

Basic Finger Picking Patterns

4

4 Basic Finger Picking Pattern equals one measure

This pattern is great for ballads and slower pieces in 4/4 only

(T)* 3 2 3 1 2 3 4 Strings picked

T i m i m i i i Fingers used to pick with

*The (T) bass note is the **only** thing that changes with each chord and **ONLY** plays the bass notes on the 6th, 5th, or 4th strings

The fingers do the same pattern each time on every chord

(T)* = Bass Note of the chord played with the **thumb** ("p" in classical guitar)

i = Index Finger

m = Middle Finger

r = Ring Finger ("a" in classical guitar)

p = Pinkie Finger

The following patterns can be used for various tempos

4

4 Double Pull Picking Pattern

(T) 4 3/2 4 3/2 4 3/2 4

T i m/r i m/r i m/r i

3

4 Double Pull Picking Pattern

(T) 4 3/2 4 3/2 4

T i m/r i m/r i

2

4 Double Pull Picking Pattern (Two of these can replace the 4/4 pattern above)

(T) 4 3/2 4

T i m/r i

For chords with a 4th string bass note, drop the picking fingers down to the 3rd, 2nd, and 1st strings

Also, for variety, you can mix the patterns using the 4th, 3rd, and 2nd strings with the 3rd, 2nd, and 1st like this

(T) 4 3/2 4 2/1 4 2/1 4 or

(T) 4 3/2 4 2/1 4 3/2 4