

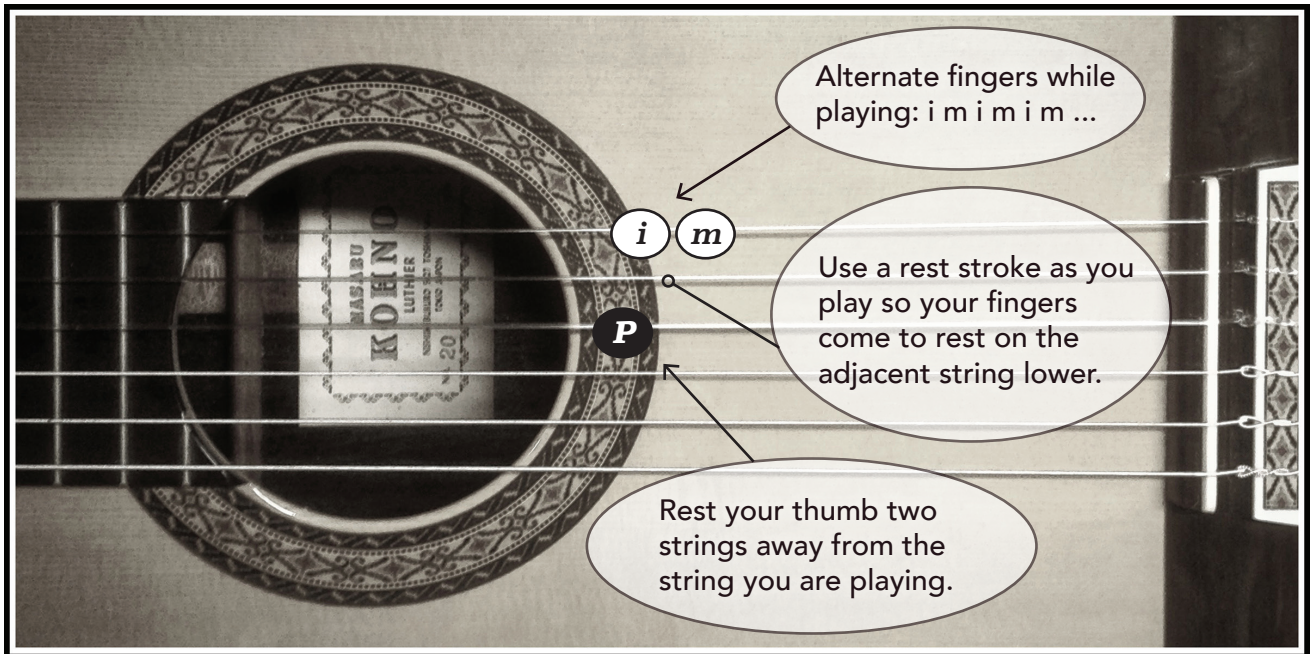
# Right Hand Exercises

## Thumb Damping Exercise

The thumb plays an important role in right-hand technique, even when it is not playing notes.

When you are playing only melody notes (on the higher strings), try resting your thumb on lower (unused) strings. Resting your thumb on the lower strings will help your fingers navigate the strings by anchoring and stabilizing your right hand. It will also allow your thumb to *damp* excess sounds on the lower strings.

*Damping* is deliberately stopping a note from ringing or keeping a note from ringing. As you rest your thumb on lower (unused) strings, you will damp those strings and prevent sympathetic vibrations and unwanted sounds.



Practice the following exercises, making the thumb follow the fingers as you play: rest on the 6th string when you play the 4th; rest on the 5th when you play the 3rd; rest on the 4th when you play the 2nd; and rest on the 3rd when you play the 1st.

### Exercise 1



### Exercise 2

