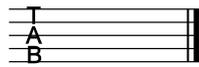


# Key To Tablature Symbols

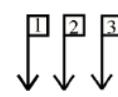
 **"Thumb Stroke"** This is an accompaniment stroke indicating to strum the lowest octave or set of strings on the autoharp. It is used to play lower harmony notes of each chord being played.

 **"Pinch"** This symbol represents a pinching motion executed with the thumb and 2nd finger. It is the primary rudiment used to play a melody note or an ornamental note(s). When using it to produce a melody note, it should be executed strongly when used for melody notes and lightly for ornaments.

 **"Tablature Staff"** This is the staff on which all right hand techniques are placed. The location (up or down) on the staff indicates the relative position of the melody notes on the autoharp, like a graph.

 **"Pluck"** This symbol is similar to the pinch, but it is executed with only the fingers (*except for the ① symbol where the thumb is to be used to play a melody note*). The numbers indicate which digit is to be used. Execution should be robust when using it to play a melody note and lightly when playing an ornamental note(s). When using the thumb alone to execute this ①, the weight of the hand needs to be thrown into it as this is a style of melody playing known as *"thumb lead"*.

 **"Upward Finger Strum"** This is an accompaniment filler stroke where the 1st finger makes a very light strum from low to high strings, covering approximately four or more strings. All knuckles need to bend to properly execute it.

 **"Downward Finger Strum"** These are accompaniment filler strums that are played very lightly, but are played from high to low strings. Draw out more on slower tempos and cover more strings in its execution. Numbers in boxes indicate which fingers to use.

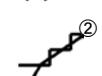
 This is a melody stroke that is a combination of a thumb stroke and a pluck. In actuality it is a modified pinch, where the thumb strums from the lowest strings up to the vicinity of the melody note that is being targeted. When the 2nd finger reaches the vicinity of the melody note to be played, the thumb and 2nd finger actually make a motion that is almost identical to a pinch. This usually occurs on a single beat.

 **"Arpeggio"** This is a long strum executed from the lowest to the highest strings with the thumb.

 **"Bracket"** This symbol indicates that all actions within it must take place within the time frame of one beat. The more symbols there are inside this, the more the beat is subdivided into more actions which causes these actions to be executed faster in order to fit them into the time frame of one beat.

 **"Double Bracket"** This indicates that a single action is to be stretched across the time frame of two beats which will cause it to be executed slower than normal.

 This is a modified strum that replaces a melody pinch where the thumb strums from low to high, but stopping exactly on the note needed by the melody. This action usually occurs on a single beat.

 This is similar to , but it occurs over a longer time frame of two or more beats.

 **"Accompaniment Chord Symbol"** When playing *accompaniment only*, chord changes occur on these and not on any other chord symbols. When playing melody, these chord changes must be observed and executed also.

 **\*** An **\*** indicates that this chord change needs to take place on the previous note when playing accompaniment only.

 **\*\*** Same as above, but chord change needs to take place two notes prior to its location when playing accompaniment.

**D7** **"Melody Note Chord"** When playing melody, all of these chord changes must be observed along with all other chord symbols.

**(D7)** **"Substitute Chord"** This indicates that the chord notated between the parenthesis may be used in place of the one it is placed next to for either musical, technical or facility reasons.

**f#** **"Melody Notes"** These letters below the melody strokes indicate the actual pitch name of the melody note.

**/** **"Chord Repeat"** These indicate that the left hand is to maintain pushing down the previous chord bar utilized.