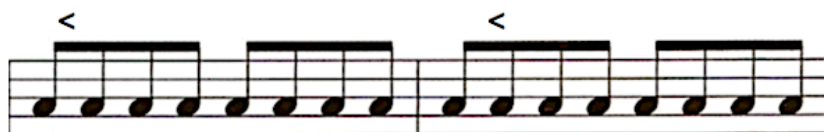


A Tremelo is a rapid alternating motion [Think of Russian music or spy music]. Tremelo picking comes from a RELAXED wrist and NOT the forearm, elbow or shoulder.

Count 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & and let your "Wrist" lightly pick up and down on one note. You can then gradually build a rapid alternating speed. Also try "Accenting" the first note in each bar. [Always avoiding tension in the elbow].

EX.1 1 and 2 and 3 and 4 and



Accent

Accent

Now play it by Doubling the speed and INTERNALISE [Feel] the "1 e & a" Rhythm. Count it in your mind as you pluck up and down.

EX.2 1 e & a 2 e & a 3 e & a 4 e & a



BASIC TREMOLO MELODY/MOTIF PICKING

Now try a short Tremolo melodic Motif/Melody. Remember though to hear/feel the "1e and a" rhythmic drive.

12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10

8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10

In this exercise we will tremolo on the open E 1st string and play a simple scalar motif on the 1st note of each "1e and a" grouping.

0 0 0 0 3 0 0 0 5 0 0 0 7 0 0 0 8 0 0 0 10 0 0 0 12 0 0 0 10 0 0 0

8 0 0 0 7 0 0 0 5 0 0 0 3 0 0 0

SUSTAINED CHORD WITH TREMOLO PICKING:

Here we will pluck a chord and follow it with a tremelo. Please let the chord "SUSTAIN" for the whole bar as you tremelo [best employed on an acoustic guitar for full effect].

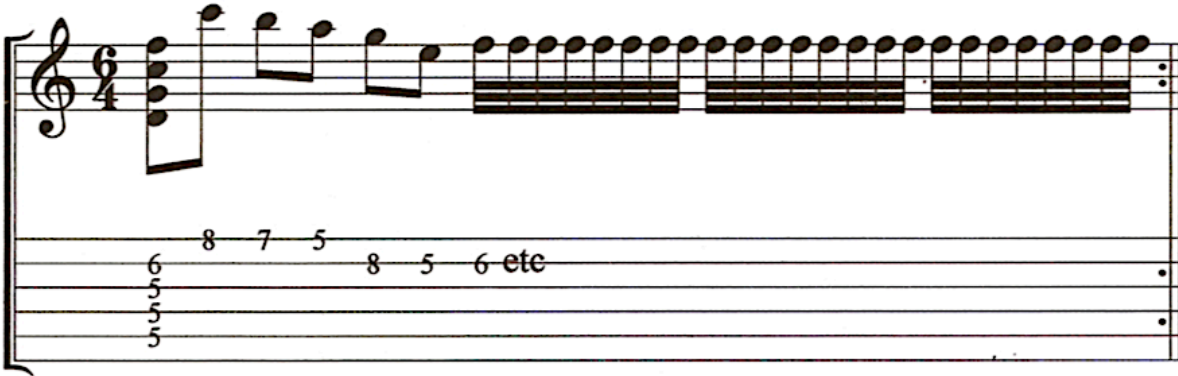
The first system of musical notation is in 4/4 time. The top staff is a treble clef with a 4/4 time signature. It shows a chord of four notes (G4, B4, D5, G5) in the first measure, followed by a tremolo of the same chord in the second measure. The guitar TAB below has four lines. The first line (high E) has fret numbers 12, 12, 12, 12, 12, 12, 12, 12, 12, 12, 12, 12, 12, 12, 12. The second line (B) has fret numbers 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7, 7. The third line (D) has fret numbers 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5. The fourth line (low E) has fret numbers 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0.

The second system of musical notation is in 4/4 time. The top staff is a treble clef. It shows a chord of four notes (G4, B4, D5, G5) in the first measure, followed by a tremolo of the same chord in the second measure. The guitar TAB below has four lines. The first line (high E) has fret numbers 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3, 3. The second line (B) has fret numbers 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5. The third line (D) has fret numbers 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6, 6. The fourth line (low E) has fret numbers 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0.

MIXING TREMOLO PICKING WITH ALTERNATE PICKING:

Sometimes we do Mix the Tremelo Picking with Alternate Picking for effect. This is usually an instinctive thing as we progress. **This is a useful effect BUT again I would advise using this Sparingly!**

SETTING UP TREMELO:



Musical notation for setting up tremolo. The notation is in 4/4 time, G major, and treble clef. It begins with a G4 chord (G4, B4, D5) followed by a quarter note G4, then a quarter note F#4, and a quarter note E4. This is followed by a tremolo section consisting of three groups of eighth notes. The first group has a duration of 1.5 measures, the second 1.5 measures, and the third 1.5 measures. The notes in the tremolo are G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, and G5. Below the staff, the fretting sequence is indicated as 6, 8, 7, 5, 8, 5, 6 etc.

