

## (Book 2) Lesson 3.

### Octave Scales on the "E" String

The "E" alphabet was readily fingered using as a basis, one finger per fret, to cover the distance from the open string to the twelfth fret. Some students may see the in-depth fingering detail as being redundant. Keep in mind that that is the fingering detail and system that we are trying to establish.

Below, is a review of that fingering.

"E" scale

E F G A B C D E E D C B A G F E

Keep in mind where the 1/2 tones occur within any alphabet. For now, we will work only in the Key of "C".

We will now add two more alphabets to be played on the "E" string. One starting on "F" and another one starting on "G." If we start on the "F" and "G" alphabets with the first finger, we find that up to the fifth note in each of these scales, the fingering works fine, but after that, we are one finger short.

"F" scale (alphabet)

F G A B C D E F F E D C B A G F

The slurs mark the 1/2 tones.

The skipped fret occurs between "C" and "D"

This means that we will have to skip a fret and now necessitates introducing another fingering device.

"A FRET MAY BE SKIPPED IF AFTER THE SKIPPED FRET, THE FOLLOWING THREE NOTES HAVE A HALF TONE BETWEEN ANY TWO OF THEM."

"G" scale (alphabet)

G A B C D E F G G F E D C B A G

Using this device, we will only need three positions to cover the octave. In the case of the "F" alphabet, the 1st, 5th and 10th positions, and in the case of the "G" alphabet, the 3rd, 7th and 12th positions.

Also practice the above scales in quarter notes, repeated eighths, eighth note triplets and in sixteenth notes.  
(stationary subdivisions: 2-way                      3-way                      4-way)

Note: Any one octave scale beginning on an open string does not require the skipped fret technique because the open string acts as a "ghost" finger, making the open first position a "5 finger" proposition. Any playing in the open first position, is in fact an exception to the rules of fingering because of the unseen fifth finger.