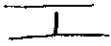


Try Playing Happy Birthday

Tune up your guitar and have a go at playing something you know really well; Happy Birthday. Use downward picking strokes throughout and remember to use the correct fingering (see page 10).



Happy Birthday

1st string _____
 2nd string _____
 3rd string 0 0 2 0 1 0 0 0 2 0 3 1
 4th string _____
 5th string _____
 6th string _____

1st string _____
 2nd string _____
 3rd string 0 0 2 1 0 1 1 0 1 3 1
 4th string _____
 5th string _____
 6th string _____

Note Values

You now know that when reading TAB the six lines represent the six strings and the numbers tell you which fret to press. Next you need to learn how to read the time value or length of each note. In the diagrams below two of the notes have stems or tails, and one has none. It is the shape or absence of this stem that tells you how long the note must last.

The notes shown here are the Quarter note which is 1 beat long, the Half note which is 2 beats long, and the Whole note which is 4 beats long. Study the diagrams and memorise the shape and value of each note.

Quarter note = 1 beat

beats 1

Long stem

Half note = 2 beats

beats 1 2

Short stem

Whole note = 4 beats

beats 1 2 3 4

No stem