0 0

Part 3

Count:	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4	1 2 3 4
Rhythm:				
String:	(2) (2) (3)	(2) (2) (3)	(3) (3) (2) (2)	(2) (2) (3)
Fret:	0 0 1	0 0 1	1 1 0 0	0 0 1

- (5)
- (6)
- (1)
- (2)
- (3)
- (4)
- (T)

0
1 2 3 4

String: **Fret:** **Rhythm:** **Count:**

Russian Song Calibri 52 B U

Chords: Calibri 36 B I

Part 1 Calibri 36 B I U

Count:	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1234
Rhythm:																	
String:	(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(2)	(2)		(1)	(1)	(1)	(1)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(1)
Fret:	0	0	0	2	0	0	0		3	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1234
(1)	(1)			(2)	(2)			(1)	(1)			(2)	(2)			(1)
0	0			0	0			0	0			0	0			0

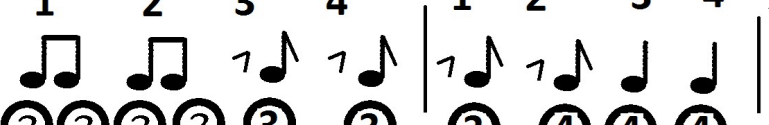
1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1234
(1)	(1)			(2)	(2)			(1)	(1)			(2)	(2)			(2)
7	7			7	7			7	7			7	7			0

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4	1234
(6)	(6)	(6)	(6)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(6)	(6)	(6)	(6)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(5)	(6)
0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	0	0	0	0	2	2	2	2	0

- Repeat sign
Calibri 36 B

Sunshine Of Your Love

Count: 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4

Rhythm: 

String: (2) (2) (2) (2) (3) (3) | (3) (4) (4) (4)

Fret: 3 3 1 3 2 1 | 0 0 3 0

Iron Man

Count: 1 2 3 4 | 1 2 3 4

Rhythm: 

String: (5) (4) (4) (4) (4) | (3) (4) (3) (4) (3) (4) (4) (4)

Fret: 2 0 0 2 2 | 0 4 0 4 0 4 0 2 2