

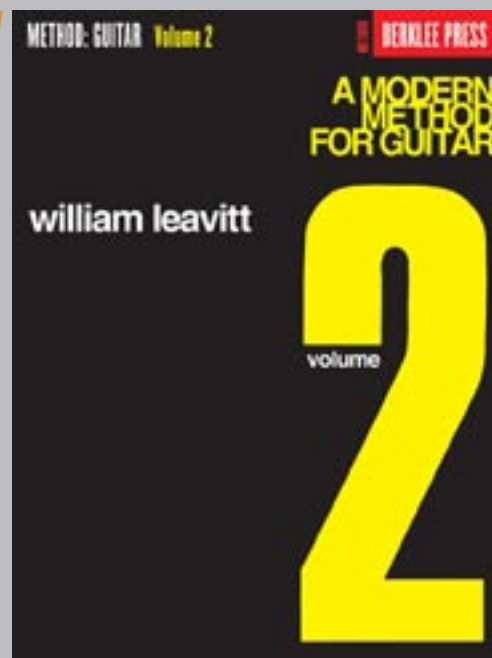
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**A Modern Method for Guitar
Volume 2**
William Leavitt

Rhythm Guitar—The Right Hand

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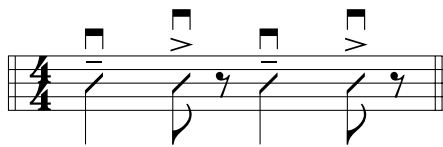
Rhythm Guitar—The Right Hand ($\frac{4}{4}$ and 2 Beat)

For a good rhythm section blend, all notes of a chord must seem to explode into sound at the same instant. This can be accomplished by a combination of downward, rotary forearm and loose wrist motion, as if flecking something from the back of your hand. The pick must travel very quickly across the strings to match the sound of the production of a pizzicato note on the bass violin.

- NOTATION:**
- ▣ Downstroke
 - ∨ Upstroke
 - × Strike muffled strings; fingers in formation
 - Release pressure immediately after chord sounds

All strokes labeled “Basic” are usually best when used with a guitar alone or with an incomplete rhythm section.

Basic Stroke:
Four, Four, and Two Beat

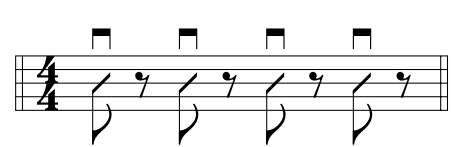


Orchestral:
Four, Four



Chord duration must match notes of bass violin.

The “Chop”
(often slightly amplified)



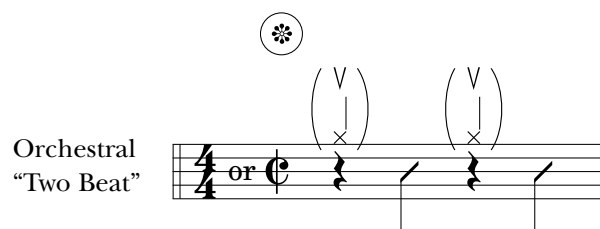
For use with organ groups and similar small combos.

EXERCISE

Practice in all three styles, with emphasis on the orchestral stroke.



The principal difficulty in the above orchestral stroke is in producing the sharp, explosive attack while keeping the chord duration long.



It is sometimes advisable in practice (and in use) to lightly hit the (muffled) top strings on the returning upstroke where rests are indicated.

EXERCISE



Be sure to practice at slow, medium, and fast tempos. When learning this style of rhythm playing, it is necessary to tap the foot. First tap on beats 1 and 3, and later tap on 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Orchestral Fast to Very Fast "Four"

Tap the foot "in two" (i.e. on beats 1 and 3)

Make the upstroke sound as much like the downstroke as possible by favoring the lower strings with the returning upstroke of the pick. There will be a slight natural accent on beats 2 and 4, because the downstroke hits the heavy string first. This is good, as it is comparable to the drummer's use of the hi-hat cymbal on these beats.

EXERCISE

This right-hand technique is difficult to master but is extremely valuable. It allows you to maintain very bright tempos (steady as a rock) with very little tightening up.

Chord Etude No. 7

$\frac{3}{8}$: Eighth note (♩) gets one beat

All notes connected by a curved line must be kept ringing.

Moderately Fast Waltz