

(Book 5.) Lesson 36a.

Root Position Major 6th Arpeggios (across the fingerboard)

G6

2 1 4 1 4 3 2 4 2 4 2 3 4 1 4 1 2

⑥ ⑤ ④ ③ ② ① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥

G6
Em7
Cmaj9
A11

Detailed description: This musical staff shows a G6 arpeggio in the treble clef. The notes are G2, B2, D3, F#3, G3, B3, D4, F#4, G4. The ascending sequence is G-B-D-F#-G-B-D-F#-G, and the descending sequence is G-F#-D-B-G-F#-D-B-G. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1-4 above the notes. Below the staff, circled numbers 1-6 indicate the fret positions for each note: 6 for G2, 5 for B2, 4 for D3, 3 for F#3, 2 for G3, 1 for B3, 2 for D4, 3 for F#4, 4 for G4, 5 for B4, and 6 for D5. Chord symbols G6, Em7, Cmaj9, and A11 are listed to the right.

G6

All arpeggios should be practiced in retrograde.

Detailed description: This musical staff shows the same G6 arpeggio as above, but in retrograde order. The notes are G4, F#4, D5, B4, G4, F#4, D5, B4, G4, F#4, D5, B4, G4. The text to the right states: "All arpeggios should be practiced in retrograde."

Tony Bradan's original manuscript demonstrated the arpeggios beginning at the lowest possible fret position. I have demonstrated this below, but it will be assumed that students will be able to work out those open position fingerings on their own. I will use the third fret as the starting point in most of the following demonstrations. This will usually alleviate a lot of the accidentals.

E6

0 4 2 4 2 1 0 2 0 2 0 1 2 4 2 4 0

Detailed description: This musical staff shows an E6 arpeggio in the treble clef. The notes are E2, G#2, B2, D#3, E3, G#3, B3, D#4, E4. The ascending sequence is E-G#-B-D#-E-G#-B-D#-E, and the descending sequence is E-D#-B-G#-E-D#-B-G#-E. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 0, 1, 2, 4 above the notes. Chord symbol E6 is listed above the staff.

F6

1 0 3 0 3 2 1 3 1 3 1 2 3 0 3 0 1

Detailed description: This musical staff shows an F6 arpeggio in the treble clef. The notes are F2, A2, C3, F#3, G3, A3, C4, F#4, G4. The ascending sequence is F-A-C-F#-G-A-C-F#-G, and the descending sequence is G-F#-C-A-G-F#-C-A-G. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1, 0, 3, 0, 3, 2, 1, 3, 1, 3, 1, 2, 3, 0, 3, 0, 1 above the notes. Chord symbol F6 is listed above the staff.

From "F#" upward, the fingering pattern will not contain any open strings. It is not good enough to just learn the fingering pattern. If you are not mentally spelling the chord as you play the arpeggio, you may be setting yourself up for a bit of a failure. Admittedly, it is very difficult to "not play the pattern." Keep in mind that it is the necessary notes that dictate the fingering pattern rather than the pattern dictating the necessary notes.

Practice routine: Begin at the open position and move up the fret board in half steps up to at least the twelfth fret, being sure to spell the chord. Then reverse the process.

Practice as shown and also in retrograde. The descending formula tends to always be technically a bit more awkward.