

Position Studies, Volume 3

Composed by Jeffrey Tanner

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Performance Notes

These studies were written to provide knowledge of the fretboard in positions commonly found in guitar music. The objective of these exercises was to enable the students to read melodies in upper positions quickly to facilitate the reading of ensemble music. Each position is divided into two pages with the first page concentrating on notes on the bass strings, and the second page concentrating on the trebles. This enables the teacher and student to focus on the treble strings in the higher positions to facilitate ensemble reading and performance and then begin mastering the basses at a later date if desired. Each song progresses in difficulty from step-wise motion to utilizing intervals of thirds or more. When feasible, exercises were written without accidentals to encourage knowledge of natural note locations on the fretboard. There are a total of four volumes, enabling the teacher to change volumes every school year so that students do not repeat the exercises within a typical four year High School guitar program. Students may begin instruction with any volume and progress through the series.

About the Composer

Jeff Tanner lives in Ashburn, Virginia with his wife and son. He received his Bachelor of Music Education degree from James Madison University and received his Masters of Music Education Degree from Shenandoah University where he studied guitar under Glen Caluda. He has been an instrumental music teacher at Loudoun Valley High School since 1987, beginning the guitar program in 1990. He has taught guitar at Loudoun Valley, Broad Run, and Loudoun County High Schools and has also served as a Guitar Clinician and Specialist for the Loudoun County Public Schools.

Mr. Tanner actively pursues guitar composition and arrangement, as well as recording studio technology and synthesis. He has designed and taught several music technology courses for the Loudoun County Public Schools and has been an Adjunct Professor for Shenandoah University. His work is published through Class Guitar Resources and Funky Bear Music.

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2nd Position Bases

F# G A B C# D E F# G A B C# D E F# G A

⑥ ⑤ ④ ③ ② ①

Detailed description: A musical staff in treble clef showing the 2nd position bass scale. The notes are F#, G, A, B, C#, D, E, F#, G, A, B, C#, D, E, F#, G, A. Below the staff, fret numbers are indicated: 6 for F#, 5 for G, 4 for A, 3 for B, 2 for C#, 1 for D, 3 for E, 4 for F#, 3 for G, 2 for A, 1 for B, 2 for C#, 4 for D, 1 for E, 2 for F#, 4 for G. Circled numbers 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1 are placed below the first six notes, with brackets indicating the fret range for each note.

Song 1

Detailed description: A musical staff in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes: F#, G, A, B, C#, D, E, F#, G, A, B, C#, D, E, F#, G, A.

Detailed description: A musical staff in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody continues with quarter notes: B, C#, D, E, F#, G, A, B, C#, D, E, F#, G, A.

Song 2

Detailed description: A musical staff in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes: F#, G, A, B, C#, D, E, F#, G, A, B, C#, D, E, F#, G, A.

Detailed description: A musical staff in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody continues with quarter notes: B, C#, D, E, F#, G, A, B, C#, D, E, F#, G, A.

Song 3

Detailed description: A musical staff in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes: F#, G, A, B, C#, D, E, F#, G, A, B, C#, D, E, F#, G, A.

Detailed description: A musical staff in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody continues with quarter notes: B, C#, D, E, F#, G, A, B, C#, D, E, F#, G, A.

Song 4

Detailed description: A musical staff in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter notes: F#, G, A, B, C#, D, E, F#, G, A, B, C#, D, E, F#, G, A.

Detailed description: A musical staff in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody continues with quarter notes: B, C#, D, E, F#, G, A, B, C#, D, E, F#, G, A.

2nd Position Trebles

F# G A B C# D E F# G A B C# D E F# G A

A musical staff in treble clef showing the 2nd position scale. The notes are F# (finger 1), G (finger 2), A (finger 4), B (finger 1), C# (finger 3), D (finger 4), E (finger 1), F# (finger 3), G (finger 4), A (finger 1), B (finger 3), C# (finger 1), D (finger 2), E (finger 4), F# (finger 1), G (finger 2), and A (finger 4). Brackets below the staff group the notes into six segments, each labeled with a circled number: ⑥, ⑤, ④, ③, ②, and ①.

Song 1

Two staves of music for Song 1 in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the first four measures, and the second staff contains the next four measures. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes.

Song 2

Two staves of music for Song 2 in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the first four measures, and the second staff contains the next four measures. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes.

Song 3

Two staves of music for Song 3 in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the first four measures, and the second staff contains the next four measures. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes.

Song 4

Two staves of music for Song 4 in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the first four measures, and the second staff contains the next four measures. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes.

7th Position Basses

6

B C D E F G A B C D E F G A B C D

Musical staff showing the 7th position bass scale. The notes are B, C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C, D, E, F, G, A, B, C, D. Fingerings are indicated below the notes: 1, 2, 4 for B-C-D; 1, 2, 4 for E-F-G; 1, 3, 4 for A-B-C; 1, 3, 4 for D-E-F; 2, 4 for G-A; 1, 2, 4 for B-C-D. String numbers are indicated below the notes: 6 for B, 5 for C, 4 for D, 3 for E, 2 for F, 1 for G, 2 for A, 1 for B, 2 for C, 3 for D.

Song 1

Musical staff for Song 1, starting with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes.

Musical staff for Song 1 continuation, showing the second half of the melody.

Song 2

Musical staff for Song 2, starting with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes.

Musical staff for Song 2 continuation, showing the second half of the melody.

Song 3

Musical staff for Song 3, starting with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes.

Musical staff for Song 3 continuation, showing the second half of the melody.

Song 4

Musical staff for Song 4, starting with a treble clef and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes.

Musical staff for Song 4 continuation, showing the second half of the melody.

9th Position Trebles

D E F# G A B C# D E F# G A B C# D E

Fingerings: 2 4, 1 2 4, 1 3 4, 1 3 4, 2 4, 1 2 4

Fret numbers: ⑥, ⑤, ④, ③, ②, ①

Song 1

Song 2

Song 3

Song 4