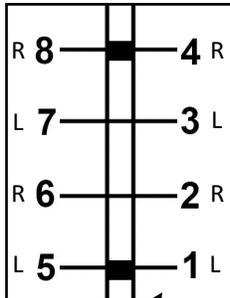
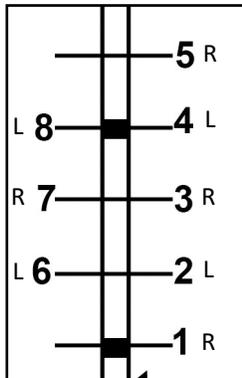


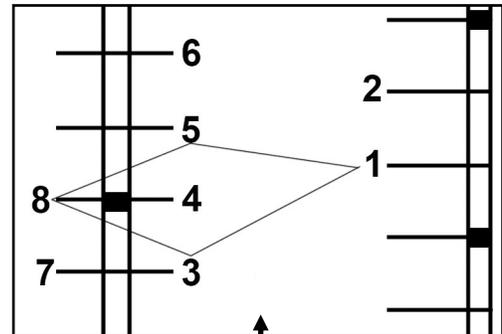
EXERCISE #2—8-NOTE ALTERNATING HAMMER SCALES



Simple left hammer lead scale.

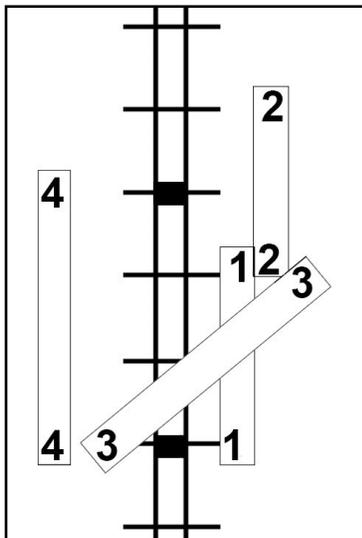


Simple right hammer lead scale.

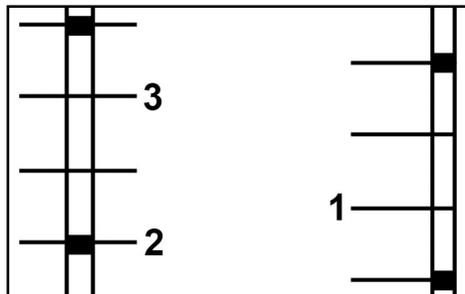


Complex left hammer lead scale. Notice this scale is played around a diamond-shaped major chord.

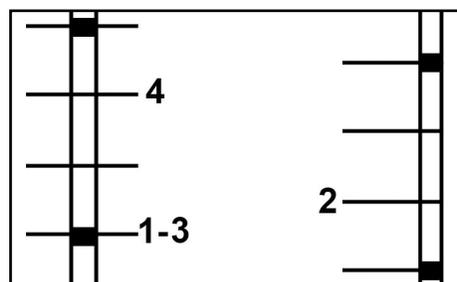
EXERCISE #3—BLOCK CHORDS & ROLLING CHORDS



Keep right hammer above left hammer and play these 4 chords, striking the two #1 notes at the same time, etc.



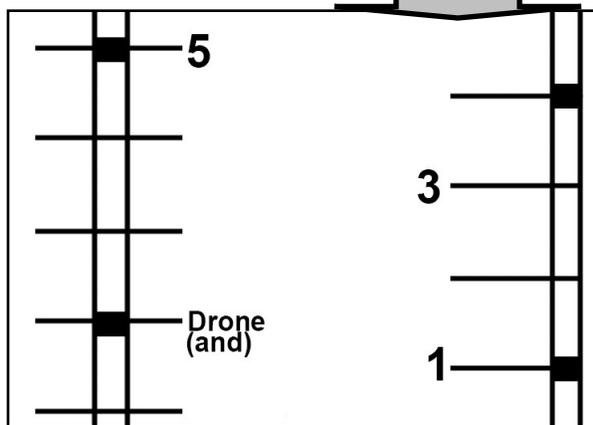
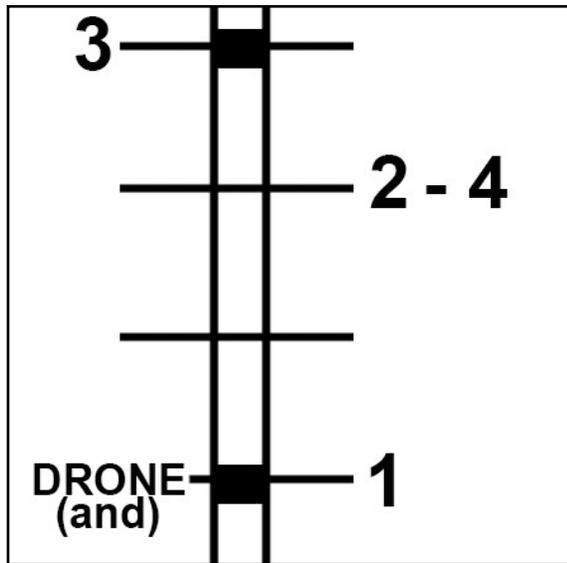
This rolling chord begins with right hammer. Practice playing the 3 notes as fast as you can, until they sound like one chord. FASTER IS NOT LOUDER!



