

# Fingerpicking 101-Day1



Done

At the risk of sounding presumptuous, this pattern is the **bedrock** on which all fingerpicking sits. I've studied fingerpicking techniques for 30 years and this pattern is the foundation for all of it.

Play this over and over till you can do it fast (whole note=84bpm) and EVENLY.  
The key to the speed is the back and forth motion of *thumb-finger-thumb-finger etc.*

Thumb

Index

Thumb

Middle

Burn this into your muscle memory-----it'll be worth it, I promise

## Fingerpicking 101 / Day 2

Through this week we'll add a different note here and there to build on our foundation.



Don't be terribly concerned with these notes on the staff, I just put it here so you might see how simple it is.

2

Notice that I've made it 8th notes instead of quarters and the circled note are different from the pattern on day 1 Practice this till you get a smooth, even, rolling motion.

RH fingering

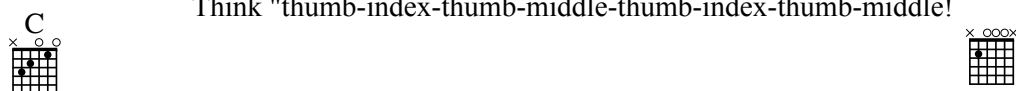
T I T M T I T M T I T M T I T R

(remember! thumb-finger-thumb-finger-thumb-finger)

## Fingerpicking 101 / Day 3

Today we'll walk the bass note down and back up again.  
It's not important to look at the notes on the staff, just follow the numbers  
on the TAB line. Try to make the notes even and make them flow.  
Think "thumb-index-thumb-middle-thumb-index-thumb-middle!"

4




T  
A  
B

.	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
.	3	2	3	2	3	2	2	0

right hand fingering → T I T M T I T M T I T M T I T M

6



T  
A  
B

.	2	1	2	1	2	1	0	0
0	2	0	2	2	0	2	2	0

T I T M T I T M T I T M T I T M

# Fingerpicking 101 / Day 4

Let's do the same sort of thing as the last lesson but let's do it the key of G.  
 Just follow the right hand fingering and once you get it going  
 start to think "1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &"

8

RH fingering T I T M T I T M T I T M T I T M

Play this line above until you get it flowing, then add the line below.

10

T I T M T I T M T I T M T I T M

# Fingerpicking 101 / Day 5

## "The Main Squeeze"



The next aspect of fingerpicking to learn is the squeeze. You'll notice that we're playing 2 notes at the same time on the first beat *HOWEVER* the beat is twice as long. Notice the quarter notes on the first beat followed by 8th notes for the rest of the bar. Say in your head-"1-- 2 & 3 & 4 & 1-- 2 & 3 & 4 &

12

da - da di da di da di da - da di da di da di  
 1 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 2 & 3 & 4 &

T 1 0 1 0 1 0  
 A 3 2 0 3 2 0  
 B 3 2 3 2 3 2


Follow the RH fingering! M T I T M T I M T I T M T I

## Fingerpicking 101 / Day 6

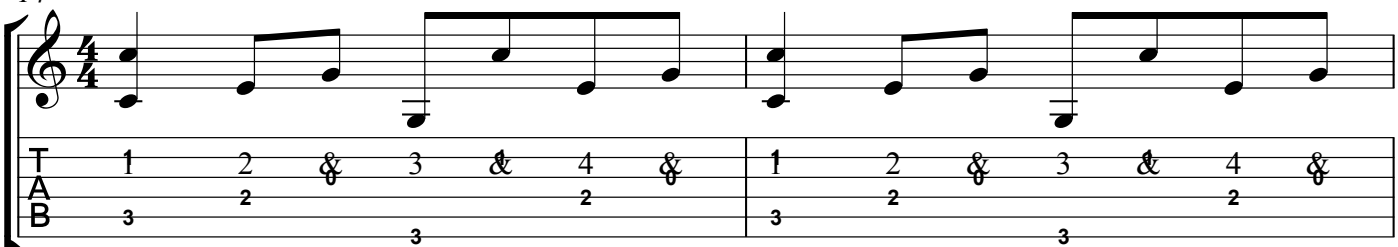
The next step is to elaborate on the last pattern.  
We'll add an alternating bass note to it.

 Done

14



C



T	1	2	&	3	&	4	&	1	2	&	3	&	4	&
A														
B	3	2		3		2		3	2		3		2	

RH fingering

M								M						
T	T	I	T	M	T	I		T	T	I	T	M	T	I

# Fingerpicking 101 / Day 7

Let's elaborate even more and we'll have a very cool fingerpicking pattern!  
Play this over and over and get it to flow smoothly and swiftly.



16

The musical notation consists of a treble clef staff in 4/4 time, starting with a G-clef and a key signature of one flat. The first measure shows a G chord with a fingerpicking pattern: thumb (T) on the 3rd string, index (I) on the 2nd string, and middle (M) on the 1st string. The subsequent measures show a sequence of notes: G4 (T), A4 (I), B4 (M), G4 (T), F4 (I), E4 (M), D4 (T), C4 (I), B3 (M), A3 (T), G3 (I), F3 (M), E3 (T), D3 (I), C3 (M), B2 (T), A2 (I), G2 (M), F2 (T), E2 (I), D2 (M), C2 (T), B1 (I), A1 (M), G1 (T). The bass staff shows the corresponding fret numbers: T (1), A (2), B (3) for the first measure; T (1), A (0), B (3) for the second; T (1), A (2), B (3) for the third; T (0), A (2), B (3) for the fourth; T (1), A (0), B (3) for the fifth; T (1), A (2), B (3) for the sixth; T (0), A (2), B (3) for the seventh; T (1), A (0), B (3) for the eighth; T (1), A (2), B (3) for the ninth; T (0), A (2), B (3) for the tenth; T (1), A (0), B (3) for the eleventh; T (1), A (2), B (3) for the twelfth; T (0), A (2), B (3) for the thirteenth; T (1), A (0), B (3) for the fourteenth; T (1), A (2), B (3) for the fifteenth; T (0), A (2), B (3) for the sixteenth.

RH fingering M T I T M T R T T I T M T R