

Strumming Patterns 1

Normal Patterns

Musical notation for Normal Patterns. The staff shows four measures of music. Above the staff are square symbols for downstrokes and inverted triangle symbols for upstrokes. Below the staff are the corresponding strumming patterns: 1 2 3 4, 1 2 + 3 4, 1 2 3 4, and 1 2 3 4.

With Ties (Don't play the second note, just let the first note ring out for the duration of them both. This "ties" the second note to the first).

Musical notation for With Ties. The staff shows four measures of music. Above the staff are square symbols for downstrokes and inverted triangle symbols for upstrokes. Below the staff are the corresponding strumming patterns: 1 2 3 + + 1 2 + 4, 1 2 3 + + 1 2 + 4, 1 2 3 + + 1 2 + 4, and 1 2 3 + + 1 2 + 4.

With Rests (Mute all the strings with your right hand outer palm)

Musical notation for With Rests. The staff shows four measures of music. Above the staff are square symbols for downstrokes and inverted triangle symbols for upstrokes. Below the staff are the corresponding strumming patterns: 1 2 + 4 1 + 3 4, 1 2 + 4 1 + 3 4, 1 2 + 4 1 + 3 4, and 1 2 + 4 1 + 3 4.

Normal patterns with ties and rests

Musical notation for Normal patterns with ties and rests. The staff shows four measures of music. Above the staff are square symbols for downstrokes and inverted triangle symbols for upstrokes. Below the staff are the corresponding strumming patterns: 1 + + 3 + + 1 + 3 + +, 1 + + 3 + + 1 + 3 + +, 1 + + 3 + + 1 + 3 + +, and 1 + + 3 + + 1 + 3 + +.

Key ▣ = Down strum
 ▽ = Up strum

Always play a downbeat (1,2,3 or 4) with a down strum and the up or off beats, (the "ands") with an up strum. One of the most important aspects of playing guitar is being able to play good, solid and confident rhythm guitar. Practice each bar individually and then in the 4 bar groups. Always keep your hand moving and get in the groove!