



FAN STROKE



The Fan Stroke is an advanced technique that can take some time to master but well worth the effort. The pattern above with arrows and letters will appear on the tab sheets at various intervals within the orchestral arrangements.

To perfect this fancy strumming technique, you should be acquainted with the letters in relation to the fingering that is required. The fan stroke utilises three digits only as follows:



- T = thumb,
- i = index finger
- p = pinky finger

The fan stroke is started with an up stroke using the index finger. Once the hand is above the ukulele, the fingers should begin to stretch out for the fan effect.

INSTRUCTION: After the initial index up strum, stretch your fingers out wide so that your hand is spread for the decent back down the strings. You need to catch your little finger across the strings in a downwards strum with a slight tilt so that once the rest of the hand passes the strings, the thumb is able to catch them in a downward motion too. Two strokes with one downward motion.

The next step is to curl the fingers back in leaving the index finger protruding slightly so to catch the strings on the way back up. The trick is to make each strike of equal temperament in terms of timing and velocity.

As mentioned above, this is essentially another way to create a triplet strum but with the correct movement and a bit of showmanship you can get that triplet looking magical with the fan stroke.

Try the two exercises below placing the fan stroke in where the parts are highlighted blue.