Same as the 3-note rolling chord, but play these 4 notes, beginning with left hammer.

NOTE: These 3-note and 4-note rolling chords can be played using any three courses in a chord. Also, try playing a 4-note rolling chord using only 2 strings! (HINT: first 3 strokes on the same string).

EXERCISE #4—FOUR-STROKE DRONE ARPEGGIO

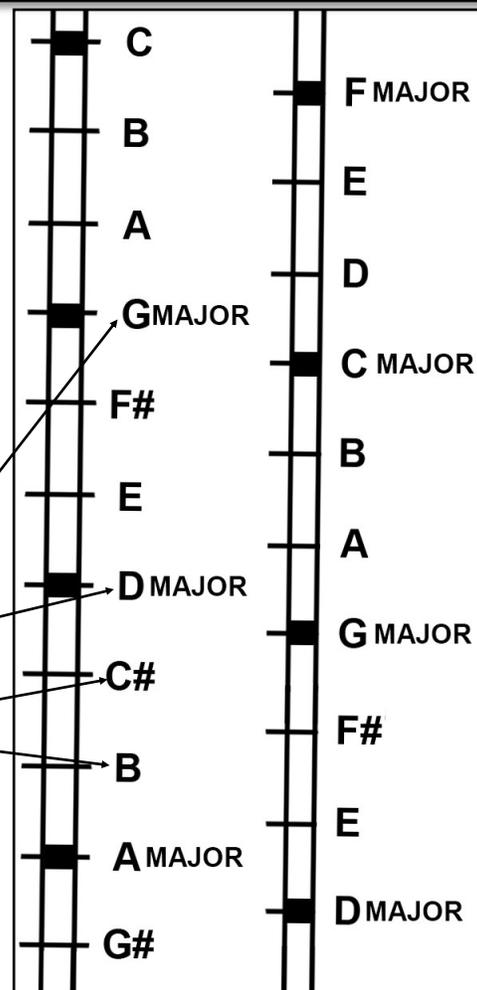


These arpeggio chords are the foundation for almost everything we will do in this workshop. You should practice them on your 16/15 dulcimer beginning with right hammer on each course as indicated below. **MEMORIZE THESE CHORDS!**

NOTE: If you master this skill—and nothing more—you will be able to play almost every song you have ever heard!

- ◆ Beginning the arpeggio on any marked course will produce a major chord.
- ◆ Beginning the arpeggio on any unmarked course will produce a minor chord.
- ◆ These only these major and minor chords, you can play almost every song in the keys of D, G, and C.

