

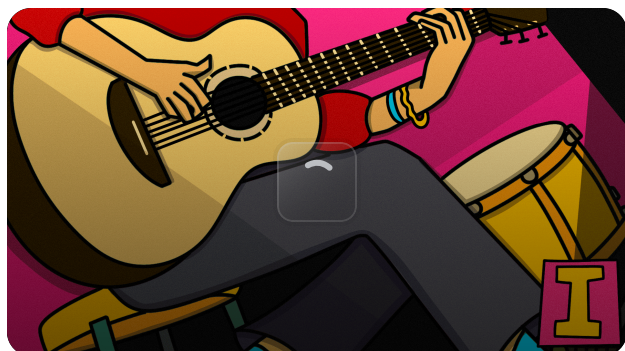
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# Fingerstyle Percussion

**LEVEL 1** • Challenges

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## Fingerstyle Percussion

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### The Technique

In this first lesson we take a good look at the piece we're working on. It's a simple loop of 4 bars that we're working towards, but each bar is complicated! Let's take a look at that and the basic technique we need.



“ pat,  
fingers,  
thumb,  
fingers...  
just  
remember  
this!

**Thomas**



So it will be a wise start to get a grip on the core technique that Thomas is using here, so that as the variations kick in, you have some stable ground to work from at least! As shown above, the focus for

## UNIT 1

## Fingerstyle

 0%

## Percussion

Thomas takes you through the basic techniques then uses them in a tasty progression

Lessons:

- The Technique
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now is **“pat, fingers, thumb, fingers”**. Which is like this over a single beat of a bar:

PAT with thumb



PLUCK with thumb



UP with fingers

UP with fingers



“

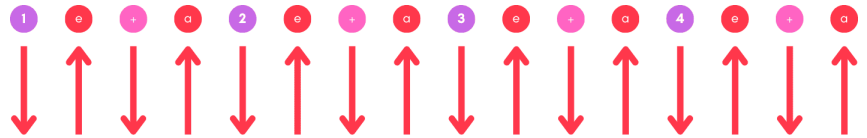
At this point don't be too precious with the exact strings you're using, as it doesn't really matter. Just keep to the lower end of the guitar (E-G string) as that has a deeper quality.

Thomas

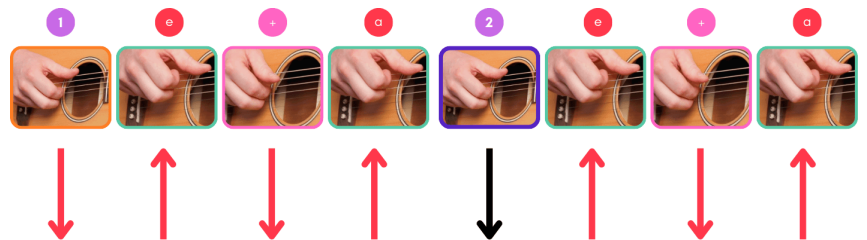
”

## Add the slap!

This breaks the beat down into 16th notes, giving us the “1 e and a” and it’s the first thing you want to get together. We recommend stopping the video at this point and simply working on this first part of the technique for a little bit, until it starts to settle in and you can create those sounds.



So this is our 16th note pattern, and we are essentially hitting every beat. The notes are all muted at the moment though. We’re then applying this:



**On the “2” beat you are slapping.** It’s almost identical to the first beat, except you hit with enough force to create a slapping sound. That will come through trial and error, so please take your time with it. You then repeat the above twice to create a whole bar of 16th notes. It does seem complicated, but stick with it – once it clicks it will feel simple!

## Work with this only

Your homework that must be completed before the next lesson is to work with this pattern until it feels

more comfortable. You can practice alongside a beat if you prefer, but you don't have to do that for now. Good luck, and we'll see you in the next lesson.



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