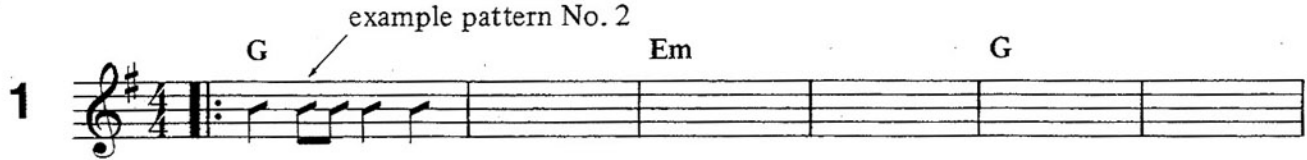
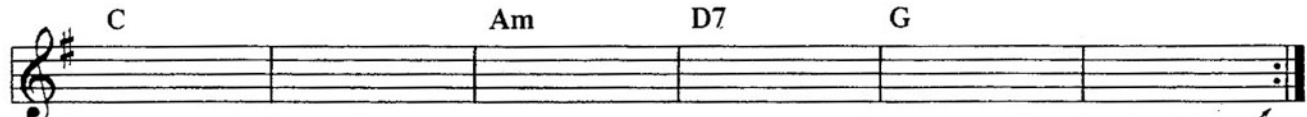
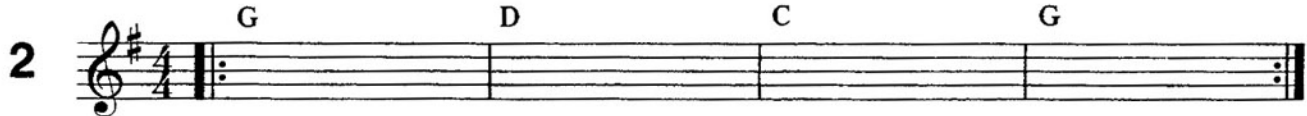


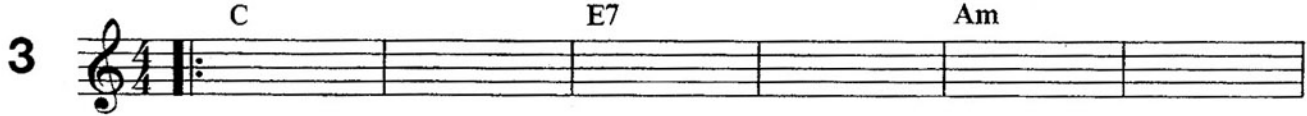
The examples below use strum patterns for 4/4 and 3/4 meter. Practice each exercise using strum pattern number 1, then 2, 3, and so on. Remember each pattern takes one measure to complete. For now, do not use different strum patterns in different measures of the same piece.

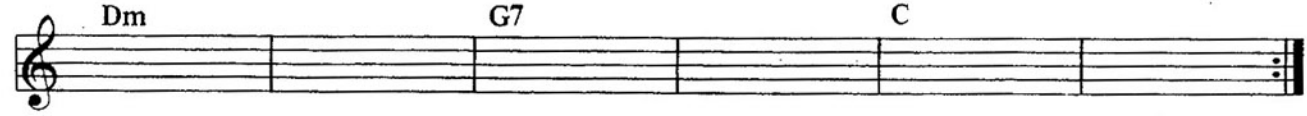
1 



This is a repeat sign. When it appears, go back to the double bar with the dots on the right and play that portion again.

2 

3 



4 



5 

The strumming may be down with a pick, the thumb, or the first finger. See p. 8 for the explanation of how to hold a pick. When strumming up, only two or three strings are strummed. The up strum is done with an upward and outward motion. In this book, when two strums are connected by a beam, the first strum is played down and the second is strummed up.

When tapping your foot to keep the beat, the down strum is played when your foot is down and the up strum played when the foot is up.

Practice the following to get the feel of strumming down up.

Em                      D                      C                      D                      Em

The following strum patterns are grouped according to meter. The ones at the top will work to play songs in 4/4 meter and the ones at the bottom may be used to play songs in 3/4. They will provide interesting accompaniments for many pieces. The strum patterns are listed in order of difficulty. Each pattern takes one measure of music to complete. Once a pattern has been selected to play a song, the same pattern should be used in every measure. Holding a G chord, practice each strum pattern. Master one strum pattern before moving on to the next.

Patterns for 4/4 meter: (note that each strum pattern takes one measure to complete)

Pattern 1                      Pattern 2                      Pattern 3                      Pattern 4

— This is a tie. When it connects two strum patterns, the first strum is held through the time value of the second strum.

Pattern 5\*                      Pattern 6\*                      Pattern 7

Patterns for 3/4 meter:

Pattern 1                      Pattern 2\*                      Pattern 3                      Pattern 4