

ARPEGGIO EXERCISES

Arpeggio (from Italian, meaning 'in the manner of a harp')
Arpeggio means "broken chord." The notes of a chord played in rapid succession, but no more than one note at a time, is an arpeggio.

Try these runs with a plectrum, by playing the chord and picking each string in sequence. You'll get a better sound if you emphasize the first note in each set of four. Note the down and upstroke symbols (d for down, u for up) below each note. You will need to anchor your right hand to play this accurately.

G chord

```

E-----3-----|
B-----0-----|
G-----0-----0-----|
D-----0-----0-----|
A-----2-----|
E-----3-----|
    D d d d      U u u u
  
```

2X

Am chord

```

E-----0-----|
B-----1-----1-----|
G-----2-----2-----|
D-----2-----2-----|
A-----0-----|
E-----|
    D d d d      U u u u
  
```

2X

D7 chord

```

E-----2-----|
B-----1-----1-----|
G-----2-----2-----|
D-----0-----0-----|
A-----0-----|
E-----|
    D d d d      U u u u
  
```

2X

G chord

```

E-----3-----|
B-----0-----|
G-----0-----0-----|
D-----0-----0-----|
A-----2-----|
E-----3-----|
    D d d d      U u u u
  
```

2X

Now try playing all four runs one after the other to make an eight bar piece.

Arpeggio with a triplet

Now try a different sequence of picking. This one is very handy for fast picking to combine with strumming. It uses three pick strokes per beat.

Start very slowly and gradually build up in speed until you have a smooth roll of notes. We will use a series of triplets, where we only play strings 1,2 and 3. Emphasis the first note in each triplet.

Dm	G
E---5-----5-----5-----5-----	---7-----7-----7-----7-----
B---6-----6-----6-----6-----	---8-----8-----8-----8-----
G---7-----7-----7-----7-----	---7-----7-----7-----7-----
D-----	-----
A-----	-----
E-----	-----
U u d U u d U u d U u d	U u d U u d U u d U u d

Gm	Dm
E---6-----6-----6-----6-----	---5-----5-----5-----5-----
B---8-----8-----8-----8-----	---6-----6-----6-----6-----
G---7-----7-----7-----7-----	---7-----7-----7-----7-----
D-----	-----
A-----	-----
E-----	-----
U u d U u d U u d U u d	U u d U u d U u d U u d

Try it with different three note chords.