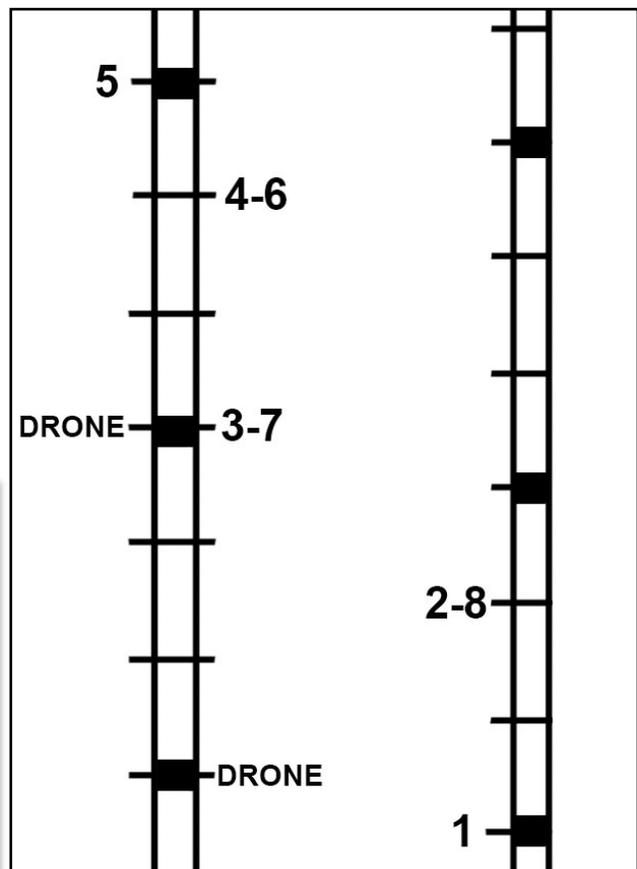
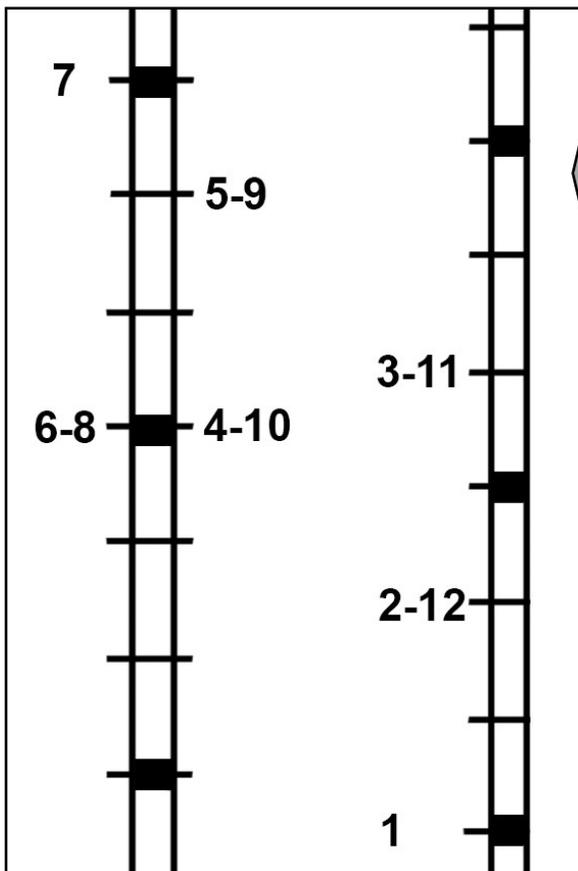
NOTE: Using other chord patterns allows you to play in other keys, such as A, E, F, and B♭.



