

This workshop is intended for guitarists who can already play a few chords but want to start playing melodies (tunes) on the guitar strings in the same way as fiddlers, whistle players, concertina players and so on.

Whilst we can't get you from beginner to expert in one session, the workshop should get you started along the way enough to be able to continue to develop your skills on your own.

You don't need to be able to read music to join this workshop, but if you are already familiar with Western musical notation ('the dots') then this will be useful.

We will be using the attached extracts from an old guitar method as our study material. The book is "Cole's Spanish Guitar Method' by Nick Manoloff, and it was published in 1935 in Chicago, and authorised for publication in Australia by J Albert & Son. It was the book I started with when I got my first guitar at age 20.

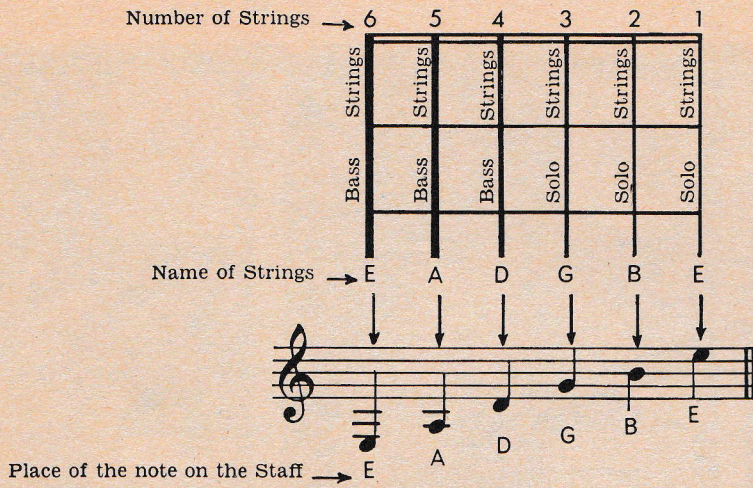
The book assumes that you want to play with a pick (plectrum). However, I will explain how to use fingers or the pick, whichever you prefer.

Your homework before the first session is to learn the names of the six strings on the guitar in order from the lowest (thickest) to the highest (thinnest) and where each appears on the musical staff. There is a diagram at the top of the next page. You can use a mnemonic like one of these:

- Eat All Day Get Big Easy.
- Eddie Ate Dynamite, Good Bye Eddie.
- Elvis Always Dug Good Banana Eating.
- Every Apple Does Good Being Eaten.
- Every Amp Deserves Guitars/Basses Everyday.
- Eat Apples Daily Grow Big Ears.
- Eric And Dave's Guitars Beat Everyone.

This document will be shown on the Zoom shared screen during the workshop, but feel free to print it out or open on your computer if you would prefer.

Open Strings



Exercise on Open Strings

(Use only down stroke ▣)

1

Count 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

Practise until you learn to locate and strike the strings with ease.

(Use only down stroke ▣)

2

Count 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

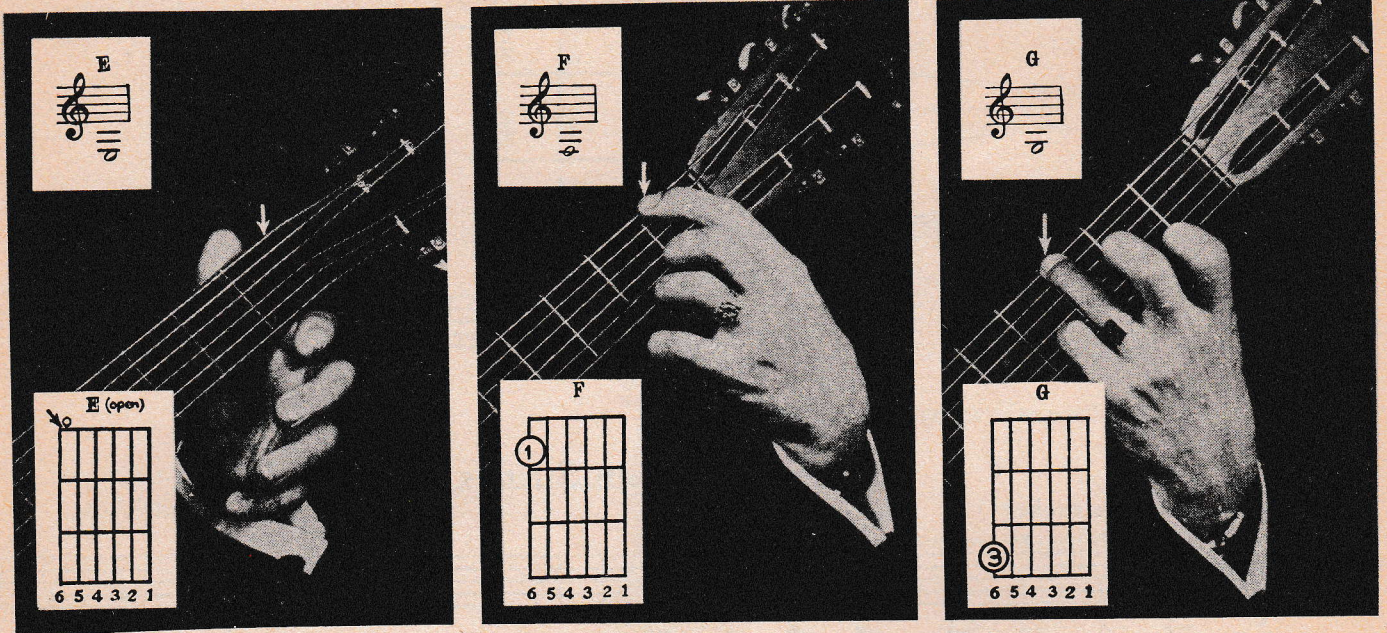
Memorize the notes and the strings on the Guitar thoroughly. In rotation: Downward or Upward. Play with a free wrist. When two or three notes are on one stem, play them with one sweep of the pick.

