

Harpbook2 lessons

Health from the cup:

Melody:

Exercise: recognize arpeggio G, getting awareness of the g chord and it's notes later while playing the melody.



With this exercise try to see the notes even when having the fingers off the strings. Notice the one string gaps and the 2 string gap.

Numbers above notes indicate fingers

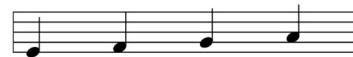
Symbol explanation:



Means you have a gap of one string between finger 3 and 4. You strike with 4



Means you have your fingers aligned and strike with 2



Damping: in general we need to damp notes beside each other. Looking at bar 1 we can damp the first A when playing D. A is a short note and so we get away by letting B ring. In this way we create a nicely ringing G-chord. Keep this principal in mind when looking at what notes you damp throughout the tunes.

Exercise:



Play GAB with 3, 2, 1. When striking 1 damp 2, indicated by circled in numbers. G and B left ringing

Play GAB with 4, 3, 2. When striking 2 damp 3.

2 sets of 3 notes with the notes damped as in first two bars and the 2 needing damping when going from one 3 note set to the other. This is a technique you can use to create more ringing of harmonic chords. Usually you damp notes following each other which are beside each other.

Looking at the last bar we need to damp B with finger 2 and G with finger 4 when striking A with 3.

Anchor: Let your G in bar 1 ring but replace in time to use as anchor.

Bar 5: When you can see the G-chord, placing is much easier.

Bass: A
G
G
E

Hand positions in the bass are indicated like this: They show in the right hand corner at the top of each tune, so you immediately know where to place your bass hand. In the beginning we only will have one hand position during a tune. In this case fingers are lined up: A finger 1, G finger 2, G finger 3 and E finger 4

Exercise: Place you bass hand as given above and alternate the two G string with finger 2 and 3.

Keep finger 1 and 4 placed when doing this.

Now keep the G strings with fingers placed and alternate A and E.

Try striking A and E in the same time as well.

Now change from alternating GG to AE. Make sure you damp the other two string respectively, which are not played. Those function than as your anchors.

Practice tip: practice the melody and bass separately first. Phrases which are difficult to you need to be taken out and gone over till you have them. Then add a few notes after that phrase, than before and eventually play the full tune.

When adding the bass it is very helpful to start by only playing the first note of each bar while keeping the melody going, before you add the full bass.

A
G
A
G

Here is the same tune with an alternative bass of octave A and octave G:

Finger 1 on A above Sisters, finger two on the higher G, finger 3 on the A an octave lower and 4 on the G an octave lower.