



Right Hand for Beginners: Lesson 3

By Christopher Schlegel

The same ideas are true when applied to picking or strumming with your fingers instead of a pick.

Make sure not to hold your fingers too tightly or loosely; don't strum or pick too hard or soft. Otherwise you are wasting effort and your fingers will cramp up. When striking the strings do not "dig in" too far. This will only make it harder to get to the next string (or back over the same string in the opposite direction). Striking too hard or too deeply in between the strings also can cause the string to vibrate too excessively and make the note sound too sharp (too high in pitch). When strumming, it is important not to "dig in" too far also. This is best accomplished by working on "lightly grazing over" the strings instead of hitting them too hard or heavily.