

Combining Techniques: Slurs & Shifts

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No. 1 - The Shift

Musical notation for No. 1 - The Shift. The piece is in 4/4 time and consists of a single line of music. The notes are: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3, C3. Above the notes are fingerings: 1 1 1 1 2 2 2 2 3 3 3 3 4 4 4 4. Below the notes are circled numbers: ② ③ ⑤ ③ etc.

No. 2 - The Shift and Ascending Slur

Try repeating each bar at first.

Musical notation for No. 2 - The Shift and Ascending Slur, first line. The piece is in 4/4 time. The notes are: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3, C3. Above the notes are fingerings: 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 2 3 2 3 2 3 2 3 3 4 3 4 3 4 3 4. Below the notes are circled numbers: ② ③ ⑤ ③ etc.

Musical notation for No. 2 - The Shift and Ascending Slur, second line. The piece is in 4/4 time. The notes are: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3, C3. Above the notes are fingerings: 2 4 2 4 2 4 2 4 1 3 1 3 1 3 1 3 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4. Below the notes are circled numbers: ② ③ ⑤ ③ etc.

No. 3 - The Shift and Descending Slur

As before try repeating each bar at first.

Musical notation for No. 3 - The Shift and Descending Slur, first line. The piece is in 4/4 time. The notes are: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3, C3. Above the notes are fingerings: 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 3 2 3 2 3 2 3 2 4 3 4 3 4 3 4 3. Below the notes are circled numbers: ② ③ ⑤ ③ etc.

Musical notation for No. 3 - The Shift and Descending Slur, second line. The piece is in 4/4 time. The notes are: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4, B3, A3, G3, F3, E3, D3, C3. Above the notes are fingerings: 4 2 4 2 4 2 4 2 3 1 3 1 3 1 3 1 4 1 4 1 4 1 4 1. Below the notes are circled numbers: ② ③ ⑤ ③ etc.

No. 4 - The Shift and Multiple Slurs

Try repeating each bar at first.

1 2 3 4 4 3 2 1 1 2 3 4 4 3 2 1

② ③

⑤ ③

Invent your own patterns on the above example. Think in terms of finger combinations, the above is: 1-2-3-4-4-3-2-1. Try: 1-3-2-4-4-2-3-1 and many more.

Also try four note slurs: $\widehat{1-2-3-4}$ $\widehat{4-3-2-1}$

Tips: Once the muscle memory is there try to shift without looking and get used to the feeling of the distance between the frets.

You may also wish to change the interval. As you can see the shifts are between unisons and octaves at the moment, change the intervals to 3rds, 5ths or whatever suits your fancy.