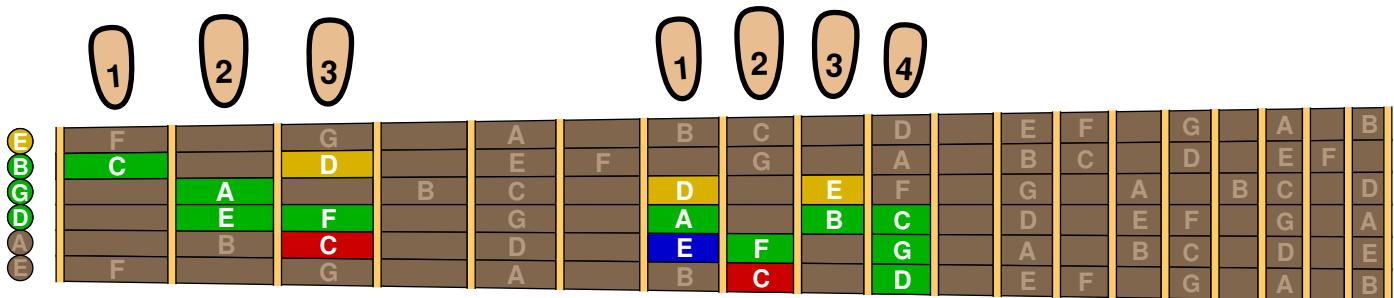


January Fretboard Exercises

Resolve (yet again) to sightread in two positions!



Play these exercises in both seventh and first positions, after reading the back page.

Exercise 1: By the light of a French moon? (and the first recording of a human voice!)

The image shows two staves of musical notation for a two-part arrangement. The top staff begins with a treble clef, a common time signature (C), and a tempo marking of $\text{♩} = 120$. The bottom staff begins with a treble clef and a measure number 9. Both staves feature a series of eighth and sixteenth note patterns connected by smooth, flowing lines. The music consists of two measures on each staff, with a repeat sign and a double bar line at the end of the second measure of each staff.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phonautograph#Recovered_sounds

Exercise 2: Beware, fair and tender ladies?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vST9baZzGrM>

Exercise 3: On our golden wedding day?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_fHMwp6O-Dw&t=48s

It's been two years since [our first sightreading lesson \(Jan2024.html\)](#) where we used a "musical fretboard diagram" like the one below to learn the same notes in two positions, starting with the two middle C's (red) and the special locator note (blue) to find seventh position without looking at the fretboard. The green notes were learned in previous lessons, like [Jan2025.html](#) and this time we add another two new notes in yellow.

Go back and re-read that [first lesson](#) to understand how to read this "music" as a fretboard fingering diagram, and about how to use the blue note. That's an important lesson.

The image contains two separate fretboard diagrams for a six-string guitar. Each diagram shows a different position on the neck. The left diagram shows positions 0, 1, 2, and 3. The right diagram shows positions 1, 2, 3, and 4. The diagrams are labeled with Roman numerals I and VII. Notes are highlighted with colored circles: yellow for new notes, green for previous ones, and red and blue for locator notes. The diagrams are labeled with Roman numerals I and VII.

Better yet, the web version of [Beginning Fretboard Exercises](#) is now available for your use.

○ <https://jjolson.net/BFE/>

It's a very gentle introduction to sightreading on guitar, starting with some extremely simple 3-note pieces. And it's fun. Each exercise has a hint or riddle in place of the title, so you play it first and then try to name-that-melody, or click for more info about that piece.

A tidbit for this month: Did you know that Thomas Edison was not the first inventor to record the human voice. The "phonograph" recorded Exercise 1 while Edison was barely a teenager.

*P.S. It easiest to follow these links if you **get the pdf** as indicated on the first page.*

Exercise 1	French: Au Clair De La Lune	1
Exercise 2	Appalachian: Come All You Fair and Tender Ladies	1
Exercise 3	Wenrich: Put On Your Old Grey Bonnet	1