

(Editor) In many of the preliminary lessons, Tony's original manuscript has no depiction of a musical staff or for that matter, musical notes. I have used this one line staff simply to give me access to some other areas of my computer program that would not be available on a basic word processor. **G.A.**

PRELIMINARY LESSON 1.

To help clear up the mystery surrounding the subject of rhythm in music, we will begin by using words capable of being divided into one, two, three and four part syllables. **(Editor: This aspect begins in the 2nd Preliminary Lesson G.A.)**

Tapping the floor with one of your feet (right or left, your choice) will set up a time frame. Tapping will be designated by an arrowhead pointing downward ∇ and will in the future be called a "down beat."

Because the guitar has six strings, the numbers from one to six will be used.

TAP FOOT	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇	∇
COUNT	1	2	3	4	5	6	



Repeat the foot tapping and counting of the numbers above until you are reasonably certain that you are able to proceed in an even and smooth manner.

You will notice that after your foot has tapped the floor it must rise before it can tap again. The rising foot is designated by an upward pointing arrowhead \wedge and will in the future be called an "upbeat."

Now in graph form our counting and tapping looks like this:

COUNTING: DOWN AND UP BEATS	1	\wedge	2	\wedge	3	\wedge	4	\wedge	5	\wedge	6	\wedge
	∇		∇		∇		∇		∇		∇	



Repeat the foot tapping and counting of the numbers above until you are inwardly aware and confident of the procedure..

To the coordination of tapping (foot) and counting (mouth) we will add the brain. (thinking)

tap foot	think 2	tap foot	think 3	tap foot	think 4	tap foot	think 5	tap foot	think 6	tap foot	think 1
∇	\wedge	∇	\wedge	∇	\wedge	∇	\wedge	∇	\wedge	∇	\wedge
count 1	raise foot	count 2	raise foot	count 3	raise foot	count 4	raise foot	count 5	raise foot	count 6	raise foot



The graphing of the above exercise may seem a bit complicated but if you follow the arrows, the solution is quite simple.: