

## ~ 3 String Arpeggio Pedal Point ~

This exercise will help you tremendously with cleaning up your sweep picking. In addition it will also help you to get more used to string skipping and pedal point playing. You should use string skipping to play this exercise. Just because the title says "arpeggio", doesn't automatically mean that you need to use sweep picking.

(As a quick clarification, the terms: "arpeggio" and "sweep picking" are often thought to be synonymous, but they are not. "Sweep picking" is a technique that is commonly used to play arpeggios, but arpeggios can also be played with string skipping, tapping, legato and every other lead guitar technique.)

The challenge here will be in getting your pick to move accurately and avoiding hitting extra strings (and muting excess string noise in general). Use the thumb of your picking hand to mute any extra noise from the strings which you are not playing.

When performing string skipping, your pick must move in an arc over the string you must skip. This may sound like a contradiction of the economy of motion principle, but it is actually the best way to play string skipping cleanly (and of course, you must keep this "arc" to the minimum distance necessary to clear the string, so that you don't waste too much motion).

The good news is that if you can play this exercise even at a slow tempo (but CLEANLY), your regular sweep picking will start to feel much easier and sound much cleaner.

On top of all the benefits described above, it is also a cool and unusual way of using arpeggios in a musical way. Feel free to make variations and experiment with it in your songwriting (but learn it as written first, to build your technique).

The fingering indicated below is the one that I consider the most efficient for learning this passage. You should try to play it with the fingers indicated below. If, after learning it my way, you find that a slight alteration would be more comfortable for you, you may choose that (but most of the time, changing the fingering will not be necessary).

**Important:** Don't expect to fully master this exercise and be able to play it flawlessly by the next lesson. It is perfectly normal if you are only able to play it at a slow speed or if you still have some issues you want to refine. When the next lesson arrives, I want you to shift your attention to it, and the materials provided there. Remember that "this" particular exercise "by

itself" has little meaning. The overall strategy and the progression of the materials I design for you is the most important part of our lessons and that is where I want your focus to be at all times. There will be enough technique building exercises for you to enable you to develop your physical playing to the level you want to reach.

I build your lesson strategy in such a way that the new materials you receive will reinforce the training you receive from the previous lessons (and provide enough variety to give you time to practice the older material if necessary). So as long as you have consistently practiced this exercise, and can play it at least at a slow tempo all the way through, you are in good shape to move on.

Over time (as we do more of these and other technique building exercises), you will find that as you come back to the older materials, you will be able to play them much faster, cleaner and more accurately. True mastery will develop with time...it cannot be rushed.

# ~ 3 String Arpeggio Pedal Point ~

1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 2 4 1 4 2 4 1 4 2 4 1 4 2 4

1 2

TAB

5 8 5 8 5 8 5 8 5 8 5 8 5 8 4 7 5 7 4 7 5 7 4 7 5 7

1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 2 4 1 4 2 4 1 4 2 4 1 4 2 4

3 4

5 8 5 8 5 8 5 8 5 8 5 8 5 8 5 8 5 8 6 8 5 8 6 8 5 8 6 8

1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 2 4 1 4 2 4 1 4 2 4 1 4 2 4 1 4 2 4

5 6

10 13 10 13 10 13 10 13 17 17 13 17 15 17 7 10 8 10 7 10 8 10 7 10 8 10

The image displays two systems of guitar arpeggio practice notation. Each system consists of a musical staff, a fretboard diagram, and a picking direction row.

**System 1:**

- Staff:** Contains two measures. The first measure starts at fret 7 (marked with a red '7') and ends at fret 16. The second measure starts at fret 8 (marked with a red '8') and ends at fret 17. Notes are marked with fingerings (1-4) and accidentals (sharps).
- Fretboard:** Shows the fret positions for the notes in the staff. Fret numbers are written below the strings.
- Picking:** A row of 'V' (downpick) and 'v' (uppick) symbols corresponding to each note.

**System 2:**

- Staff:** Contains two measures. The first measure starts at fret 9 (marked with a red '9') and ends at fret 8. The second measure starts at fret 10 (marked with a red '10') and ends at fret 2. Notes are marked with fingerings (1-4).
- Fretboard:** Shows the fret positions for the notes in the staff. Fret numbers are written below the strings.
- Picking:** A row of 'V' (downpick) and 'v' (uppick) symbols corresponding to each note.

[Hear It](#)

This lesson's [Practice Generator](#) category is: Technical Skills (Lead Guitar) > Arpeggios (Practice With Distortion). Practice this lesson when this category comes up in your schedule.