String Skipping & Crossing

By Andrew Wasson

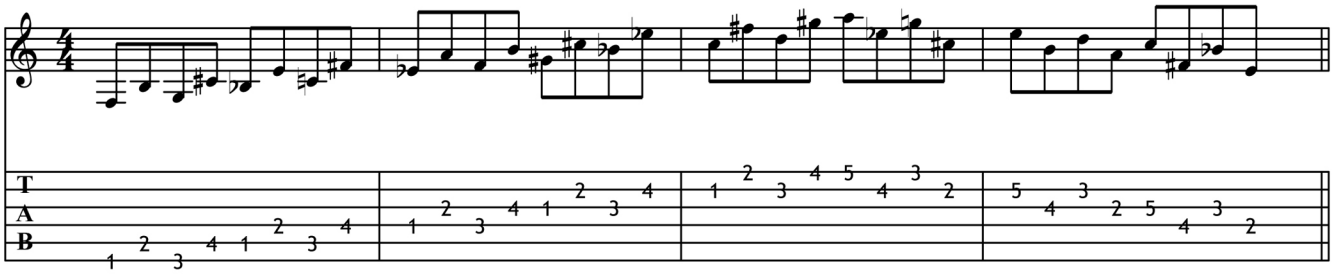
What is String Skipping and/or String Crossing?
I think of, “String Crossing Technique,” as going between two different strings, while performing non-repetitive melodic lines.

I think of, “String Skipping Technique,” as performing a repetitive pattern of notes for a riff in a song’s section, (intro., verse or chorus melody. i.e., “Sweet Child of Mine”).

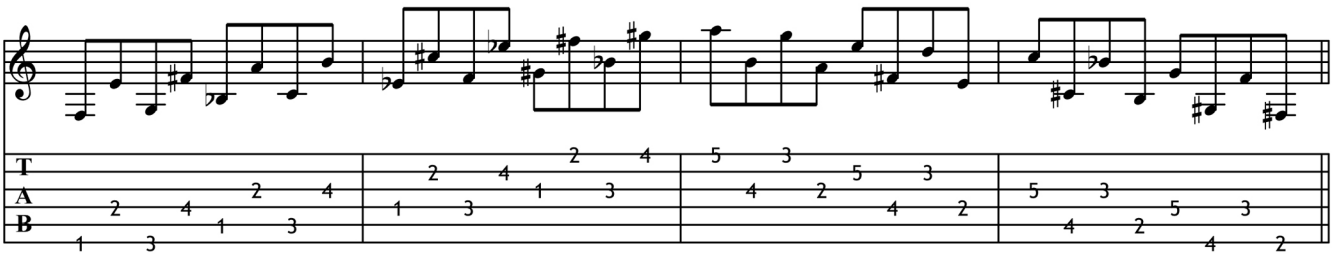
You might not find this definition in any other book or from any other teacher. It is just a way I use to break apart the different ways of going between riffs and licks using this technique.

To get this technique into your playing you will need to work hard at developing a good deal of accuracy. The exercises I have outlined below should work quite well to develop the skills necessary.

Exercise #1). Dexterity development for single-string jump tracking. Play all across the neck.



Exercise #2). Dexterity development for double-string jump tracking. Play all across the neck.



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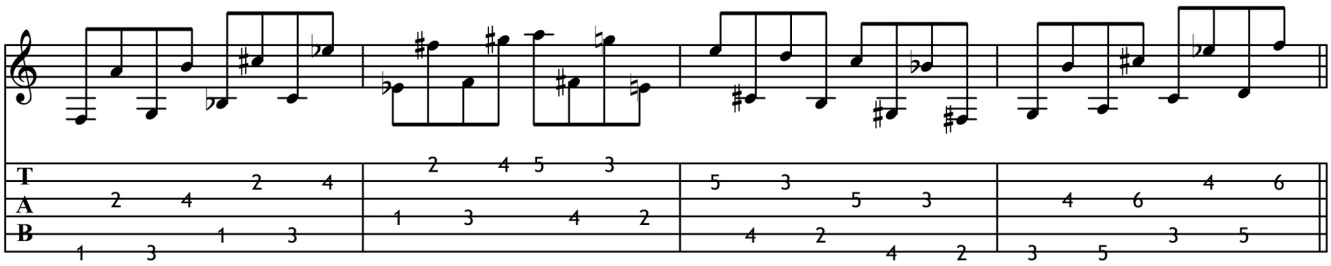
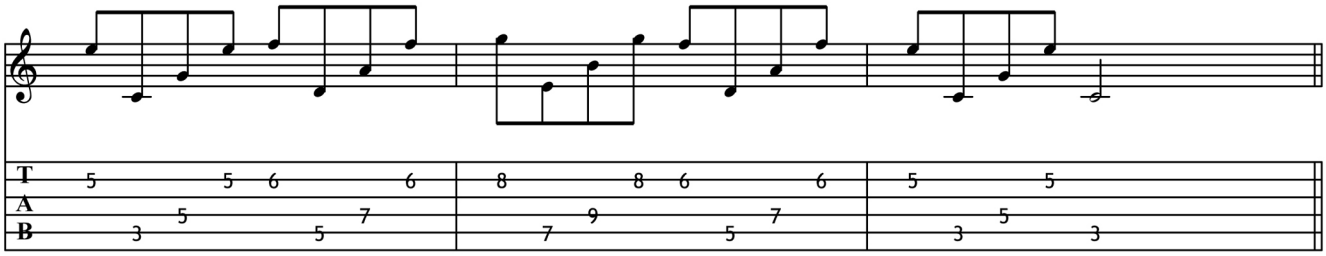
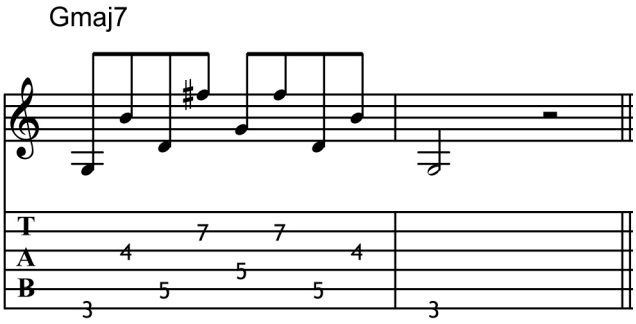
Exercise #3). Dexterity development for triple-string jump tracking. Play all across the neck.



