

Ode To Joy Finger Exercises

by Steve Eulberg



I created these finger exercises using Beethoven's *Ode to Joy* for the following reasons:

- 1) to develop sight-reading skills for both musical notation and guitar tablature.
- 2) to notice chord positions within fingering patterns to simplify left hand position and movement.
- 3) to try different right hand fingering combinations.
- 4) to get comfortable moving around the guitar neck with finger independence
- 5) to explore some arranging ideas.

Here are the characteristics of each exercise
In the key of G:

1. Answering drone on the D string.
2. Parallel movement, answering below, skipping a string.
3. Adding harmony and answering drone on the D string. (like #1)
4. Descending triplet pattern with the melody on the beat.
5. Parallel movement, skipping a string, with melody on the backbeat (reverse of #2)
6. Adding harmony with answering drone above the melody.
7. Ascending triplet pattern with the melody off the beat. (reverse of #3)
8. Octaves answering, melody on the beat in lower octave.
9. Pinch-pluck with answering drone on the string between the pinches.

10. Adding a third harmony above the melody.
11. Adding a third harmony above the melody, droning on D string.
12. Pinch-pluck with chords (answering note is changing).
13. Melody in lower octave, answering drones above, changing with each line.
14. Melody in lower octave, rhythmic variation in answering notes.
15. Ascending triplet pattern with melody in lower octave on the beat; answering notes on G and B strings.
16. Ascending triplet pattern with melody in lower octave on the beat; answering notes on B and E strings.
17. Melody on the beat, using 4 fingers on right hand: 2 T 1 T pattern.
18. Melody on back-beat, using 4 fingers on right hand: T 2 T 1 pattern, 10th harmony.
19. Minor melody (Am) on back-beat, using 4 fingers on right hand: T 2 T 1 (like #18).
20. Melody in the higher octave, answering drone on D string.
21. Melody in the higher octave, on the back-beat, answering drone on D string. (like #20)
22. Pinch-pluck, melody in higher octave, answering on B string.
23. Descending triplet pattern, melody in higher octave on the beat. (like #4)
24. Ascending triplet pattern, melody in higher octave off the beat. (like #7)
25. Melody in two octaves, straight ascending arpeggios, using 4 fingers on right hand: T 1 2 3.
26. Melody in two octaves, “broken” arpeggios, using 4 fingers on right hand: T 2 1 3
27. Melody in lower octave, answering with 6th above melody.

28. Melody in lower octave, answering with 10th above melody.