

Lesson No. 6: The major arpeggio (2)

Lesson 4 dealt with the major arpeggio. We learned two versions - with the third and fifth above as well as below the root.

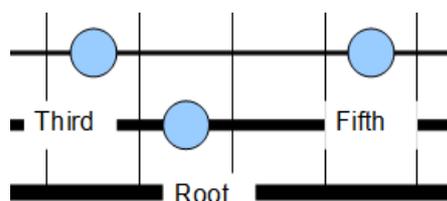
In this lesson we are going to repeat these two versions and will furthermore learn an additional fingering for each version. Thus we will finally have four different fingerings, two for each version (the third and fifth above and below the root).

Why do we need two fingerings? Wouldn't it be sufficient to know just one? The reason is **position playing**. Many chords and intervals have two fingerings on the bass guitar, one where the root is played with index or middle finger and the other where the root is played with the ring finger or pinkie. By using both fingerings in an appropriate manner you will be able to avoid changing the position. It will certainly become clearer when you play the exercises. You will see that by combining the two fingerings you will be able to play the exercises completely in the same position.

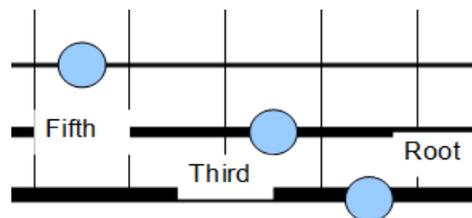
As a general rule **you should change positions as little as possible**. Rather use different fingerings instead.

Here are the fingerings:
Third and fifth above the root:

Fingering 1:



Fingering 2:

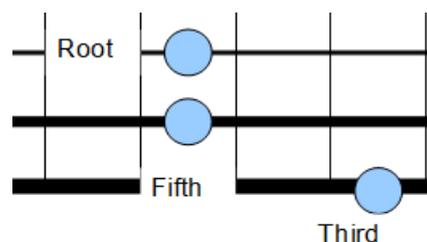


Third and fifth below the root:

Fingering 1:



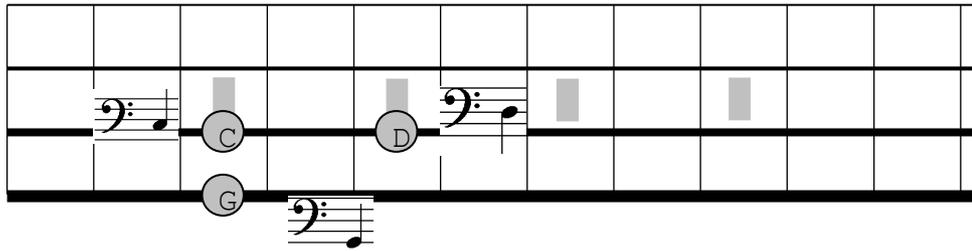
Fingering 2:



Try to learn these fingerings by heart. By and by we will learn more and more fingerings. Then it will be easier for you when you have the old ones off pat.

Exercise 1

The exercise is played in the second position. The following root notes are used:



For the remaining notes refer to the notefinder. Use the fingerings for the third and the fifth above the root. Use fingering 1 for the chords G and C and fingering 2 for D.

a)

G D G C

G D C G

b)

G D G C

G D C G

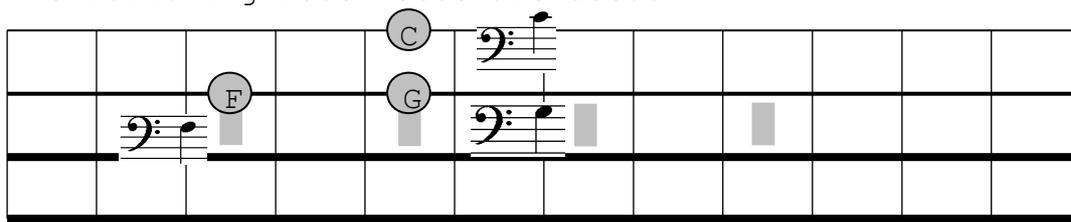
c)

G D G C

G D C G

Exercise 2

The exercise is also played in the second position.
The following root notes are used:



For the remaining notes refer to the notefinder. Use the fingerings for the arpeggios with third and fifth below the root. Play fingering 1 for the chords C and G, fingering 2 for F.

a)

Three staves of musical notation in 4/4 time, bass clef. Each staff contains four measures of eighth-note arpeggios. The first staff has root notes C, G, C, F. The second staff has root notes C, G, F, C. The third staff has root notes C, F, G, G.

b)

Three staves of musical notation in 4/4 time, bass clef. Each staff contains four measures of eighth-note arpeggios. The first staff has root notes C, G, C, F. The second staff has root notes C, G, F, C. The third staff has root notes C, F, G, G. A page number '8' is written below the first measure of the third staff.

c)

Three staves of musical notation in 4/4 time, bass clef. Each staff contains four measures of eighth-note arpeggios. The first staff has root notes C, G, C, F. The second staff has root notes C, G, F, C. The third staff has root notes C, F, G, G.