

Fingerpicking in 4/4 Quarter Notes

Thumb = **T**
 Index = **I**
 Middle = **M**
 Ring = **R**

| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|----|----|-----|----|-----|
| 1 | T | I | M | R |
| 2 | T | I | R | M |
| 3 | T | R | M | I |
| 4 | T | R | I | M |
| 5 | T | M | R | I |
| 6 | T | M | I | R |
| 7 | T | MR | T | MR |
| 8 | T | IM | T | IM |
| 9 | T | IR | T | IR |
| 10 | T | MR | T | IM |
| 11 | T | IM | T | MR |
| 12 | T | IMR | T | IMR |
| 13 | TR | M | I | M |
| 14 | TI | M | R | M |
| 15 | TM | I | R | I |
| 16 | TM | I | TR | I |
| 17 | TR | I | TM | I |
| 18 | TI | M | I | R |

Each one of these patterns can be used in multiple ways, making them an important part of your practice. Building finger strength, dexterity, and confidence will be the result of spending quality time with these exercises.

Each pattern is numbered for quick and easy reference. Across the top are the numbers (1-2-3-4)

These represent the 4 beats we count in each measure of music. As you can see, each beat column lines up with a finger, or fingers.

Practice Tips:

Start by assigning each finger to a single string: T-5th string, I-4th string, M-3rd string, R-2nd string.

As you count the beat out loud, use the corresponding finger, or fingers, to pluck the string, or strings, they're assigned to.

As always, using a time keeping device, such as a metronome, will help greatly in establishing correct timing and ability.

Start Slow!

Patience, momentum, and doing the small things well



Next Steps:

After playing the patterns on their own, begin to incorporate chords and chord progressions. Finger placement varies depending on the chord, more specifically the bass (lowest), or Root note.

Root 6th string - T-6th string, I-4th string, M-3rd string, R-2nd string.

Root 5th string - T-5th string, I-4th string, M-3rd string, R-2nd string.

Root 4th string - T-4th string, I-3rd string, M-2nd string, R-1st string.