**EXERCISE #5—TWELVE-STROKE ARPEGGIO (12/8 METER)
SIXTEEN STROKE ARPEGGIO (4/4 METER)**

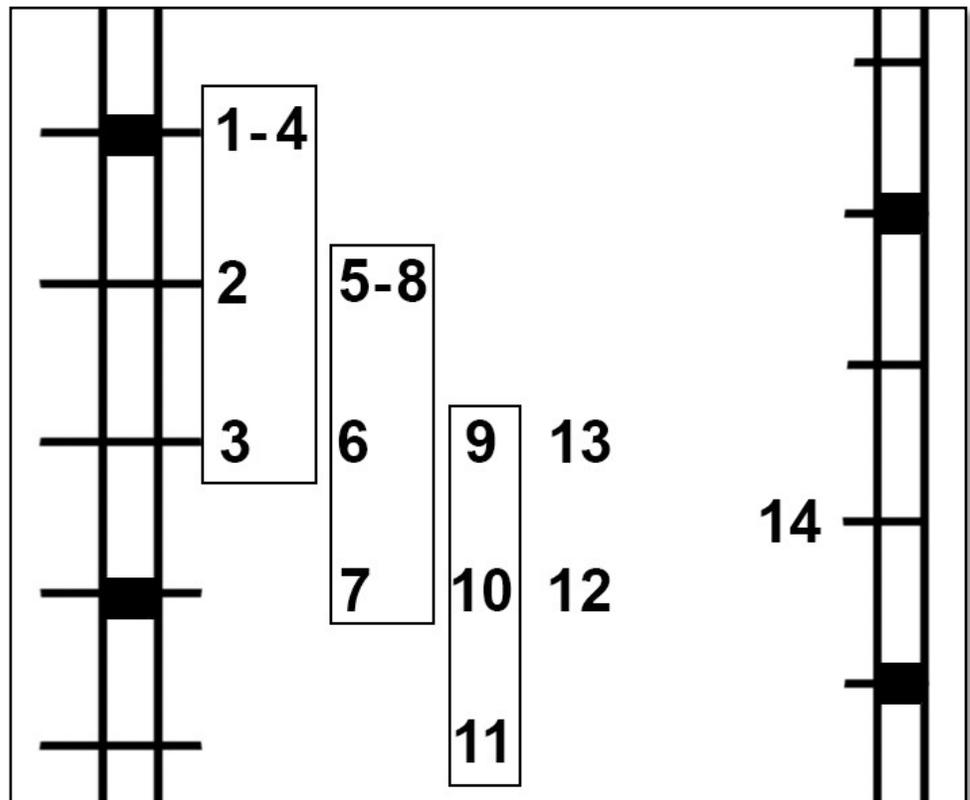
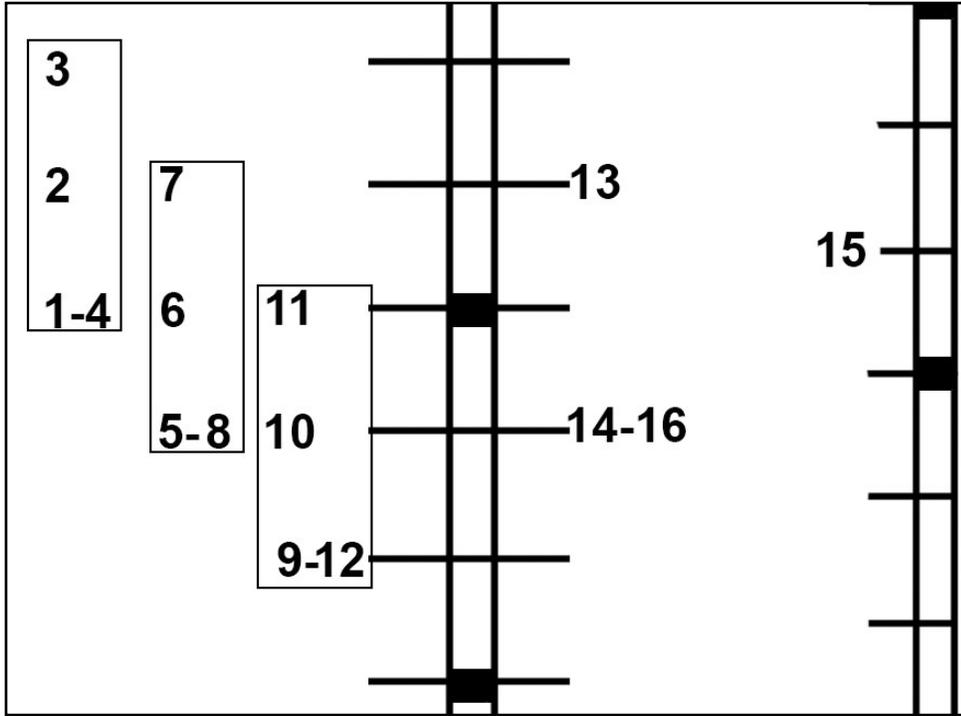
This arpeggio is an excellent transition from 4/4 meter. The beat of the song doesn't actually change. You substitute 3 hammer strokes for each beat. It sounds like this:

ONE and a
TWO and a
THREE and a
FOUR and a



These are the best exercises I know of to help you learn to play random notes in chords. The more you practice them, the easier it is to recognize which notes will fit when you are learning to improvise or follow a song, and when making your own arrangement. Practice both these arpeggios every day!!! It will pay off—BIG TIME!!!

EXERCISE #8—BLACKBERRY BLOSSOM 1



CHORD PROGRESSIONS

Diagram illustrating chord shapes and their positions on a guitar fretboard. The left side shows three chord shapes labeled 4, 1, and 5. The right side shows two vertical scales with fret markers and chord positions. The first scale has markers at 4, 3m, 2m, 1, 6m, and 5. The second scale has markers at 4, 3m, 2m, and 1.

Diagram illustrating three chord shapes labeled 1, 4, and 5 on a guitar fretboard.

Diagram illustrating a chord shape labeled 5⁷ on a guitar fretboard.

