

# Essential Guitar Techniques #14: Tremolo Picking

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Ex.1) Put the metronome on at 60 bpm, rest your right hand on the bridge and alternate pick the open E string; down, up, down, up. You should be playing two even notes per metronome click.

Musical notation for Exercise 1: Tremolo Picking. The notation shows a treble clef staff in 4/4 time and a guitar tablature staff below it. The treble staff shows a series of eighth notes on the open E string, alternating between down-picks (marked with a square symbol) and up-picks (marked with a triangle symbol). The tablature staff shows a series of zeros on the open E string, corresponding to the notes in the treble staff.

Ex.2) Now do the same, but play 4 notes per metronome click. If this is too fast, go back to two notes per click and increase the metronome tempo in 10bpm increments, until you can play at 120bpm. Then you will be able to play four notes per click at 60bpm. Work up the tempo from 60bpm, to as fast as possible! You will find your limits. Respect them and do not play faster than you actually can - it will sound sloppy and will not help your technique!

Musical notation for Exercise 2: Tremolo Picking. The notation shows a treble clef staff in 4/4 time and a guitar tablature staff below it. The treble staff shows a series of eighth notes on the open E string, alternating between down-picks (marked with a square symbol) and up-picks (marked with a triangle symbol). The tablature staff shows a series of zeros on the open E string, corresponding to the notes in the treble staff.

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