Variation:



Musical notation for a variation of tremolo. The notation is in 4/4 time, G major, and treble clef. It begins with a G4 chord (G4, B4, D5) followed by a quarter note G4, then a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. This is followed by a tremolo section consisting of two groups of eighth notes. The first group has a duration of 1.5 measures and the second 1.5 measures. The notes in the tremolo are G4, A4, B4, C5, D5, E5, F#5, and G5. Above the staff, there are three square accents: one above the first G4, one above the first G4 of the first tremolo group, and one above the first G4 of the second tremolo group. Below the staff, the fretting sequence is indicated as 5, 6, 8, 5, 8.

TREMOLO CROSSING 2 STRING EXERCISE:

Next try the exercise below with quavers and count as you cross the strings on the up stroke. Then try it by doubling the speed with 16th's. Again count the rhythm so that you cross smoothly.

8th notes

16th notes "Double time"

The image shows a musical exercise on a grand staff. The top staff is a treble clef with a 'V' above the first note. It contains two measures of music. The first measure has eight eighth notes, and the second measure has sixteen sixteenth notes. The bottom staff shows the corresponding fretting: the first measure has notes on the 5th and 8th frets, and the second measure has notes on the 5th, 8th, 5th, 8th, 5th, 8th, 5th, 8th, 5th, 8th, 5th, 8th, 5th, 8th, and 5th frets. A vertical bar line separates the two measures.

1 and 2 and 3 and 4 and

1 e and a etc.

EVEN PATTERNS:

First try this with 8th notes and then double the speed with 16th notes. Hear the internalised "1e and a" of the Sixteenth notes and as you cross the strings you will always cross with the same EVEN stroke. This makes crossing the strings very easy because when you can cross 2 strings then you can SIMPLY REPLICATE this across all 6 strings.

The image shows a musical score for guitar. The top staff is a treble clef staff in 4/4 time. It contains two measures of music. The first measure has a quarter rest followed by eight eighth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4. The second measure has a quarter rest followed by sixteen sixteenth notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4. Below the staff is a guitar tablature staff with six lines. The notes are indicated by numbers: 5 5 5 5 8 8 8 8. The first measure has a quarter rest on the 5th string, followed by quarter notes on the 5th string (5), 8th string (8), 5th string (5), and 8th string (8). The second measure has a quarter rest on the 5th string, followed by quarter notes on the 5th string (5), 8th string (8), 5th string (5), and 8th string (8). The tablature staff is labeled 'TAB' on the left side.

If you find this easy then you can employ triplets rather than 16th's for odd grouping. But most students find Even groupings easiest for a smooth and effortless tremolo.

TREMOLO PICKING ACROSS ALL 6 STRINGS EXERCISE:

Guitar

Guitar

T
A
B

12 9 10 9 6 7 2 4

3

5 4 2 7 6 9 10 9

TREMOLO PICKING ACROSS ALL 6 STRINGS 16'S G MAJOR SCALE: "EVEN"

Guitar

Guitar

T
A
B

3

5 4 7 5 4 7 5 3

5

7 5 3 5 7 3 5 7

7

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

ODD TREMOLO PATTERNS:

For some players playing in ODD groupings may be easier or just preferable. But be warned if you mix up odd groupings with even groupings then you can come unstuck. This is why many players have problems with tremelo picking and it is also the reason why many beginners cause injury by tremelo picking with mad aggression and forceful tension.

Firstly INTERNALISE these rhythms.

The image shows a musical exercise in 4/4 time. The top staff is a treble clef staff with a 4/4 time signature. It contains two measures of eighth-note tremolo patterns. The first measure has four groups of three eighth notes, each with a '3' underneath. The second measure has six groups of three eighth notes, each with a '3' underneath. The bottom staff is a guitar TAB staff with three lines. The first line has the letters 'T', 'A', and 'B' stacked vertically. The second line contains a sequence of 28 fret numbers, all '8's, corresponding to the notes in the treble staff. The first measure has 12 fret numbers and the second measure has 16 fret numbers.

G MAJOR TREMOLO PICKING "ODD" PATTERNS TRIPLETS GMAJOR SCALE EXERCISE:

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

7 5 3 7 | 5 3 5 7 | 3 5 7 4

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

ARPEGGIO IN "ODD" TRIPLETS A MAJOR

The first system of music consists of a treble clef staff and a guitar TAB staff. The treble staff is in 4/4 time and contains four measures of music. Each measure contains a triplet of eighth notes. The notes in the first measure are G4, A4, and B4. The notes in the second measure are A4, B4, and C5. The notes in the third measure are B4, C5, and D5. The notes in the fourth measure are C5, D5, and E5. The guitar TAB staff has three lines labeled T, A, and B. The fret numbers for the first measure are 12, 9, and 10. The fret numbers for the second measure are 6, 7, and 2. The fret numbers for the third measure are 4, 5, and 4. The fret numbers for the fourth measure are 2, 7, and 4.

The second system of music consists of a treble clef staff and a guitar TAB staff. The treble staff is in 4/4 time and contains four measures of music. Each measure contains a triplet of eighth notes. The notes in the first measure are G4, A4, and B4. The notes in the second measure are A4, B4, and C5. The notes in the third measure are B4, C5, and D5. The notes in the fourth measure are C5, D5, and E5. The guitar TAB staff has three lines. The fret numbers for the first measure are 6, 9, and 10. The fret numbers for the second measure are 9, 10, and 9. The fret numbers for the third measure are 10, 9, and 9. The fret numbers for the fourth measure are 9, 10, and 9.