

FINGERSTYLE ENGINE

FIVE KILLING EXERCISES
FOR ACOUSTIC GUITAR.

BY

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VIDEO SUPPORT AT
BLITZGUITAR.COM





Check out my book for Intermediate-Advanced Acoustic Guitar Players called Acoustic Steps!

Hi, my name is Marco Cirillo and I am a guitar player based in London. I have been teaching for the past twelve years and I love it! I've recently published a book called Acoustic Steps. It's a book for fingerstyle guitar available on Amazon. You can check it out by clicking the link below:

www.blitzguitar.com

I put together a fantastic video support. Check it out, it's free!

Exercise 1

This is a really cool exercise to start with. It's a symmetrical "1234" type of exercise. It is really important you practice slowly and follow the fingers recommended. Check the video support if you need. Good luck!

- Right hand: Use alternate i-m all the time. It is quite difficult to alternate the fingers as you can easily get confused. Don't double pluck with the same finger.
- Left hand: Keep the fingers close to the fret and make sure you hold them down so that when you play the note with the 4th finger, you have the 1st, 2nd and 3rd finger down on the fret! It sounds impossible I know.

Goals

- Use a four strings fingerstyle pattern.
- Pluck chords clearly without buzzing.

You can check the video support at www.blitzguitar.com. Click on "mybooks" on the menu and enjoy this free lesson. Don't forget to subscribe to the mail list to keep update with all the weekly lessons.

Exercise 1

1 0 2 0 3 0 4 0 3 0 2 0 1 0 0 0

1 0 2 0 3 0 4 0 3 0 2 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 2 0 3 0 4 0 3 0 2 0 1 0 0 0

i m i m i m i m Same plucking pattern

5

9

13

17

Exercise 2

Let's start moving our fingers with this exercise in E major. The melody is played on the second string.

- Right hand: The right hand must alternate index and middle finger throughout the whole exercise. The index finger is indicated with the letter "i" and the middle finger with the "m". It is really important that you keep the melody (played on the second string) louder than the first string.
- Left hand: The left hand will play the melody on the second string with second and third finger. Make sure you move as less as possible and avoid flying fingers when you change note. Follow the numbers on the notes to learn which finger you'll use.

Goals

- Alternate i-m-i-m fingerstyle pattern.
- Familiarize yourself with second string melody.

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Exercise 2

2 0 2 0 2 0 2 0 1 0 1 0 2 0 2 0 2 0 2 0 2 0 2 0 2 0 2 0 2 0

5 0 5 0 5 0 5 0 4 0 4 0 5 0 5 0 2 0 2 0 2 0 2 0 2 0 2 0 4 0 4 0

i m i m i m i m Use same plucking pattern throughout.

5

9

13

17

Exercise 3

In this exercise we are going to use a four fingers fingerstyle pattern. We will be using the thumb, index, middle and ring finger. (P – i – m – a)

- Right hand: Make sure you use the thumb on the bass notes only. This is still a fairly easy plucking pattern so you shouldn't struggle too much. Practice slowly one or two bars at a time.
- Left hand: The chords are quite simple. Notice at some point you will be playing just open string. The difficult part is when you play the F major chord. Make sure you don't sit with the fingertip on the string below. If something doesn't sound right, pluck one string at a time and check which string cause the problem.

Goals

- Use a four strings fingerstyle pattern.
- Pluck chords clearly without buzzing.

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Exercise 3

Musical notation for measures 1-4. Includes treble clef, 4/4 time signature, and guitar tablature. Lyrics: m i m i m i a P

Musical notation for measures 5-8. Includes treble clef, 4/4 time signature, and guitar tablature. Lyrics: P m i m i m i m i

Musical notation for measures 9-12. Includes treble clef, 4/4 time signature, and guitar tablature. Includes triplets in the melody.

Musical notation for measures 13-16. Includes treble clef, 4/4 time signature, and guitar tablature. Includes triplets in the melody.

Musical notation for measures 17-20. Includes treble clef, 4/4 time signature, and guitar tablature. Ends with a double bar line.

Exercise 4

Another useful stretchy exercise. Hold the bass note down while you play the melody on the top strings.

- Right hand: You should be quite comfortable with the alternate i-m now. Try to be as accurate as possible.
- Left hand: Hold the bass note down while you play the melody on the top strings. These positions are quite stretchy. Rest immediately if you feel pain.

Goals

- Stretch the left hand finger.
- Consolidate i-m fingerstyle pattern.

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Exercise 4

0 4 1 0 2 0 1 4 | 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 | 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 | 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

3 0 3 0 0 3

T 0 3-1-0 2 0-1-3 | 0 3-1-0 2 0-1-3 | 0 3-1-0 2 0-1-3 | 0 3-1-0 2 0-1-3

A 3 | 3 | 0 | 3

B 3 | 3 | 0 | 3

P a m i m i m i m | 3 Same plucking pattern.

5 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 | 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 | 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 | 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

0 0 0 0

T 0 3-1-0 2 0-1-3 | 0 3-1-0 2 0-1-3 | 0 3-1-0 2 0-1-3 | 0 3-1-0 2 0-1-3

A 3 | 3 | 0 | 3

B 3 | 3 | 0 | 3

9 1 4 0 1 4 1 0 4 | 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 | 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 | 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

3 0 3 0 0 3

T 1-3 0-1-3 1-0-3 | 1-3 0-1-3 1-0-3 | 1-3 0-1-3 1-0-3 | 1-3 0-1-3 1-0-3

A 3 | 3 | 0 | 3

B 3 | 3 | 0 | 3

P i m i m i m i m | 3 Same plucking pattern.

13 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 | 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 | 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 | 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

0 0 0 0

T 1-3 0-1-3 1-0-3 | 1-3 0-1-3 1-0-3 | 1-3 0-1-3 1-0-3 | 1-3 0-1-3 1-0-3

A 3 | 3 | 0 | 3

B 3 | 3 | 0 | 3

Exercise 5

This is a Spanish riff quite useful for the right hand. You will be a technique use tremolo.

- Right hand: The tremolo is a Spanish technique in which the fingers play the same note with a “a-m-I” plucking pattern. In this exercise we are using a simplified tremolo with just m-i patten. The melody is played with the thumb. The first string will be playing alternating m-i. Make sure you keep your fingers relaxed. Accuracy over speed. There is no point to play this exercise fast if it sound sloppy.
- Left hand: Try to hold the fingers down and let the note ring out. Think of each position as a chord.

Goals

- Learn the tremolo technique.

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