

GUITAR TODAY, Book 2 includes chords (secondary, extended, moveable and power chords), notation (46 songs—18 original songs, 20 duets and 8 chord solos), music fundamentals, plus *pickstyle* and *fingerstyle* playing techniques. Solo and lead playing, as well as accompaniment and rhythm

GUITAR TODAY

BOOK TWO

BY **JERRY SNYDER**

guitar techniques, are presented in a variety of musical styles which include pop, rock, classical, Latin, jazz, folk and blues. A CD (#14152) containing many of the exercises and all of the songs in this book is available from your local music dealer or directly from the publisher.

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There are two versions of each title on the CD: 1) a duet; 2) an accompaniment part to play the solo part with. When ordering the CD from the publisher, please send a check including \$2.00 for postage and handling.

The following exercises are also recorded: 20, 23-24, 26-29, 35-37, 40-41, 43, 45, 48-50, 53-56, 58-59, 68-69, 75-78, 83-87, 94-95, 99 and 103-108.

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LEAD LINE PLAYING TECHNIQUE

This method can be used to learn *both* PICKSTYLE and FINGERSTYLE guitar techniques. Most of today's guitarists can play both styles. You have the option in this book to choose one style and skip the other—or learn both. The following is an explanation of the two basic techniques used to play Lead or Melody lines.

Pickstyle

A PICK, also called a *flat-pick* or *plectrum*, is used to strum or pick the strings of the guitar. Picks come in various sizes, shapes, and thicknesses, and are made out of many different kinds of material including plastic, nylon, tortoise shell, rubber, felt, and stone. Manufacturers describe the *gauge* or thickness of their picks as light, medium, and heavy. I recommend that beginners use a medium thickness pear shape or drop shape pick, fig. 1 and 2.

Hold the pick between the thumb and index finger. The pick rests on the top or tip joint of the index finger. Place the thumb over the pick. Press lightly but firmly. The thumb should be kept rigid, fig. 3.

Rest the forearm on the edge of the guitar just above the bridge base, fig. 4.

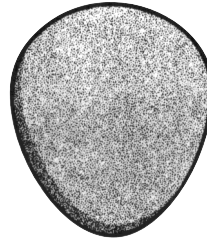


fig. 1 Pear shape.

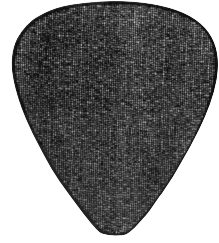


fig. 2 Drop shape.



fig. 3 Holding the pick.



fig. 4 Forearm position.

There are three commonly used hand positions: 1) free floating, 2) fanning the fingers, and 3) resting the palm of the hand on the strings behind the bridge. In the free floating position, the middle, ring, and little fingers are curled into the hand. They follow the movement of the thumb and index finger as the hand moves from string to string, fig. 5. Some guitarists fan the fingers and allow the little finger to skim the pick guard, fig. 6. For more stability or for special effects, the palm of the hand can lightly rest on the strings just behind the bridge, fig. 7.



fig. 5 Free floating position.



fig. 6 Fanning the fingers.



fig. 7 Resting the palm.

Down-Stroke

The DOWN-STROKE \blacktriangledown is the basic stroke used in pickstyle. In the *down-stroke*, the thumb pushes the pick through the string, stops short of the next string and immediately returns to the starting position. Use an economy of motion. Only follow through enough to finish picking the string. The angle of the pick to the strings should be fairly up-right, fig. 8. fig. 8 Pick angle.

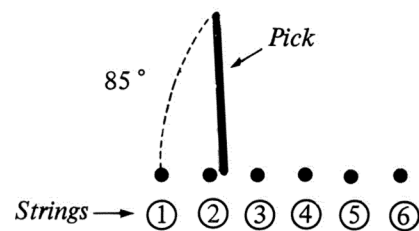


fig. 8 Pick angle.

G7 Chord full

After the C chord, the **G7 CHORD** is the second most frequently used chord in the key of C. The root (R) of the chord is located on the 6th string, 3rd fret (G). The fifth (5) is located on the open 4th string (D).

G7

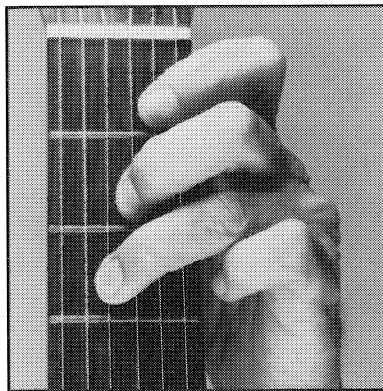
G7

Alternate fingering

69.

F Chord small bar

F



The **small bar F CHORD** requires the 1st finger of the left hand to cover (fret) two strings — the 1st and 2nd strings. The pressure needs to be on the side of the index finger. Build the chord from the 4th string, fig. 1. Once you have placed the index finger on the 2nd string, roll the index finger toward the nut of the guitar as you cover the 1st string, fig. 2. Since the strings are lower and the frets are narrower at the 5th fret of the guitar, practice the small bar chord in 5th position. The name of a position on the guitar is determined by the location of the left hand index finger. If your index finger is on the fifth fret, you are in 5th position, fig. 3.

fig. 1

Build the F chord from the 4th string.

fig. 2

Roll the index finger on to the 1st string.

fig. 3

Practice the small bar in 5th position.

70.

71.

72.

73.