

Title: Spanish Ballad (or Spanish Romance)

Key : Em and E major

Time Signature: 3/4

Style: Romantic/Spanish

About: This is a popular melody, the piece is anonymous but was probably written sometime in the late 19th or early 20th Century.

Notes

- Use of melody mainly on 1st string
- Arpeggio accompaniment
- Binary form (2 sections) AB
- Requires movement along 1st string i.e. position changes
- use vibrato when possible
- Romantic in style
- Uses Bar chords
- Main harmony is Em – Am – B7 (I-IV-V)
- Rest Stroke for 1st string when possible
- Take your time between leaps
- Sing the phrases

Technical



Arpeggios

1. Open String with Triplets

Try playing the 1st string rest stroke.



2. Em ascending on 1st String with triplets

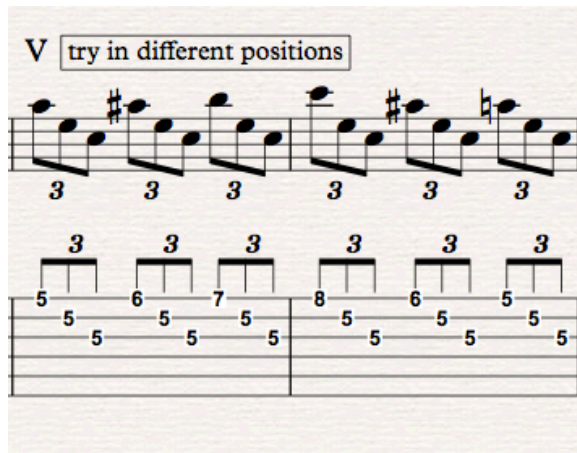


3. Em ascending on 1st String with triplets and Open Bass



Half Bar Exercise

This should help you facilitate playing a half bar while moving the other fingers, try in different positions eg I , III, VII. You can also add an open bass note to each bar.



Full bar Exercise

Use the weight of your arm to help with creating the necessary force. When you play the open strings relax your Left Hand fully. You still need to use your thumb to clamp in conjunction with the weight of your arm. Keep the neck higher than your arm so that gravity can assist you in this.

