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Fiddle First Part 2 Unit 3

Two American Reels

Lesson 2.0: How to “Calibrate” for Songs in G Major

- Let’s COMBAT BOREDOM together! How will you keep yourself excited and motivated?
- This song is in the Key of G Major, so let’s review the scale! (2:21)
 - NOTICE where the half steps are! One more try (5:44)
 - Review the tetrachords for G Major (6:18)
 - We MUST review arpeggios, because this song has lots of them (6:59)
- Please do as I say, not as I do. DO NOT pop your fingers up high like you see me do. I am only lifting high to CLEARLY show you which fingers I am using. (8:48)

Lesson 2.1: Learn Mystery Tune #1 Plus VARIATIONS!

- I am avoiding naming the tunes until you have learned them using your ear training. (look further down for the name of the tune)
- Remember to use your Ear Training tools!! (Higher, Lower, Same, Different, Step, Skip, Pitch Memory)
- I painstakingly teach you this tune by using your EAR TRAINING TOOLS. (0:38)
- Run through of the tune (10:30)
- Variation 1: Nashville Shuffle rhythms (11:04)
 - Make sure you know the melody very well before trying variations, or they will be too hard.
- Variation 2: Melodic Variation “Up a Scale” (13:22)
- FINGER GLUE TECHNIQUE: (15:19)
 - A great rule of thumb is to keep fingers glued until you MUST move them. It is more efficient, and gives you lots of little anchors.
- Run the tune Original, Nashville Shuffle, then Melodic Up a Scale
- Tune Name: **SKIP TO MY LOU**

Lesson 2.2: Learn Mystery Tune #2

- Key of G is a HUGE hint! This tells you your tetrachords that you will be using in the tune
- Learn A Part slowly using Ear Training techniques
- Learn B Part, try to employ same ear training techniques
- Learn the SLURRED pickups to the B Part (9:56)
- Tip for accomplishing a HUGE string crossing “Float” the bow (11:22)
- Tune Name: **REDWING**



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Lesson 2.3: Left Hand Speed Drills: Two Fingers Only

- While doing these simple exercises, let's build GREAT technique! (2:07)
 - Keep your fingers bent (don't fly them up high or straighten them)
 - Keep your finger tips as close to the fingerboard as possible (
- Here is the formula:
 - Pick each pair of fingers (0-1, 1-2, 2-3, 3-4)
 - Play each note 4 times, play the cycle 1 time
 - Play each note 2 reps, but cycle through 2 times
 - Play each note 1 rep, but cycle through 4 times
- Let's go through the pairs:
 - (3:25)
 - 1-H2 (4:38)
 - Reminder to be vigilant against squeezing thumb!
 - H2-3 (6:21)
 - 3-4 (7:19)
- Pinky Jail Lesson (VERY IMPORTANT) (8:40)
 - Remember when using 3rd finger, WATCH PINKY! Teach him to float above the fingerboard
- Low 2 Pairs (11:48)
- Metronome at 92 bpm, LOW 2 Formula (13:37)
 - This helps you develop your metronome skills, plus it teaches your bow and left hand to adhere to an un-changing tempo. Multi-Tasking!

Lesson 2.4: Understanding Keys through Tetrachords!

- Power Point presentation by Wayne Bartlett
- This can be a powerful lesson for visual learners!

Lesson 2.5 Scales (C Major)

- Remember the tetrachords you learned from Lesson 4
- Remember when a scale starts on 3rd finger, you will use LOW 2 for that octave
- Bottom Octave
 - using open strings (2:55)
 - using 4th finger (3:50)
 - single reps (4:40)
- Top Octave starting on Low 2 on A
 - Two Reps (5:08)
 - E String close-up, with explanation of Low 2 (6:41)



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- Single Reps (7:28)
- Stack both octaves! (8:13)
- Review Bottom Octave arpeggio (9:57)

Lesson 2.6: Fiddle Tricks for Polly Wolly Doodle

- Fiddle Trick 1: Hit double open strings in certain places (1;16)
- Fiddle Trick 2: Add Nashville Shuffle rhythms to all the long notes (5:52)

Lesson 2.7: Fiddle Tricks for Seneca Square Dance

- Super-impose a rhythm pattern over an existing melody: In this case, we are super-imposing the Nashville Shuffle (grasshopper rhythms) over the melody of Seneca Square Dance. (0:56)
 - Review the tune (3:21)
 - You play melody, while I super-impose the Nashville Shuffle rhythm softly (4:59)
 - Play Nashville Shuffle WITH me (6:56)
 - A Part help (9:49)
 - B Part: there are places where you can DEFINITELY break the pattern

Lesson 2.7 Rhythm Drills: Clap, Bow, Metronome

- Review Note Values:
 - Whole Note=4 beats
 - Half Note=2 beats
 - Quarter Note=1 beat
 - Eighth Note: 2 per beat
 - Sixteenth Note: 4 per beat
- Clap and count (1:22)
- Bow with Metronome (5:33)
 - We will progress from whole notes through all the note values to 16th notes, and all the way back to whole notes;
 - DO THIS EXERCISE ON YOUR OWN!!!

Lesson 2.8 Calisthenics #2: “Right Hand Exercises”

- These exercises will REALLY set the table for your string crossing agility. Be a good sport and try to do these every day for 2 months. This gets the exercises into your muscle memory and it WILL impact your fiddle playing!



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Lesson / Video	Part 2 Unit 3 Practice Assignments
Ear Training	• Just learn your new tunes by ear • As you learn, try to recognize whether the pitch is going up or down. NOTICE when it changes direction! Try to differentiate skips from steps! • Recognize when you run out of fingers, you have to CROSS STRINGS • Try to play ANY tune of your choice by ear
Scales & Arpeggios	• Learn the 2 Octave C Major Scale • Practice your 2 octave G Major scale and arpeggio, as this will help you with your new tunes. Watch string crossings! (2 min) • Practice G Major with the GALAMIAN treatment (this will take 10 minutes a day at first) • Review all your One Octave Scales and Arpeggios 3x per week: (3 min) ◦ KNOW the TETRACHORDS on every string! ◦ Always follow a scale with the matching arpeggio
Rhythm Work	• Clap and count all note values with metronome • BOW all note values with metronome: try going from whole note to 16ths and back!
Technique:	• Left Hand Drills: Two Finger drills • Practice Ringy 3's (pledge 5 minutes for this EVERY DAY) • Review Arm Swing, Shuttle, Bout Taps, and if you like, Twinkle Whoosh (2-3 min) • Be aware of "Finger Glue" opportunities
Old Fiddle Tricks	• Review Potatoes in A, D, and G • Review Shave and a Haircut in A, D, and G • Remember Slidey 2's from Fiddle First Part 1?
New Tunes	• Skip to My Lou in G: review until this feels EASY! • Redwing in G: review until it feels EASY!
New Fiddle Tricks	• Nashville Shuffle over Seneca Squaredance and Polly Wolly Doodle • Polly Wolly Doodle double string variations • Polly Wolly Doodle melodic variation
Review Tunes	• Use the play-along videos and audio tracks to drill your songs until they feel EASY! • Learn to control speeds and repeat the videos on "loop" to drill drill drill! • Speed your tunes up, push yourself to go just a bit faster • Use LOTS of time on reviewing your tunes. You now know almost 20 songs and that takes maintenance!