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Right-hand Picking Technique

The following right-hand picking technique should be applied to all scales and arpeggios as well as all other single note exercises.

Articulations:

1) Quick, mechanical scale practice, using strict staccato, improves pick replacement and overall scale velocity and accuracy.

2) Smooth, relaxed scale practice, employing perfect legato, improves consistency of tone, evenness of duration, and ease of action.

Picking Directions:

- 1) Down stroke
- 2) Up stroke
- 3) Alternate Down/Up
- 4) Alternate Up/Down
- 5) Same direction on string change

Practice scales using the following rhythmic variations to achieve a refined technique:

Example: C Major Scale

The musical notation shows a C Major scale exercise in treble clef, 4/4 time. The first line contains measures A, B, C, and D. Measure A is a quarter-note scale. Measure B is a triplet of eighth notes. Measure C is a quarter-note scale. Measure D is a quarter-note scale. The second line contains measures E, F, G, and H. Measure E is a quarter-note scale. Measure F is a quarter-note scale. Measure G is a quarter-note scale. Measure H is a quarter-note scale. Accents (>) are placed under the first note of each measure. The word 'etc.' is written above measure B.