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Fiddle First Part 2 Unit 5

Tunes, Tunes, Tunes, Tunes!

Lesson 5.1 Wild Mountain Thyme “Woodshedding”

- Time to enjoy the fruits of your labor!
- This tune is Scottish in origin
- Key of D, and starts on the TONIC (D)
- Subtitle: “Will ye go, lassie, go?”
- Playthrough of song (7:00)
- Learn Verse
 - Segment 1 (9:35)
 - Segment 2 (11:19)
 - Segment 3 (13:53) Starts the same as Segment 2!
 - Segment 4 (14:51) This one is unique (and my favorite!)
- Learn Chorus
 - Segment 5 (17:42)
 - Segment 2,3,4 (18:34)
 - Playthrough all (21:49)
- Technical advice for slow songs
 - Use less bow weight
 - Stay in Lane 3
 - Hesitation causes squeaks and squawks, so KNOW THE NOTES!

Lesson 5.2A The Wind That Shakes the Barley “Woodshedding” Part A

- Barley represents the resilience and strength of the Irish people and their fierce independent spirit.
- Read the poem by Robert Dwyer, written in 1861 about the Irish Rebellion of 1798.
- This poem became an anthem of Irish resistance.
- Key of D, starts on A.
- FORM for Part A: Seg 1, Seg 2, Seg 1, Seg 2’
- FORM for Part B: Seg 3, Seg 4, Seg 3, Seg 5
- Play-Through demo (8:09)
- Learn Segment 1: (9:17)
- Learn Segment 2: (20:27)



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Lesson 5.2B The Wind That Shakes the Barley “Woodshedding” Part B

- Learn Part B
 - Segment 3 (1:20)
 - Segment 4 (4:03)
 - Drill Seg 3-4-3-4 (7:14)
 - Segment 4 prime (9:09)
 - Whole B Part (14:00)
 - Play the Whole Song! (15:38)

Lesson 5.3 Whiskey In The Jar “Woodshedding”

- Key of D
- Verse Segment 1 (5:17)
- Verse Segment 1 prime (10:56)
- Chorus Segment 2 (14:09)
- Play through whole song (18:11)

Lesson 5.4A Merry Blacksmith Part A “Woodshedding”

- In D Major, so warm up with a D Major scale and arpeggio
- First note is A (5th scale degree)
- Starts with pick-ups, so come in after Beat 2.
- Play-through (1:33)
- Form and Structure (4:07)
 - Part A is “1, 2, 1, 3”
 - Part B is “4, 2, 4’ 3” “Prime” is just
- Try to learn Nashville Shuffle as you go! This song is PERFECT with Nashville Shuffle
- Learn Part A
 - Segment 1 (7:10)
 - Segment 2 (13:06)
 - Segment 1, without pickups (16:40)
 - Segment 3 (19:02)
 - Play through Part A 4x (23:06)

Lesson 5.4B Merry Blacksmith Part B “Woodshedding”

- Learn Part B
 - There is only ONE unique segment in Part B! The rest is recycled from Part A
 - Segment 4 (1:06)
 - Segment 4’ (prime) (3:43)
 - First half of B: Segment 4 & 2 (6:06)
 - Second half of B: Segment 4’ & 3 (7:24)
 - Play through B (9:10)

Lesson 5.5 Wild Mountain Thyme Fiddle Tricks

- Trick #1: Add a few slides (0:58) on first finger B



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- Segment 2 on the word “TREES”
- Segment 3 on the word “WILD”
- Trick #2: Grace Notes (2:12)
 - These ornaments are NOT required! The song is lovely without them.
 - This is just an introduction to grace notes, which are one of many Irish ornaments
 - **CUT:** “are SWEETly bloomin”: flick your 2nd finger on the A string on “SWEET”, so it interrupts the note. (2:12)
 - SLUR certain notes to assist your other ornaments (3:14)
 - ✓ Slur “Bloom-in” (F#-A)
 - ✓ Add a CUT on first finger B “WILD”
 - ✓ Slur “Thyme” (E-D), so that you can also add an UPPER NEIGHBOR TRIPLET (E,F,E,D) (4:38)
 - ✓ Slur on “BLOOMIN” so you can add an UPPER NEIGHBOR TRIPLET (EFED) (6:13)
 - ✓ Slur “Heather” right after Bloomin...it’s just nice.

Lesson 5.6 The Wind That Shakes the Barley Fiddle Tricks

- Trick #1: You can bowings as a variation, so you can play without slurs first, then add Nashville Shuffle or any slurs you want to, and that gives you a great variation (0:17)
- Trick #2: Part A Open String Drones: Play either Open D or Open A at any time, and it will work! (0:35)
- Trick #3: On Part B, leave out most melody notes, and just play CHORD MEMBERS with “grasshoppers” (4:44)
- Trick #4: Slidey 1’s (usually on first finger B on the A string, but also on F#) (6:27)

Lesson 5.7 Whiskey In the Jar Fiddle Tricks

- Trick #1: Play the chorus with open string drones (keep the bow on the D and A at all times)
- Trick #2: stomp or slap something (or someone) just before “whack fol de daddio”

Lesson 5.8 Merry Blacksmith Fiddle Tricks

- The easiest fiddle trick to add to any jig or reel is SLIDES
 - On this tune, you can slide on ANY long note. This tune is very slide-friendly
- Open String Drones: Add Open D every time you play Segment 1 (1:55)
- Adding Notes/Subtracting Notes
 - You can add a note in Part B, Segment 4-Prime, bar 16. Just keep the sequence going! (3:29)
 - You can SLUR notes in Part B, Segment 4, bar 10. It removes that double anvil strike (5:20)



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Lesson / Video	Part 2 Unit 5 Practice Assignments
Ear Training	• 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	• Since all your tunes are in D Major this unit, make SURE you practice your D Major scale and arpeggio DAILY! • Remember “Grasshoppers” with scales? Try that on D Major. • Review all your One Octave Scales and Arpeggios 3x per week: (3 min) ○ KNOW the TETRACHORDS on every string! ○ Always follow a scale with its matching arpeggio
Rhythm Work	• Take a much deserved break
Technique:	This stuff is too important to forget, so please give it some review if you can: • 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 Fiddle Tricks	• Open String Drones are the most challenging fiddle trick, and it only gets better by doing it. If you crunch and squawk, it is either because you are pressing too hard with the bow, or you are touching the open string with flat cupcakes. • Try learning Wind That Shakes the Barley with Nashville Shuffle slurs if possible.
New Tunes	• Wild Mountain Thyme (D) • Whiskey in the Jar (D) • Wind That Shakes the Barley (D) • Merry Blacksmith (D)
Review Tunes	• Use the play-along videos and audio tracks to drill your songs until they feel EASY! • Learn to control video 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 30 songs and that takes maintenance!