

# Strumming Patterns

**D = Down Strum U = Up Strum**

## Basic Strumming Patterns

1.

D U D U D U D U

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

Detailed description: This musical staff is in 4/4 time. It shows a sequence of eight strums: Down, Up, Down, Up, Down, Up, Down, Up. The first four strums are grouped together, and the last four are grouped together. Below the staff, the numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4 are placed under the first strum of each group, with a plus sign (+) between them.

2.

D D D U D U

1 2 3 + 4 +

Detailed description: This musical staff is in 4/4 time. It shows a sequence of six strums: Down, Down, Down, Up, Down, Up. The first three strums are grouped together, and the last two are grouped together. Below the staff, the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4 are placed under the first strum of each group, with a plus sign (+) between 3 and 4.

3.

D D U D D U

1 2 + 3 4 +

Detailed description: This musical staff is in 4/4 time. It shows a sequence of six strums: Down, Down, Up, Down, Down, Up. The first two strums are grouped together, the next two are grouped together, and the last two are grouped together. Below the staff, the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4 are placed under the first strum of each group, with a plus sign (+) between 2 and 3, and between 4 and 5.

4.

D D U D U D

1 2 + 3 + 4

Detailed description: This musical staff is in 4/4 time. It shows a sequence of six strums: Down, Down, Up, Down, Up, Down. The first two strums are grouped together, the next two are grouped together, and the last one is separate. Below the staff, the numbers 1, 2, 3, 4 are placed under the first strum of each group, with a plus sign (+) between 2 and 3, and between 3 and 4.

## Syncopated Strumming Patterns

1.

D            D            U            Miss            U            D

1            2            +            +            4

2.

D            D            U            Miss            U            D            U

1            2            +            +            4            +

3.

D            U            D            U            Miss            U            D            U

1            +            2            +            +            4            +

4.

D            U            U            U            U            D

1            +            (2)            +            (3)            +            4

5.

D            D            Miss            U            D            U

1            +            2            +            (3)            +            4            +

# "Boom-chuck" Bass/Strum Patterns

1.

D                      D                      D                      D

(low strings)                      (low strings)

2.

D                      D                      U                      D                      D                      U

(low strings)                      (low strings)

1                      2                      +                      3                      4                      +

3.

D                      D                      D                      U                      D                      D                      D                      U

(low strings)                      (low strings)                      (low strings)

1                      2                      uh                      3                      4                      uh

4.

D                      D                      U (high strings)                      U                      D

(low strings)

1                      2                      +                      +                      4

## 16th note Strumming Patterns

16th notes are twice as fast as 8th notes and there are four 16th notes in one beat. They are often counted 1 - e - and - uh, 2 - e - and - uh, etc.

1.

D      D      D      D      U      D      U      D

1      2      +      3      e      +      uh      4

2.

D      D      D      U      D      U      D      D      D      U      D      U

1      +      2      e      +      uh      3      +      4      e      +      uh

3.

D      D      D      U      D      D      D      D      U

1      2      +      uh      3      4      +      uh

4.

D      D      D      D      U      D      U      D      D      D

1      +      2      +      uh      3      e      +      4      +

## Strumming patterns with right-hand mutes

1.

D U (Mute) D U (Mute)

1 + 2 3 + 4

2.

D U (mute) U D U (mute) U

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

3.

D U (mute) U (mute) U (mute) U

1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

4.

D U (mute) U Miss U (mute)

1 + 2 + + 4

## Various Advanced Strumming Patterns

1.

D D D U <sup>Miss</sup> U D D

1 2 + uh (3) e + 4

2.

D U U D U U D D U

3.

D D U <sup>Miss</sup> U D D U U D D U

1 + uh (2) e + 3 e uh 4 + uh

4.

D D D D U <sup>Miss</sup> U U D U D

1 + 2 + uh (3) e uh 4 e +