(Use only down stroke ▣)

3

Count 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

Notes on the 6th String



Exercise on the 6th String

(Use only down stroke \Downarrow)

E (6th String)

⑥ 5 4 3 2 1

F

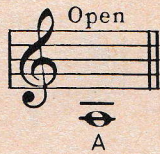
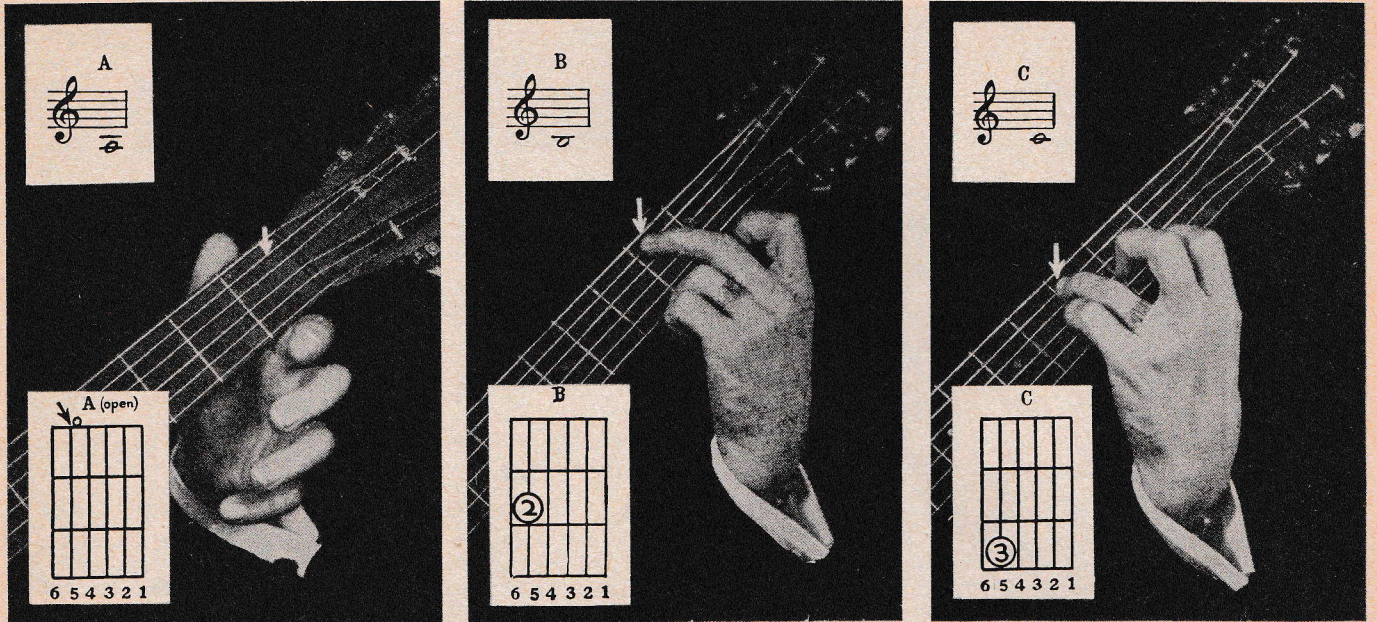
G

