

Practice Suggestions for Double-Stops

When playing double-stops, the fingers used in the first double-stop remain on the string as anchors until the fingers for the next double-stop have been placed. This kind of “walking” finger action produces smooth, efficient motion in the left hand. It also aids the hand in estimating the correct combinations and distances of half-steps and whole-steps to ensure accurate intonation. When the same fingers move to a new double-stop by means of a shift, they are not lifted but rather glide on the strings from one position to the next.

The following introductory exercises for octaves and thirds are based on the concept of placing the fingers individually. On the *ascending* scale, the fingers are placed in *ascending* numerical order, i.e. 0, 1, 2, 3 or 1, 2, 3, 4. On the *descending* scale, the fingers are placed in *descending* numerical order, i.e. 4, 3, 2, 1, or 3, 2, 1, 0. **Fingers should remain anchored whenever possible.**

Octaves ✓ = half step

73.

After this introduction, the student may wish to proceed to p. 11, no. 78.

74.

4 3 4 3
1 0 1 0

4 3 4 3
1 0 1 0

Three staves of musical notation for guitar. Each staff begins with a triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, B4) and continues with various rhythmic patterns. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 3 and 4 above notes, and 0 and 1 below notes. A '3' above a group of notes indicates a triplet.

Thirds - practice each shift separately ∨ = half step ∇ = whole step

75.

A series of seven staves of musical notation for guitar, each containing a triplet exercise. The exercises are written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4 above notes. Shift symbols (∨ for half step, ∇ for whole step) are placed below notes to indicate fret changes. Some exercises include asterisks (*) to denote specific techniques or shifts. The exercises vary in rhythm and melodic contour, often ending with a final chord or note.

After this introduction, the student may wish to proceed to p. 11, no. 77 in 3rds

* Or:

A single staff of musical notation for guitar, showing an alternative triplet exercise. It starts with a triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, B4) and continues with a sequence of notes and chords. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 3, 1, and 1 above notes, and 3-3 and 1 below notes.

76.

Exercise 76 consists of six staves of music in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The music is primarily composed of eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together in groups. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4 above or below notes. Some notes have a '2' below them, possibly indicating a second ending or a specific fingering. There are also some triplets indicated by a '3' above a group of notes. The exercise is divided into two main sections by a double bar line on the fourth staff.

Fingered Octaves

77.

Exercise 77, titled 'Fingered Octaves', consists of three staves of music in a treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The exercise is characterized by wide intervals, often spanning an octave or more, and is heavily marked with fingerings (1-4) and articulation marks (accents, slurs). The first staff contains several measures with wide intervals and specific fingering instructions. The second and third staves continue the exercise with similar wide intervals and detailed fingering. The exercise is divided into two main sections by a double bar line on the second staff.

78. Use these practice ideas with all double-stops.