

♩=120

Slowly, with intent

Sweeping for Tone

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Mandolin

Mandolin staff 1: Treble clef, C major key signature, 4/4 time. Measures 1-8. Fingerings: 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 4. Rest strokes: 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 4, 1, 2, 3, 4.

Mdn.

Mandolin staff 2: Treble clef, C major key signature, 4/4 time. Measures 9-16. Fingerings: 4, 3, 2, 1, 4, 3, 2, 1, 4, 3, 2, 1, 4, 3, 2, 1. Rest strokes: 8-7-5-3, 8-7-5-3, 9-7-5-3, 9-7-5-3.

Mdn.

Mandolin staff 3: Treble clef, C major key signature, 4/4 time. Measures 17-22. Fingerings: 5, 5, 7, 7, 9, 9, 3, 3, 5, 5, 7, 7, 9, 9, 3, 3, 5, 5, 7, 7, 8, 8, 3, 3. Rest strokes: V, V, V, V, V, V, V, V, V, V, V, V, V, V, V, V.

Mdn.

Mandolin staff 4: Treble clef, C major key signature, 4/4 time. Measures 23-28. Fingerings: 5, 5, 7, 7, 8, 8, 8, 8, 8, 8, 7, 7, 5, 5, 3, 3, 8, 8, 7, 7, 5, 5, 3, 3. Rest strokes: V, V, V, V, V, V, V, V, V, V, V, V, V, V, V, V.

Mdn.

Mandolin staff 5: Treble clef, C major key signature, 4/4 time. Measures 29-34. Fingerings: 9, 9, 7, 7, 5, 5, 3, 3, 9, 9, 7, 7, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 7, 7, 7, 7, 9, 9, 9, 9, 3. Rest strokes: V, V.

Mdn.

Mandolin staff 6: Treble clef, C major key signature, 4/4 time. Measures 35-40. Fingerings: 5, 5, 5, 5, 7, 7, 7, 7, 9, 9, 9, 9, 3, 5, 5, 5, 5, 7, 7, 7, 7, 8, 8, 8, 8, 3, 5, 5, 5, 5, 7, 7, 7, 7, 8, 8, 8, 8, 8. Rest strokes: V, V.

Use the **Rest Stroke**. "Rest" the pick on the next string until ready to attack the next note. (Swing no farther!)

Grip the pick with just enough strength to keep control. Don't tense up any harder, and try to keep fingers and wrist relaxed.

Don't lift the Left (fretting) Hand too far off the fingerboard between notes. These must be "at the ready" for the next notes. (*Don't let them go out for coffee meantime...*)

Sweeping for Tone

Ted Eschliman

Mdn.

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Make as much sound as you can with the pick. Aim for volume without sacrificing clear, bell-like tone. Throw the tone to the other end of the room.

Aim for articulation "evenness." Each and every attack must be at the same healthy dynamic level.

Don't rush! Play as slowly as you need to to get the maximum richness out of the string possible.

Mdn.

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Mdn.

This version uses the 2nd FFcP fingering. Try a full, two-octave version of this starting in the keys of Bb and B using the 1st FFcP fingering.

Keep the string crossings clean. This will take some concentration, especially moving from 4th finger to 1st, but keep the notes connected, blending into each subsequent attack with intent and fluidity.

Don't move on to the next section until you can play it perfectly. Allow no clams, fracks, half-fretted notes, gaps, or anything less than beautiful tone.

Use this as a warm-up routine everyday! The pick starts the note; you can't get anywhere with good tone until this is working properly. What you do to prepare your picking hand will determine the quality of your tone the entire duration of your playing time. It is this critical!