E A D G B E

HOMeward BOUND

N. Manoloff

Notes on the 5th String



Exercise on the 5th String

(Use only down stroke ▣)

A (5th String)

6 ⑤ 4 3 2 1

E A D G B E

GYPSY MELODY

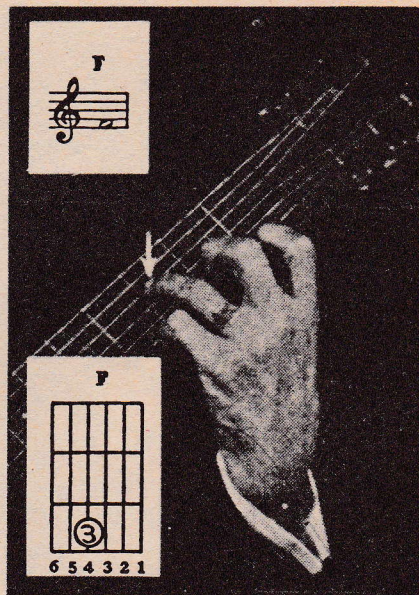
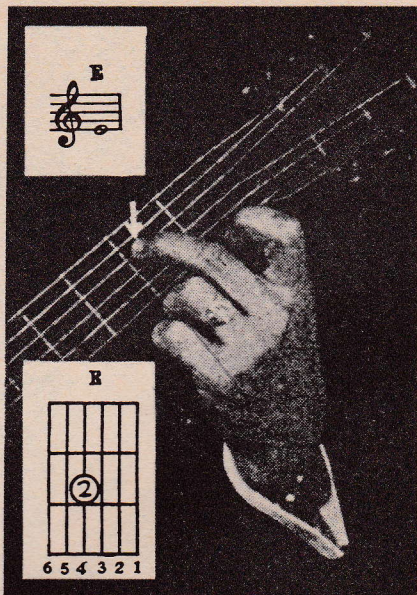
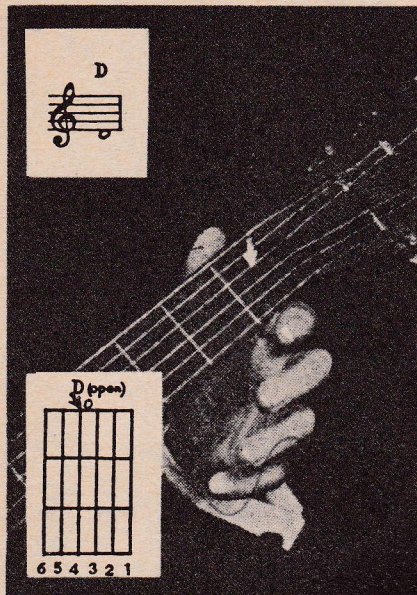
N. Manoloff

(2 Counts)

Count 1 2 3 4

($\frac{1}{4}$ Rest)

Notes on the 4th String



Exercise on the 4th String

(Use only down stroke ▾)

D (4th String)

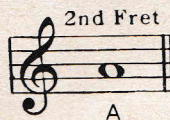
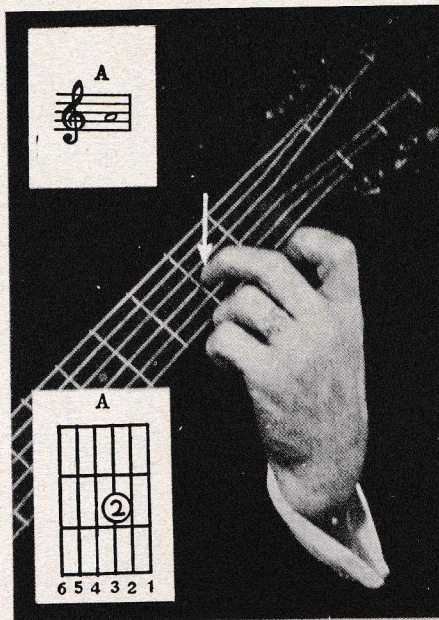
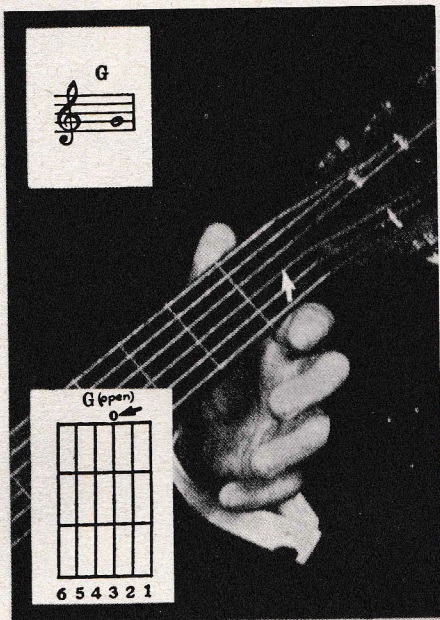
RUSSIAN DANCE

