

STRUM BY STRUM presents

NOTE READING

for GUITAR

PROGRESSIVE EXERCISES

by S PARKER GOUBERT



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Introduction

This volume of exercises is intended to supplement the study of note-reading in open position (frets 1-4) on the guitar. Throughout my teaching career I've seen students struggle with the material presented in many popular guitar methods. Most students (especially those who have no prior experience reading music or playing guitar) need more repetition than any of these books provide. Students have difficulty with memorization, rhythm, and technique in both hands. These challenges can be more than a student with a casual interest in guitar has bargained for. I began writing this volume in an effort to remedy the roadblocks I saw so many students encountering. It can be used by both teachers and independent students.

Organization

These exercises are systematically designed to provide as much note-recall as possible. However, no two exercises are exactly alike. Written specifically for the guitar, care has been taken to introduce new notes and new techniques gradually, while giving equal attention to both. Because note-memorization is the primary focus, exercises are uniformly 8 measures long, written in 2/4 time, and omit the use of rests.

Exercises are presented for each string singly and in groups of 2, 3, 4, and 5 strings. Exercises in the beginning of the book use half notes strictly in order to keep the focus on note recognition and technique, however, quarter notes are introduced midway through.

Technique Involving Single Strings

Exercises written for single strings target note recognition as well as coordination of the fretting-hand and picking-hand. Each single-string-set introduces three natural notes, combined in different order within each exercise to drill note-recognition.

Technique Involving Combined Strings

Because changing strings with either hand can be difficult for many beginners, each rhythmic group within combined string-sets is further divided into 2-page sections. Exercises 1-24 (pp. 1-2 of any rhythmic group) require one string-change per exercise, always open-string to open-string. Exercises 25-48 (pp. 3-4) require 3 string-changes per exercise, now from fretted notes to open-strings. Finally, exercises 49-72 require 4 string-changes per exercise, many times from one fretted note to another. Combinations of 3, 4, and 5 strings target greater movement of the picking-hand and require memorization of more notes.

How to Use the Material

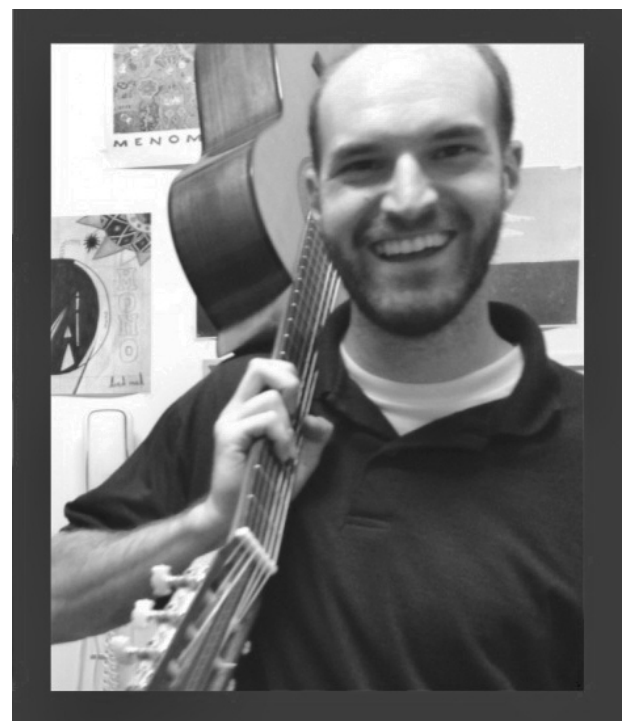
The organization of this book gives both the teacher and student flexibility in using it. There are almost unlimited applications of these exercises. They can be used as a sight-reading exercise within a lesson or sent home as practice material. Teachers can reinforce the student by playing in unison, or improvising an accompaniment (finger-picking or strumming). A metronome can be used to improve a student's counting and rhythmic accuracy. It also allows students and teachers to set goals for new tempos from lesson to lesson. Students can recite the letter name of each note they read. The student and teacher can alternate playing each exercise, even each measure (a fun game my students have enjoyed). The exercises can even be read and played backwards!

Remember that this volume is intended as supplementary material. Use as many or as few exercises as necessary to assist your study. The goal is to make the reading and technique second-nature so that students can focus on expression in a performance setting. Use your imagination and have fun!

About The Author

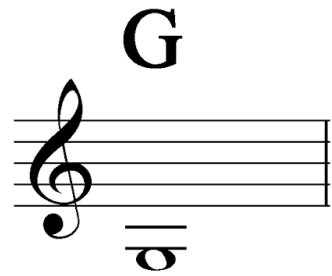
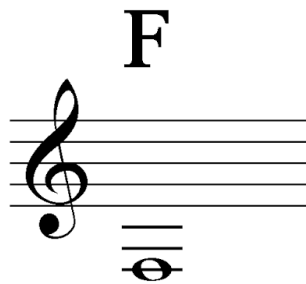
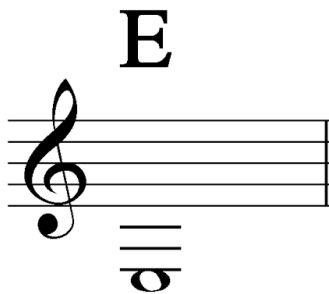
S Parker Goubert is an experienced musician who has been playing guitar since the age of 10 and teaching since the age of 16. His love for the guitar eventually led him to music school, where he studied music theory and composition.

