

Essential Guitar Techniques #16: Artificial Harmonics

www.cliffsmithguitarlessons.co.uk

Ex.1) Fret the high E string at the 2nd fret. Gently touch the same string with the index finger of your picking hand, exactly above the 14th fret. Pluck the string with your picking hand thumb, then immediately remove your right hand index finger from the string. Keep fretting the 2nd fret with your other hand.
Confused? Watch the video!

Example 1 musical notation: A single note on the high E string (treble clef, 4/4 time) with an artificial harmonic (A.H.) indicated by a dashed line. The fretting hand is at the 2nd fret (TAB: 2(14)).

Ex.2) Hold down a D chord with your fretting hand. Use the above method to trace the shape of the chord, 12 frets higher than each note of the chord. Keep your fretting hand in position to let all of the notes ring out.

Example 2 musical notation: A D chord shape (D major) is shown with a fretting hand diagram. The artificial harmonic (A.H.) is indicated by a dashed line. The fretting hand positions are: 0(12), 2(14), 3(15), 2(14), 3(15), 2(14), 0(12). The picking hand fingers are numbered 4, 3, 2, 1, 4, 3, 2, 1.

Ex.3) Play a C major scale in 2nd position (see tab), whilst using the above method to trace the shape of the scale, 12 frets higher. You only need to have one finger of your fretting hand down at a time (no need to hold them down).

Example 3 musical notation: A C major scale shape is shown with a fretting hand diagram. The artificial harmonic (A.H.) is indicated by a dashed line. The fretting hand positions are: 3(15), 5(17), 2(14), 3(15), 5(17), 2(14), 4(16), 5(17), 4(16), 2(14), 5(17), 3(15), 2(14), 5(17), 3(15). The picking hand fingers are numbered 5, 4, 3, 4, 5.