

String Skipping & Crossing

By Andrew Wasson

What is String Skipping and/or String Crossing?

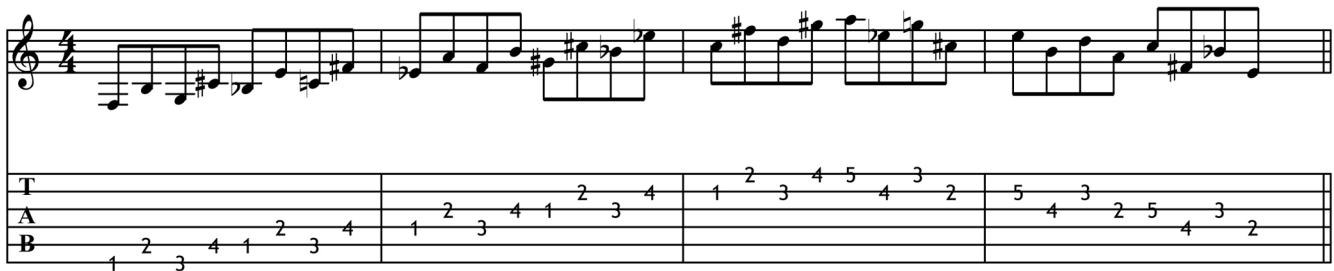
I think of, "String Crossing Technique," as going between two different strings, while performing non-repetitive melodic lines.

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.

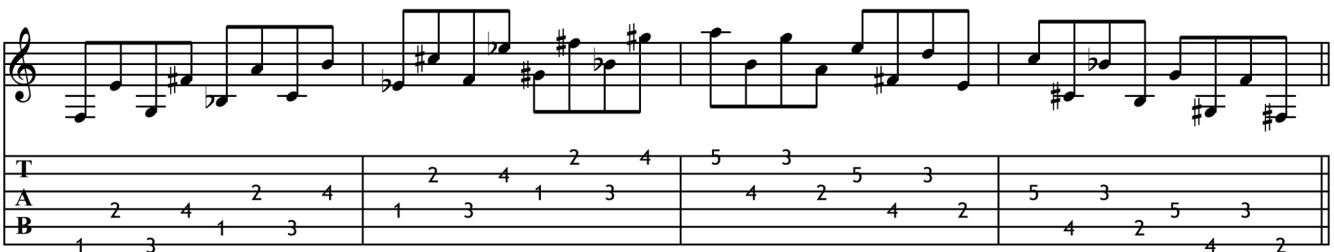
To get this technique into your playing you will need to work hard at developing a good deal of accuracy. The exercises I have outlined below should work quite well to develop the skills necessary.

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



Exercise #1 musical notation. The top staff is a treble clef in 4/4 time, showing a melodic line with various intervals and accidentals. Below it are three guitar strings (T, A, B) with fret numbers indicated by numbers 1-5. The strings are labeled T, A, and B from top to bottom. The fret numbers are: T: 1 2 3 4 5 4 3 2; A: 1 2 3 4 1 3 4; B: 1 2 3 4 1 3 4.

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



Exercise #2 musical notation. The top staff is a treble clef in 4/4 time, showing a melodic line with various intervals and accidentals. Below it are three guitar strings (T, A, B) with fret numbers indicated by numbers 1-5. The strings are labeled T, A, and B from top to bottom. The fret numbers are: T: 2 4 2 4; A: 2 4 1 3; B: 1 3 1 3.

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

Exercise #3 musical notation and guitar tablature. The notation shows a melodic line in the treble clef. The guitar tablature is for strings T, A, and B. The exercise consists of four measures of music, each with a corresponding set of fingerings for the three strings.

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 #4 musical notation and guitar tablature. The notation shows a melodic line in the treble clef. The guitar tablature is for strings T, A, and B. The exercise consists of three measures of music, each with a corresponding set of fingerings for the three strings.

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

Gmaj7

Exercise #5 musical notation and guitar tablature. The notation shows a melodic line in the treble clef. The guitar tablature is for strings T, A, and B. The exercise consists of two measures of music, each with a corresponding set of fingerings for the three strings.

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

Musical notation for Exercise #6, showing a melody line and guitar tablature for strings T, A, and B. The melody is in treble clef, and the tablature is in standard notation. The melody consists of four measures, each with a triplet of eighth notes. The first measure has a natural C, D, E. The second measure has a sharp F, G, A. The third measure has a natural G, A, B. The fourth measure has a sharp C, D, E. The tablature for strings T, A, and B shows the following fret numbers: T: 3 3 3 5 3 7 3 5 3 3 3 5 3 7 3 5; A: 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5; B: 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5.

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

Musical notation for Exercise #7, showing a melody line and guitar tablature for strings T, A, and B. The melody is in treble clef, and the tablature is in standard notation. The melody consists of two measures, each with a triplet of eighth notes. The first measure has a natural C, D, E. The second measure has a sharp F, G, A. The third measure has a natural G, A, B. The fourth measure has a sharp C, D, E. The fifth measure has a natural C, D, E. The sixth measure has a sharp F, G, A. The seventh measure has a natural G, A, B. The eighth measure has a sharp C, D, E. The ninth measure has a natural C, D, E. The tenth measure has a sharp F, G, A. The eleventh measure has a natural G, A, B. The twelfth measure has a sharp C, D, E. The tablature for strings T, A, and B shows the following fret numbers: T: 5 5 3 3 5 5 4 4 3 3 3 5; A: 3 5 2 4 5 2 5 4 4 3 3 4 3 5; B: 3 5 2 4 5 2 5 4 4 2 4 2 4 2 4 2 4.