

(Book 2) Lesson 28c. Old Fashioned Tunes

Although the following melodies are playable on the first string of the guitar, the large interval leaps are more easily handled by using at least two strings. How do I finger the notes? There is no one and only way. It would seem obvious that the music will demand some left hand position changes as the melody spans more than an octave and on one string, an octave long scale would need at least three different positions. All of the previously studied fingering and shifting techniques can be used. In some situations, there will be no alternative but to make a "grand leap" from one position to the next. Remember that you are mentally and physically transposing the melody up an octave.

Waltz in "C" Major G.A.

Allegretto

The score for 'Waltz in C Major' consists of four staves of music in 3/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a 3/4 time signature, and a common time signature. The melody is written in C major. The second staff ends with a double bar line and the word 'Fine'. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line and the instruction 'D.S.'.

Chords: C, G7, C, F, C, F, D7, G7, C, E7, Am, E7, Am, E7, Am, D7, G, D7, G, Am, D7, G, G7, D.S.

Folk Dance in "F" Major G.A.

Moderato

The score for 'Folk Dance in F Major' consists of four staves of music in 6/8 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a 6/8 time signature, and a key signature of one flat. The melody is written in F major. The second staff ends with a double bar line and the word 'Fine'. The fourth staff ends with a double bar line and the instruction 'D.S.'.

Chords: F, C7, F, Bb, C7, F, Gm7, C7, F, C7, F, C7, F, Bb, C7, F, G7, C7, F, D.S.

Waltz in "Bb" Major

Moderato

G.A.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (Bb major) and a 3/4 time signature. It consists of ten staves of music. The first staff begins with a Bb chord. The second staff has Eb and Bb chords. The third staff has Cm, F7, and Bb chords. The fourth staff has Cm7, F7, Bb, F7, and Bb chords. The fifth staff has F7, Bb, F7, and Bb chords. The sixth staff has F7, Bb, F7, and Bb chords. The seventh staff has Eb, Bb, and C7 chords. The eighth staff has Cm7, F7, Bb, F7, and Bb chords. The piece concludes with a double bar line and the word "Fine" written below the staff.

In the second half of the tune, a slightly staccato quarter note at the beginning of the bar would be quite appropriate.

Just about any song out of some fake book would be good practice for sight reading 8va. Songs with hectic tempos would most likely not be good candidates for performance on one string but become more manageable with the use of 2 or three strings. Standard tunes are well within the realm for good students. The not so good students will never get to this point to see this comment and even if they do, there is a good chance that they will not read the text.

Book 1 of Guitar Fundamentals is also a good source of melodies for transposing 8va. Take a good look at the tune to see if it falls into the scope of three strings when it is transposed up one octave.