1-4-1-5

Brown Eyed Girl - Lion Sleeps Tonight
 Amazing Grace - Lean on Me
 Another Saturday Night - Top Of The World
 Danny Boy (good example of substituting 2m for 5 chord)

CHORD PROGRESSIONS

Diagram illustrating chord shapes and note sequences for the progression 1-6m-4-5. The shapes are shown on a fretboard, and the note sequences are listed on the right:

- 1**: 1, 3, 5
- 6m**: 4, 5, 6
- 4**: 2, 4, 6
- 5**: 1, 2, 3

Four smaller diagrams showing individual chord shapes for 1, 6m, 4, and 5.

Diagram illustrating the relationship between chord boxes and diamonds:

- 1 box**: 1, 3, 5
- 6m diamond**: 4, 5, 6
- 5 diamond**: 2, 4, 6
- 4 box**: 2, 4, 6

1-6m-4-5

Stand By Me—Stay—How Great Is Our God?
 Heart & Soul—Unchained Melody—Duke of
 Earle—Last Kiss—I Will Always Love You
 Why Must I Be A Teenager In Love?—Donna
 Stay—Dream—Hallelujah

CHORD PROGRESSIONS

1-5-6m-4

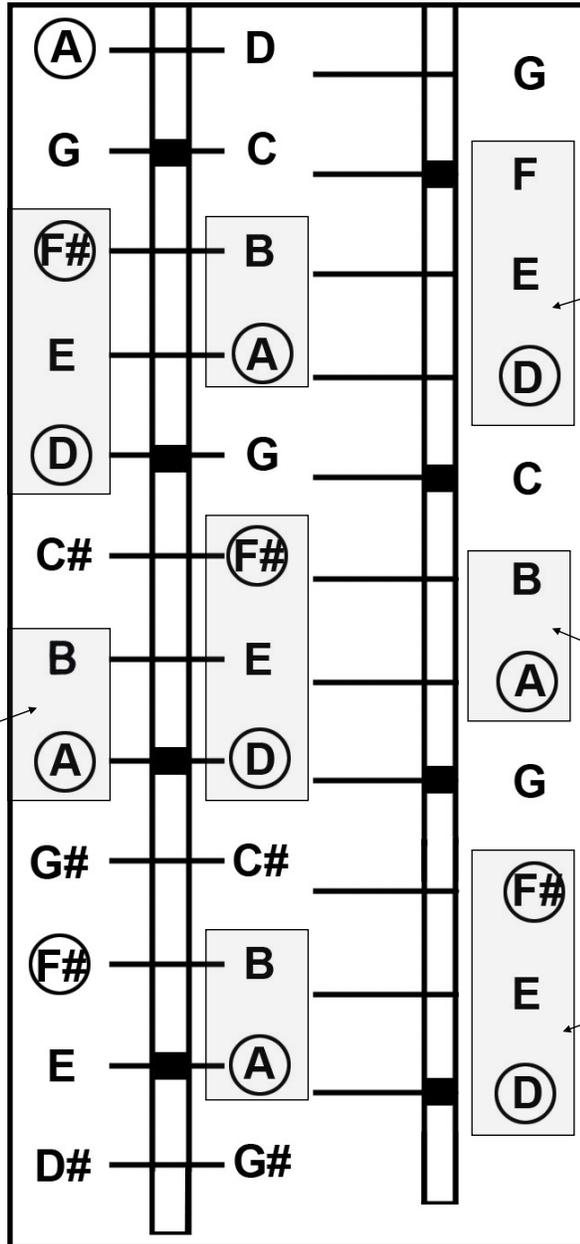
Let It Be - Beatles
 Country Roads - John Denver
 Auld Lang Syne

LEARN THE CHORDS AND CHORD CHANGES. It's time to learn the chords of

the song.

Use a consistent chord pattern (no melody notes), and play the song all the way through, over and over, until you can play it from memory.

Now, play the chords of the song, all the way through, using random chord notes. This is where the arpeggio practice kicks in. It doesn't matter which notes you play, so long as either (1) they are in the chord, or (2) they are in a 1-2 or 5-6 note combination in the notes of the scale. In crafting your arrangement of a song, you cannot practice this arpeggio chord progression too much. you do it, the more inspiration and ideas you will have!



These are the first three notes in a D scale. It is ok to play them in sequence (D-E-F#) in the arpeggio.

These are the 5th and 6th notes in a D scale. It is ok to play them in sequence (A-B) in the arpeggio.

These are the first three notes in a D scale. It is ok to play them in sequence (D-E-F#) in the arpeggio.

These are the 5th and 6th notes in a D scale. It sometimes sounds good to play them in sequence (A-B) in the arpeggio. Use sparingly!