N. Manoloff

(2 Counts)

($\frac{1}{4}$ Rest)

Notes on the 3rd String



Exercise on the 3rd String

(Use only down stroke ▾)

G (3rd String)

6 5 4 ③ 2 1

A

G A

$\frac{1}{4}$ rest

E A D G B E

JUNE DAY

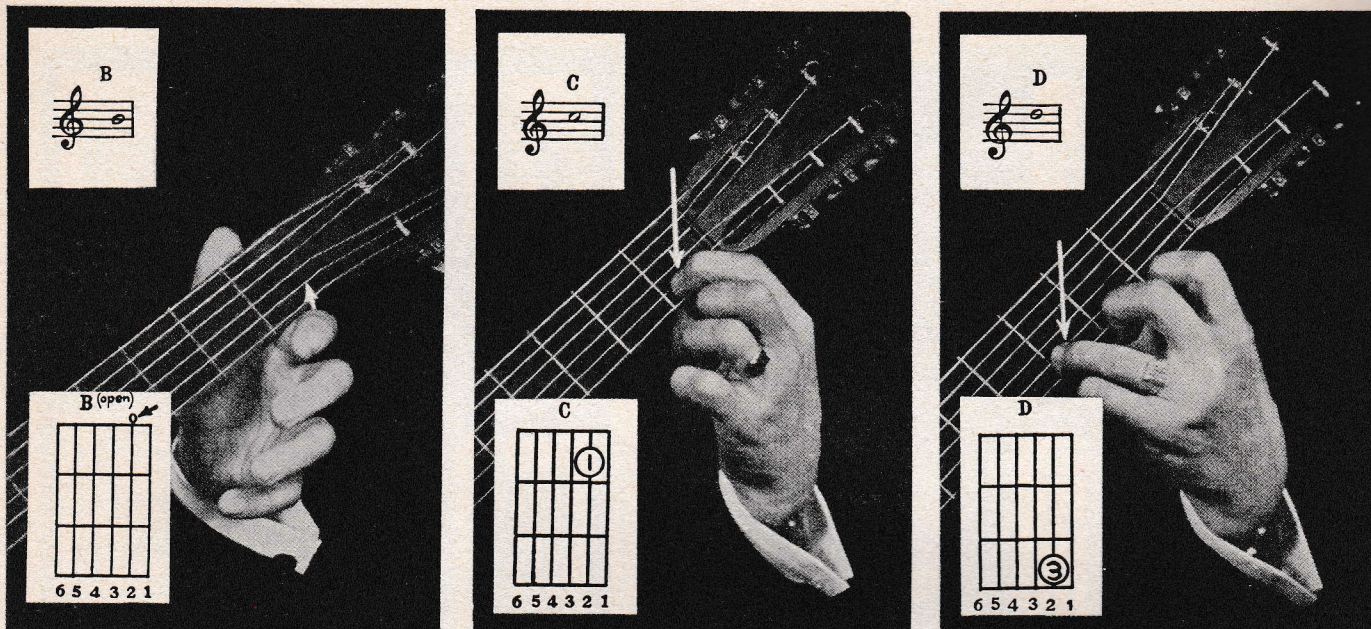
N. Manoloff

(2 Counts)

