

The Space Between: A Bassist's Guide to Note Length

By Sean Hurley
premierguitar.com

Ex. 1

Moderately slow ♩ = 90

N.C.(Em) (G) (A) (Em) (G)

mf

(Em) (G) (A) (Em) (G) (A)

Ex. 2

Moderately slow ♩ = 90

N.C.(Em) (G) (A) (Em) (G)

mf

(Em) (G) (A) (Em) (G) (A)

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Ex. 3

Moderately slow $\text{♩} = 80$

N.C.(D) (A) (D) (A) (D) (A)

mf *let ring* -|

(D) (A) (D) (A) (D) (A)

let ring -|

(D) (A) (D) (A)

let ring -----|

Ex. 4

Moderately slow $\text{♩} = 80$

N.C.(D) (A) (D) (A) (D) (A)

mf *let ring* -|

(D) (G) (A) (D) (A) (D) (A)

let ring -|

(D) (A) (D) (A)

let ring ----|

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Ex. 5

Moderately ♩ = 96

N.C.(C#m) (A) (E) (F#m)

mf

(C#m) (A) (E) (F#m)

Ex. 6

Moderately ♩ = 96

N.C.(C#m) (A) (E) (F#m)

mf

(C#m) (A) (E) (F#m)

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Ex. 7

Moderately slow ♩ = 84

The exercise is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of three systems of music, each with a melodic line and a corresponding fretboard diagram. The fretboard diagrams show fingerings (numbers 1-4) and barre positions (12 and 14). Chord diagrams are placed above the melodic lines.

System 1: Chords: N.C.(G7), (A7), (D7), (G7). Dynamics: *mf*. Fretboard diagrams show fingerings: 3, 12, 12/14, X 3 4, 5, 5, 7, 5, 5, 5, X 3 5, 3, 12, 12/14, X 3 4.

System 2: Chords: (A7), (D7), (G7), (A7), (D7). Dynamics: *let ring - 1*. Fretboard diagrams show fingerings: 5, 7, 7, 7, 5, 5, 5, X 3 5, 3, 12, 12/14, X 3 4, 5, 5, 7, 5, 5, 5, 0, 1, 2.

System 3: Chords: (G7), (A7), (D7). Dynamics: *let ring - - - - - 1*. Fretboard diagrams show fingerings: 3, 12, 12/14, X 3 4, 5, 7, 7, 7, 5, 5, 5.

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Ex. 8

Moderately slow ♩ = 94

N.C.(F)

(B \flat)

The first system of musical notation for Ex. 8. It consists of a bass staff and a guitar staff. The bass staff begins with a dynamic marking of *mf*. The guitar staff shows fret numbers: 1, 5/8, 8, 8, 8, X, 8, 6, 10/13, 13, 13, 13, 13, 13.

(F)

(B \flat)

The second system of musical notation for Ex. 8. It consists of a bass staff and a guitar staff. The guitar staff shows fret numbers: 1, 1, 5/8, 8, 8, 8, 8, X, 5, 6, 10/13, 13, 13, 13, 13, 13.

(F)

(B \flat)

The third system of musical notation for Ex. 8. It consists of a bass staff and a guitar staff. The guitar staff shows fret numbers: 1, 1, 5/8, 8, 8, 8, 8, X, 8, 6, 6, 10/13, 13, 13, 13, 13, 13.

(F)

(B \flat)

The fourth system of musical notation for Ex. 8. It consists of a bass staff and a guitar staff. The guitar staff shows fret numbers: 1, 1, 5/8, 8, 8, 8, 8, X, X, 5, 6, 6, 10/13, 13, 13, 13, 13, 13.