Exercise #4). Basic, “String Skipping,” study using an along the neck harmony in “C Major.” Practice it further along the key’s harmony and try moving the harmony into other keys & strings as well.



Exercise #5). Displacing notes from an arpeggio into other octave ranges using string crossing.



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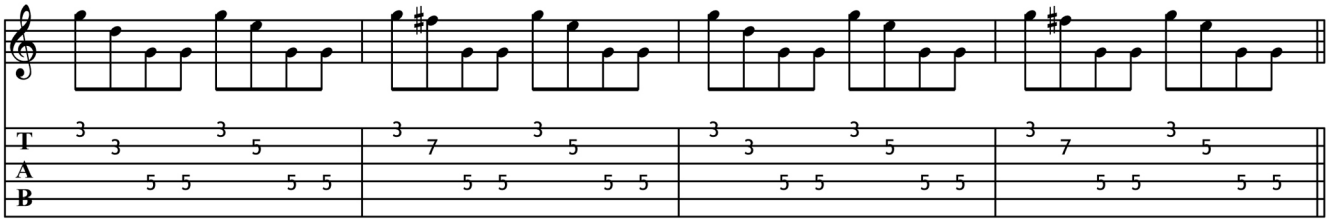
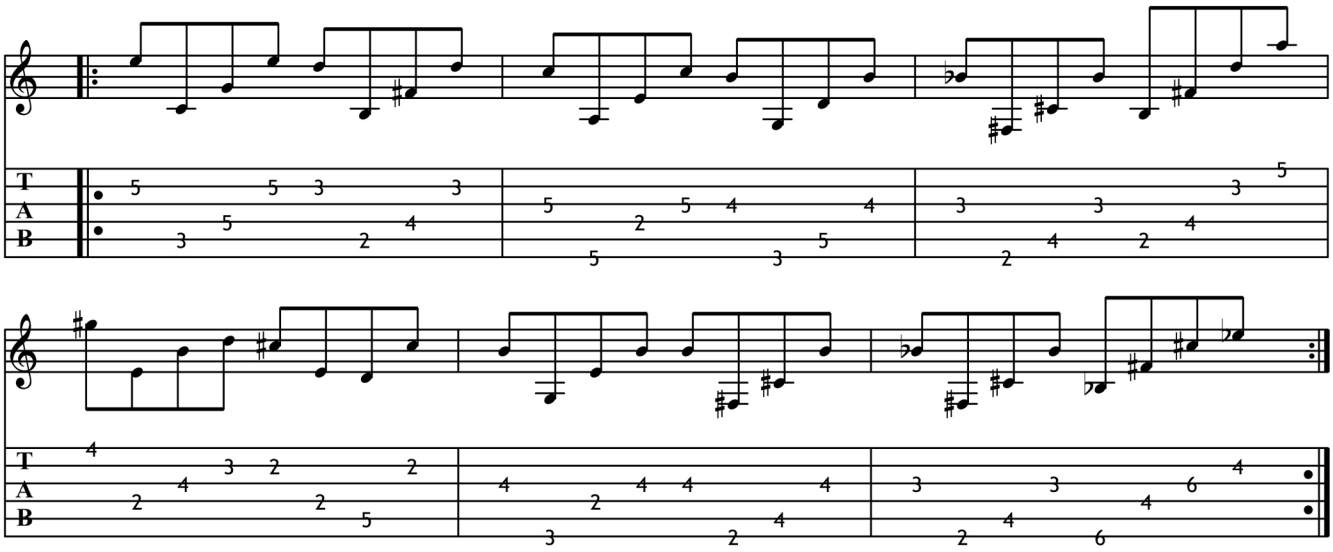
Exercise #6). Take a moment to practice this excerpt from Eric Johnson's, "Cliffs of Dover."



Exercise #7). The melody example below is from the Video lesson's introduction.



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