Throughout that time he has been lucky enough to play guitar in rock bands, classical ensembles, and even music theater! His teaching career has included one-on-one lessons with students ranging in age from 6-65 and classes at the elementary, middle school, and college level. He loves the guitar more than ever and continues to write, record, perform, and teach to this day.



6th String

Accompaniment Key: C
Suggested Tempo: ♩ = 60-120



Technique:

- Fretting-hand/Picking-hand coordination,
- using low E (open string), F (1st finger), and G (3rd finger)

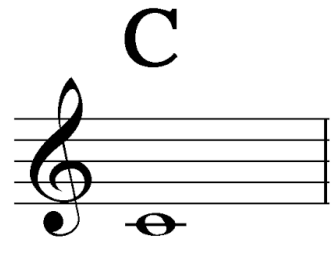
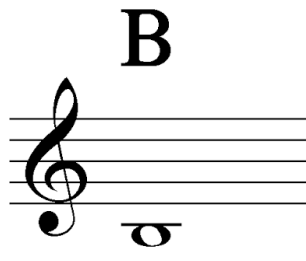
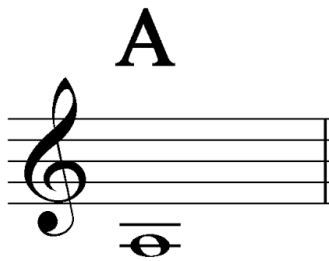
6TH STRING READING EXERCISES

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12

This page contains ten musical staves, each representing an exercise for the 6th string. The exercises are numbered 13 through 24. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The exercises consist of a sequence of eighth notes, with the number of notes increasing by one for each subsequent staff: Exercise 13 has 8 notes, 14 has 9, 15 has 10, 16 has 11, 17 has 12, 18 has 13, 19 has 14, 20 has 15, 21 has 16, 22 has 17, 23 has 18, and 24 has 19 notes. The notes are written on a five-line staff, with the 6th string (lowest line) being the starting point for each exercise.

5th String

Accompaniment Key: Am
Suggested Tempo: ♩ = 60-120



Technique:

- Fretting-hand/Picking-hand coordination,
- using A (open string), B (2nd finger), and C (3rd finger)

5TH STRING READING EXERCISES

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

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12

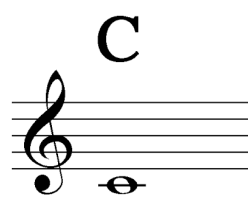
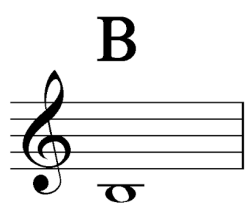
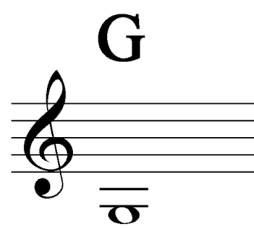
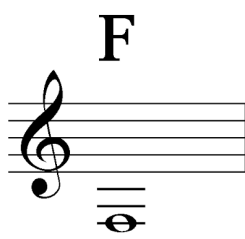
This page contains 12 musical exercises, numbered 13 through 24. Each exercise is written on a single staff with a treble clef. The exercises are designed for the 5th string and consist of a sequence of eighth notes. The notes are as follows:

- Exercise 13: G₂, A₂, B₂, C₃, D₃, E₃, F₃, G₃
- Exercise 14: A₂, B₂, C₃, D₃, E₃, F₃, G₃, A₃
- Exercise 15: B₂, C₃, D₃, E₃, F₃, G₃, A₃, B₃
- Exercise 16: C₃, D₃, E₃, F₃, G₃, A₃, B₃, C₄
- Exercise 17: D₃, E₃, F₃, G₃, A₃, B₃, C₄, D₄
- Exercise 18: E₃, F₃, G₃, A₃, B₃, C₄, D₄, E₄
- Exercise 19: F₃, G₃, A₃, B₃, C₄, D₄, E₄, F₄
- Exercise 20: G₃, A₃, B₃, C₄, D₄, E₄, F₄, G₄
- Exercise 21: A₃, B₃, C₄, D₄, E₄, F₄, G₄, A₄
- Exercise 22: B₃, C₄, D₄, E₄, F₄, G₄, A₄, B₄
- Exercise 23: C₄, D₄, E₄, F₄, G₄, A₄, B₄, C₅
- Exercise 24: D₄, E₄, F₄, G₄, A₄, B₄, C₅, D₅

5th & 6th String

Accompaniment Key: C

Suggested Tempo: ♩ = 60-120



Technique:

- Fretting-hand/Picking-hand coordination,
- moving from open string to open string (pp 1-2)
- moving from open string to fretted note (pp 3-4)
- moving from fretted note to fretted note (pp 5-6)