

# Contemporary Guitar Grade 3 - Technical Exercise 1

As part of your Grade 3 exam on the Contemporary Guitar syllabus, you will be required to play through a number of technical exercises.

In this lesson, and accompanying video, we will be looking at Technical Exercise 1.

This exercise can be played on an electric or an acoustic guitar using your fingers or a plectrum.

The tempo of this exercise is 90bpm, you can also play this with, or without a metronome to guide you.

This exercise is based moving through various scales and arpeggio shapes. Most of the technical exercise is picked, but there are some legato passages at the end which use hammer ons and pull offs.

This exercise uses the G Major Scale, the A Natural Minor Scale (Aeolian Mode) and the B Minor Pentatonic Scale. It also uses the G Major and A Minor Arpeggios.

$\text{♩} = 90$  G major scale

Guitar

Guitar

T

A

B

G major arpeggio

Gtr.

Gtr.

A natural minor (aeolian mode)

Gtr.

Gtr.

Am arpeggio 2

B minor pentatonic

The majority of the notes in this exercise are played as quarter notes, which gives you one note per beat. There are a few sections with notes that are sustained two beats, and also some two beat rests. These take place between the G Major Scale and Arpeggio, and the A Natural Minor Scale and Arpeggio.

There is also a two beat rest between the picked and legato versions of the B Minor Pentatonic scale.

When working on long pieces such as this, it is useful to visualise it in small chunks. Start with a single scale, then add that scales corresponding arpeggio before building and adding the next section.

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## About the Author

Leigh is an experienced guitar teacher and professional guitarist, helping students of all learning abilities to progress their guitar playing. He is part of a guitar teaching team at [MusicTeacher.com](https://www.musicteacher.com) who are able offer [guitar lessons](#) to students across the world. To find your perfect guitar teacher to help with your Music Teachers Board graded exam, search our international music teacher database at MusicTeacher.com.