Count 1 2 3 4

$\frac{1}{4}$ Rest

Notes on the 2nd String



Exercise on the 2nd String

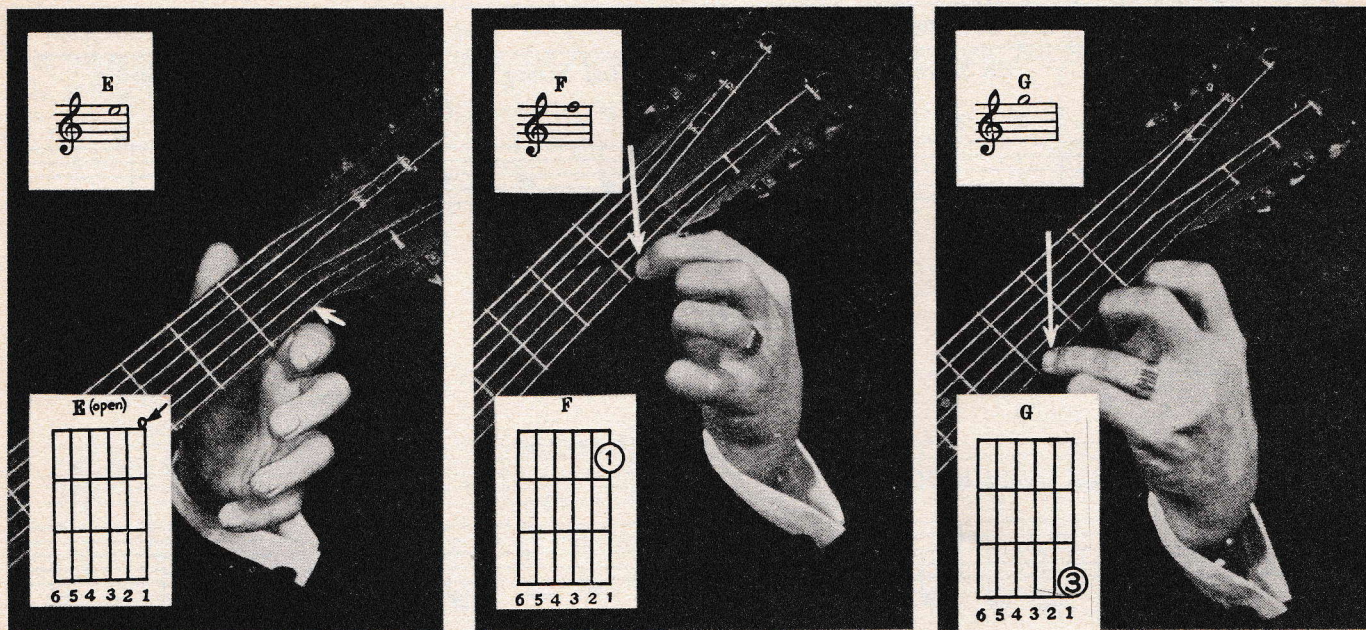
(Use only down stroke ∇)

B (2nd String)

ROLL CALL MARCH

N. Manoloff

Notes on the 1st String



Exercise on the 1st String

(Use only down stroke ▾)

E (1st String)

6 5 4 3 2 ①

F

G

A

E A D G B E

ROMPING

N. Manoloff
(2 Counts)

($\frac{1}{4}$ Rest)

The Natural Scale in the First Position

BASS STRINGS						SOLO STRINGS										
6th String			5th String			4th String			3rd String		2nd String			1st String		
Frets	0	1	3	0	2	3	0	2	3	0	1	3	0	1	3	5
E F G			A B C			D E F			G A		B C D			E F G A		

Bass String Exercise

(Use only down stroke ▭)

Solo String Exercise

(Use only down stroke ▭)

IMPORTANT Play slowly and try to locate the strings and the notes without looking at the finger-board.

HOW TO COUNT

(keeping time)

After having learned to read and play the notes readily, the student must next proceed to learn to play them in proper time by giving to each note the relative length of time it's form calls for. Strike the strings promptly at the instant of the first count.

Whole Notes (o)

(4 counts each)



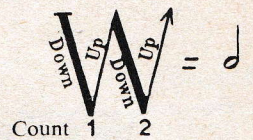
(Use only down stroke ▣)

Time

Count 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

Half Notes (d)

(2 counts each)



(Use only down stroke ▣)

Time

Count 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

WAITING FOR SOMEONE

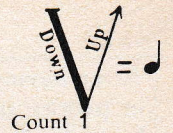
(Fox Trot)

N. Manoloff

(Use only down stroke ▣)

Quarter Notes (♩)

(ONE COUNT EACH)



(Use only down stroke □)

Time $\frac{3}{4}$ or $\frac{4}{4}$

Count 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

BIRDS' MORNING CALL

(Waltz)

N. Manoloff

Count 1 2 3 1 2 3

$\frac{1}{4}$ Rest

LITTLE JORDAN WALTZ

(Use only down stroke □)

N. Manoloff

Count 1 2 3 1 2 3

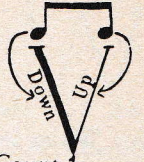
Repeat (last line)

LIGHTLY ROW

Count 1 2 3 4 1 2 3 4

1 2 3 4

Eighth Notes () (2 to each count)



(Use down and up stroke alternately)

Time                                      

Count 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 &

TWINKLE, TWINKLE, LITTLE STAR

Count 1 & 2 & 1 & 2 &

DEWDROPS

(Waltz)

N. Manoloff

Count 1 & 2 & 3 & 1 & 2 & 3 &

ELVIRA WALTZ

(Use only down stroke)

N. Manoloff

Count 1 & 2 & 3 &

Hold F note

Repeat

Hold F note