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Fiddle First Part 2 Unit 9
Ballydesmond Polkas 1 and 2

Lesson 9.0: Recap of Part 2 and Preview of Part 3

- What we learned in Part 2:
  - Left Hand development for speed and dexterity
  - L/R Hand coordination and synchronization (to prepare for speed)
  - String Crossings, in slurs, detache', and rapidly recurring
  - SlursRe
  - Ear Training: pitch memory, interval I.D.
  - Tone Development: Tone Builders, lane 3, bow weight, Tone Busters
  - High 2, Low 2 Tetrachords
- What we will learn in Part 3
  - Speed will be emphasized
  - To assist speed, Metronome Skills will be taught
  - String Crossings will continue
  - Much more development of slurs
  - Ear Training: Interval I.D., pitch prediction, playing by ear more
  - Tone Development using slower songs
  - High 3 Tetrachord
  - Licks and patterns
  - New Bow Pattern
  - Ensemble skills and playing Backup

Lesson 9.1a: Ear Training: Woodshed Ballydesmond 1 Part A BY EAR

- Ballydesmond Polka 1 and 2 go TOGETHER, almost as if they were a single song. It's just tradition.
- Key has 1 sharp (A Dorian) JUST keep track of F#
- Form Part A: Seg1, 2, 1, 3
- Form Part B: Seg 4a, 5, 4b, 3
- We will learn BOWINGS at the same time as the NOTES for these tunes.
- Learn Seg 1 (6:51)
  - **HOLY COW: the first 2 notes of the song teach an important Left Hand tip: Glue first finger E on the D string until you complete the slurred string crossing to Open A.**
  - **Clip the 2nd note of each slur…this gives your polkas serious danceability (11:21)**

- Learn Seg 2 (12:20)
- Learn Seg 3 (15:55)

Lesson 9.1b Ear Training: Woodshed Ballydesmond Poka 1 Part B BY EAR

- Learn Seg 4a
- Learn Seg 5 (2:05) This is like and "answer" to Seg 4a.
- Learn Seg 4b (5:22) This is VERY similar to Seg 4a.
    - Compare Seg 4a and 4b (6:24) It's really helpful to know how similar parts are different
    - **PRO TIP:** (7:02) Bowings for Seg 4b, **AND a Finger Glue strategy**
    - Glue Seg 4b to Seg 3
- Play entire B Part (9:29)
- Play whole song (10:11)

Lesson 9.2: Woodshedding Ballydesmond Polka 2

- Key of 1 sharp
- A part Form is Segment 1, 2, 3, 4
- B part Form is Segment 5, 6, 3, 4
- Play-thru (1:00)
- Part A Learn Seg 1 (2:34)
    - Learn Seg 2 (3:32)
    - Learn Seg 3 (6:26)
    - Learn Seg 4 (8:27)
- Part B Learn Seg 5 (12:11)
    - Learn Seg 6 (16:12)

Lesson 9.3 Fiddle Trix for Ballydesmond Polka 1

- MOST IMPORTANT: stylize your polka by clipping the 2nd note of each slur short. (0:16)
- Slide your first note of the B Part. (0:24)
- Seg 3: Add open E, and do quick flourish "EF#G"
- Apply all Trix (2:27)
- End Part A and B with Open A+E as a double stop (3:16)
- Shoot your bow into the air on Seg 4a to "goose" your listeners (3:54)

Lesson 9.4 Fiddle Trix for Ballydesmond Polka 2

- Required Ornament: Seg 6 (0:31) Add little grace notes before the 0E-A3 slur, so you play G---AGE-D
    - This seems wickedly hard at first. Do it 50 times, and see how much easier it feels.

- Seg1, on the slow descending scale, ADD UPPER NEIGHBOR TRIPLETS to each note (3:33)
- Seg 2, fill in the 1 – 3 skip by playing 123 (6:31)
- Apply Trix to Seg 1 and Seg 2 (6:33)
- Apply same ornament you learned for Seg 6 to Seg 2. (7:13)
- NOW practice all ornaments covered thus far (7:53)
- Seg 3: Add a pinky grace note to the 3rd finger (8:45) Fast pinky lifting!
- Seg 4: Add a flourish to the BCE, by playing ABCE (10:00)
- Seg 4: Add an upper neighbor triplet to 3rd finger on A string (11:18)
- Play whole song to practice! (12:40)

Lesson 9.5: Twin Fiddle and Ensemble Skills

- Playing successfully involves several levels:
    1. We must be able to play our own part, notes, rhythms, bowings, et al
    2. We must be able to play our own part with a metronome or backing track, which deprives us of any hesitation, stopping, or do-overs.
    3. We need to be able to play our part against another melodic part, or with a band, where there are lots of competing parts.
    4. We need to learn to play harmony at some point (Fiddle First part 3 and 4)
    5. We need to learn to play back-up rhythm while others play the melody (FF part 3 and 4)
- Using the Twin Fiddle Playalong videos I have created for you, you will start to develop your "Ensemble Skills".
- This is also a FUN, challenging way to review your old songs so you don't forget them!
- Play some of your easy songs every day! It trains your body to play with ease. (trust me)

All-You-Can-Eat Playalongs!

- Use the extra Twin Fiddle playalongs to have fun reviewing old tunes, improve your rhythm, and begin developing your ensemble skills!
- I created 2 types of playalongs:
    1. With Reference Beat: this is clean, and easy to hear, so these will be easiest for you.
    2. With Strum Machine has a lot more sounds happening, and no reference beat. There is still a clear beat in the strumming, but it's not as "metronome-like" as my Stomp Box. These ones will really test you!
- HAVE FUN!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- Sandy Boys
- Off She Goes
- Redwing
- Merry Blacksmith
- Ballydesmond 2

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Lesson / Video	Part 2 Unit 9 Practice Assignments
Ear Training	• Learn your new tunes by ear • Start noticing the role of Pitch Memory in ear training • Remember the basics: higher/lower, skip or step, up or down

Scales & Arpeggios	• Since your new tunes are in the key of 1 sharp, review your TWO OCTAVE G MAJOR SCALE AND ARPEGGIO DAILY!
	• Remember "Grasshoppers" with scales? Try that on G 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

LH Technique	This stuff is too important to forget, so please give it some review if you can: • Left Hand Drills: FOUR Finger drills • Half Scale with Drone • 3rd Finger on Corner Targets, and No Pinky Jail! • Finger Marches: 0-3 (this includes Ringy 3 work)
Bow Technique	• String Crossing drills on open strings (AE and EA) • String Crossing drills on half scales (AE and EA) • String Crossing drills using Devil's Dream
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	• Ballydesmond 1: mainly, practice CLIPPING the 2nd note of each slur • Ballydesmond 2: see if you can add just a couple of the ornaments we discussed
New Tunes	• Ballydesmond 1 and 2! Play them together as one tune
Review Tunes	• Use the play-along videos and audio tracks to drill your songs until they feel EASY! • Use the Twin Fiddle videos to take your tune review to the next level! • See if you can take a couple of weeks and do NOTHING but TUNE REVIEW! It's really good to have a nice long review period once in awhile.