

Strummer Camp: 2019 (Day 9)

Today we'll start off with a few of the overall same ideas as we have previously worked with, but this time I'll be adding an 8th rest, a dotted 8th note - and even some additional “gap-based” strumming exercises for you.

Exercise 26:

Musical notation for Exercise 26, featuring chords A, D, E, and A. The notation includes a treble clef, a 4/4 time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The guitar tablature below the staff shows fingerings for each chord and strumming patterns. The A chord is played with fingers 2, 3, and 4 on strings 2, 3, and 4 respectively. The D chord uses fingers 2, 3, and 4 on strings 2, 3, and 4. The E chord uses fingers 1, 2, and 3 on strings 1, 2, and 3. The final A chord is played with fingers 2, 3, and 4 on strings 2, 3, and 4. The strumming patterns are indicated by 'v' marks above the notes.

Exercise 26: Eighth Notes, Accents, Sixteenth Notes

Diagram illustrating the rhythmic patterns for Exercise 26. It shows four measures of eighth notes with accents and strumming directions. The notes are labeled with '1', 'e', '&', and 'a' below them. Blue arrows point down for strums, and a red arrow points up for a strum.

1 e & a 2 e & a 3 e & a 4 e & a

There's nothing here you haven't seen before, but just remember we're working with a 4 chord progression.

Exercise 27:

Musical notation for Exercise 27, featuring chords C, F, G, and C. The notation includes a treble clef, a 4/4 time signature, and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The guitar tablature below the staff shows fingerings for each chord and strumming patterns. The C chord is played with fingers 1, 2, and 3 on strings 1, 2, and 3. The F chord uses fingers 1, 2, and 3 on strings 1, 2, and 3. The G chord uses fingers 1, 2, and 3 on strings 1, 2, and 3. The final C chord is played with fingers 1, 2, and 3 on strings 1, 2, and 3. The strumming patterns are indicated by 'v' marks above the notes.

Exercise 27: Eighth Notes, Tied Notes

1 e & a 2 e & a 3 e & a 4 e & a

Notice that I've opened up the strings at the end of the 8th note run prior to each chord change. If you don't have issues getting to each of these chords, you aren't at all required to "bridge the gap" - but it might help!

Exercise 28:

C7 F7 G7 C7

Exercise 28: Eighth Notes, Tied Notes, Sixteenth Notes

1 e & a 2 e & a 3 e & a 4 e & a

This one might require a bit of thought in terms of finger placement, but these "7th" chords are all quite common in music. As mentioned in the lesson videos, all of these ending barre chords CAN be played using their open(ish) counterparts. You will likely REALLY want to make use of those open strings between each chord here.

Exercise 30: Eighth Notes, Accents, Sixteenth Notes, Tied Notes, Dotted Eighth Note

1 e & a 2 e & a 3 e & a 4 e & a

The diagram shows four measures of music. Each measure has a rhythmic value above it and a sequence of notes below it. Blue arrows point down to notes, and red arrows point up to notes. Measure 1: Eighth note, eighth note. Measure 2: Eighth note with accent, eighth note with accent, eighth note with accent, eighth note with accent. Measure 3: Eighth note with accent, eighth note with accent, eighth note with accent, eighth note with accent. Measure 4: Eighth note with accent, eighth note with accent, eighth note with accent, eighth note with accent.

Okeydokey. I went somewhat fast through this in the lesson video mainly because it's easier to see below, but here's our new element, which is a dotted eighth note:

Eighth Note = 0.125

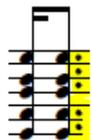
Adding a "dot" adds HALF of the note in question

Divide $0.125 / 2 = 0.0625$ (the value of one 16th note!)

(8th note [0.125] + 16th note [0.0625] = 0.1875

Thus, a dotted note is equal to an 8th + 16th note

So, the only difference between the dotted eighth note (above right) vs. the one you see in the tab is this:



This is an example of multiple dotted 8th notes that are "stacked" together AND grouped into a unit.

(vs just a regular dotted 8th note by itself)

So, how about we look back real quick and do some basic math to see if this tab is 100% correct:

8th 8th 8th 16th 16th 16th 16th 8th 16th 8th

.125 .125 .125 .0625 .0625 .0625 .0625 .125 .0625 .1875

(.125)
+.0625

There are a few ways to do this, but since we are looking for the TOTAL value of this measure, how about we make it easy.

1. Count how many 8th notes there are (include the dotted eighth note!)
2. Count how many 16th notes there are (include the tied notes – they have value!)
3. Add the dotted value.
4. Add the total values.

There are 5 eighth notes, so { $0.125 \times 5 = 0.625$ }

There are 5 sixteenth notes, so { $0.0625 \times 5 = 0.3125$ }

There is 1 dot on the eighth note, so { $0.125/2 = 0.0625$ }

$0.625 + 0.3125 + 0.0625 = 1$ ← that's one whole measure! :)

Why did I go through all this? Well, it's partially to help you see the precise value of a note, but it's also because later on in the course I will pop a few challenges on you that will require you to decide what note is MISSING in the exercise. It will help you learn song structure in basic 4/4 time without being precisely told what you must strum. Neat huh?!