

The Water is Wide

Andante

English Folk tune

The musical score is written in 4/4 time and consists of 24 measures. It features guitar-specific notation, including fret numbers (0-4) and fingerings (1-4) for both hands. The piece is marked *mf* (mezzo-forte) and includes dynamic markings *p* (piano) and *a* (accents). The score is divided into 12 numbered measures, each with a corresponding fingering diagram above the staff. The notes are:
Measure 1: i m m m a m i p i p m i i i p p p
Measure 2: i m m m m i p i p p i m i m i p p
Measure 3: i m i a m i p i p m i m i m a m p m
Measure 4: i m i i i p p p i m i m m p
Measure 5: i m m m a m i p i p m i m i m a m p m
Measure 6: i m i i i p p p i m i m m p
Measure 7: i m m m a m i p i p m i i i i p p p p p
Measure 8: i m m m m i p i p p m a i p p
Measure 9: i m m m a m i p i p m i i i i p p p p p
Measure 10: i m m m m i p i p p m a i p p
Measure 11: i m m m m i p i p p m a i p p
Measure 12: i m m m m i p i p p m a i p p

2

13

14

i p *m* *a m p* *a* *a m p* *i* *p* *i* *p* *m i i* *m i* *a i* *m p* *i*

15

rit.

16

i p *i m* *i p* *i m* *p* *p* *i p* *i m* *a i* *p*

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1 *i m m m a m i p i p m i i i p p p*

mf

TAB: 0 0 1 1 3 0 | 0 1 0 2 0 3 | (0) 3 3 1 2 2 0 | 2 2 2

3 *i m m m m i p i p p i m i m i p p*

TAB: 0 1 1 0 0 0 | 1 2 2 2 3 | (1) 3 0 1 0 3 | 3 4

5 *p i m i a m i p i p m i m i m a m p m*

TAB: (3) 3 0 1 3 | 0 0 2 0 3 | (3) 1 1 0 3 1 0 | 1 1 1

7 *i m i i p p p i m i m m p*

TAB: (0) 3 1 2 0 3 | 0 2 3 (0) 0 0 2 1 | 1 1 2

2 9 *i m m m a i p i p* 10 *m i i i p p p p*

17 *mf*

T	0	1	1	3	0	(0)	3	3	1		
A	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	2	2	0	
B	3	2	2	3	3	2	3	2	3	0	

11 *p i p p p p i p p* 12 *m a i a m i p*

21

T	0	1	0	1	(1)	3	0	1	0		
A	0	0	0	2	2	2	0	2	3		
B	3	3	2	0	3	2	2	3	4		

13 *i m m a a m i p i p* 14 *m i i m i i m p i*

25

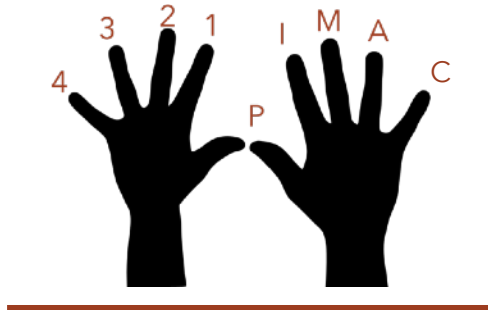
T	(3)	3	0	1	3	(3)	1	1	0	0	1
A	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	1	0	0
B	2	3	3	0	0	3	2	2	3	2	0

15 *p i i i m i p p* **rit.** 16 *p i i m i p*

29

T	(0)	3	1	0	0	(0)	0	0	2	1	1
A	3	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	2	2	2
B	0	3	0	1	0	3	2	2	3	3	3

Fingering Notations



Practice Tips

The 7 Steps to Learn Any Piece:

1. Make small sections
2. Know all the notes and musical markings
3. Clap and count the rhythm aloud
4. Play the right hand alone, counting aloud
5. Play the left hand alone, counting aloud
6. Play hands together, taking corrective pauses (no mistakes!)
7. Play hands together in rhythm, with slow metronome

Musical Starting Points:

1. Know which notes are melody (probably stems up), and play the others quieter
2. Connect all melody notes smoothly (no gaps)
3. When a musical line or melody goes up in pitch, get quieter
4. When a musical line or melody goes down in pitch, get louder
5. Don't let the high notes stand out (any note higher than those before and after)

Practice Tips:

1. Before slowing down or speeding up (rubato) master it at a steady pace.
2. For tricky spots, state out loud exactly what the problem is, in every detail.
3. Memorize every piece (even if you don't, you'll learn it faster if you try)
4. Have a purpose behind each repetition (blind repetitions are lazy practice).
5. Video yourself for performance practice and to hear what is and is not working.

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This is the ideal starting position for me. As a relative beginner with no teacher this is helping me enormously in developing good technique and not falling into bad habits. I no longer feel (A) That it's a struggle to learn a new piece and (B) That I am alone in my endeavors. My advice is to try The Woodshed program. It is fantastic and will not only bring up your playing but his explanations of musical concepts as you go along put things into perspective.

-John Andersson

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or go to <https://www.classicalguitarshed.com/the-water-is-wide/>

Click the gold button above to learn more about the full course.

You'll go to a page where you can listen to the piece and get started playing it. You'll progress step by step, one small bit at a time, so you not only learn this piece, but also learn how to learn future pieces. Have fun!