

Well, we won't get very far without doing some fretting. Play the open E/4th string, then place your 1st finger at the 1st fret and press down. Press harder. **Harder!** If you get a buzzing sound, you need to press even harder, and it's best to situate the tip of your finger as close to the 1st fret **wire** as possible; you'll get a better purchase on it, and a better chance of getting a clean sound.

Here's your first song. You should recognize it, but I won't tell you what it is yet. Let it suffice to say that it's the theme music from a movie about a jolly big fish (no, not a bass). You'll simply be alternating the two notes; count them out:

0	0	1	0
1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +	1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +	1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +	1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1	0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1	0 1 0 1 0 1 0 1
1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +	1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +	1 + 2 + 3 + 4 +

I don't expect you to get that 2nd line up to speed just yet, but it is kind of ominous, right? That, of course, is the theme to the 1975 Oscar-winning thriller, "What's New, Pussycat?" Or was it "Jaws"? That's it, "What's New, Jaws?" (Try this on the 3 other strings, too.)

The first bar contains one note, the E note, and it gets the note value of a Whole-note. Takes up the whole measure. The second bar contains 2 Half-notes, E again, and now F. Just like the alphabet! The Musical Alphabet is ABCDEFG and starts over with A. And notice how I use the terms "bar" and "measure" interchangeably. So can you.

The 3rd measure contains 2 Quarter-notes and a Half-note (E-F-E), and the 4th measure has 4 Quarter-notes (E-F-E-F). Then the entire last line is full of Eighth-notes; you can alternate Down- and Upstrokes, although all Downstrokes would be more menacing.

Remember, your job is to be a human metronome, keeping the time, providing a rallying point for all the other musicians present. Don't worry so much about the Eighth-notes right now, but be sure that you're playing the Quarter-notes **dead evenly**, either D D D D or D U D U. Boy, a metronome would come in mighty handy (hint).

In fact, our next section is all about.....