

Adagio

Johann Kaspar Mertz
(1806 – 1856)

The musical score is presented in four systems, each with two staves: Gtr. I (top) and Gtr. II (bottom). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The piece is marked *p* (piano).
- **System 1:** Measures 1-4. Gtr. I features a melodic line with fingerings 4, 2, 0, 4, 1, 0, 2, 0, 1, 4, 2, 1, 0, 1. Gtr. II provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.
- **System 2:** Measures 5-8. Gtr. I continues the melodic line with fingerings 4, 2, 0, 4, 1, 0, 2, 0, 4, 0, 2, 0. Gtr. II accompaniment includes triplets in measures 7 and 8.
- **System 3:** Measures 9-12. Gtr. I features a more complex melodic line with fingerings 2, 0, 0, 1, 2, 0, 1, 4, 0, 2, 0, 0, 3, 2, 1, 0. Gtr. II accompaniment includes triplets in measures 11 and 12.
- **System 4:** Measures 13-16. Gtr. I continues with fingerings 4, 2, 0, 0, 4, 1, 0, 2, 0, 4, 2, 0, 4, 3. Gtr. II accompaniment includes triplets in measures 15 and 16.

Musical score for guitar, measures 17-20. The score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). Measure 17 begins with a treble staff containing a triplet of eighth notes (F#, G, A) with fingerings 3, 2, 3, followed by a quarter note (B) with fingering 4 and a quarter note (A) with fingering 3. The bass staff shows a quarter note (F#) with fingering 2 and a quarter note (B) with fingering 0. Measure 18 features a treble staff with a triplet of eighth notes (B, C, D) with fingerings 2, 3, 0, followed by a quarter note (E) with fingering 4 and a quarter note (D) with fingering 3. The bass staff shows a quarter note (F#) with fingering 3 and a quarter note (B) with fingering 0. Measure 19 has a treble staff with a quarter note (E) with fingering 4, a quarter note (D) with fingering 3, and a quarter note (C) with fingering 2. The bass staff shows a quarter note (F#) with fingering 2 and a quarter note (B) with fingering 0. Measure 20 concludes with a treble staff containing a quarter note (B) with fingering 4, a quarter note (A) with fingering 3, and a quarter note (G) with fingering 2. The bass staff shows a quarter note (F#) with fingering 2, a quarter note (B) with fingering 0, and a quarter note (E) with fingering 1. The piece ends with a final chord in the bass staff consisting of F#, B, and E.

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Gtr. I

Gtr. II

5

9

T
A
B

T
A
B

13

T
A
B

T
A
B

17

The musical score consists of two systems, each with a treble clef staff and a bass line. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time. The first system (measures 17-20) features a melodic line with triplets and a bass line with fret numbers. The second system (measures 21-24) features a melodic line with triplets and a bass line with fret numbers.

System 1 (Measures 17-20):

- Treble Clef Staff:** Measure 17: 3 notes (triplet), 2 notes (triplet), 3 notes (triplet), 4 notes (triplet), 3 notes (triplet). Measure 18: 2 notes (triplet), 3 notes (triplet), 0. Measure 19: 4 notes (triplet), 3 notes (triplet), 0. Measure 20: 1 note (triplet), 0, 0, 0, 0.
- Bass Line:** Measure 17: 7, 7, 8, 0, 8, 7. Measure 18: 7, 7, 8, 0, 12. Measure 19: 12, 12, 12, 12, 0, 0, 0, 0. Measure 20: 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0.

System 2 (Measures 21-24):

- Treble Clef Staff:** Measure 21: 3 notes (triplet), 0, 0. Measure 22: 3 notes (triplet), 0, 0. Measure 23: 0, 0, 0. Measure 24: 2, 1, 3, 0.
- Bass Line:** Measure 21: 0, 2, 0. Measure 22: 0, 2, 0, 0, 0. Measure 23: 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0. Measure 24: 2, 2, 3, 0.

Musical Tip Sheet

The Big 5:

1. Reduce work with posture and a positive attitude
2. Troubleshoot - Everything should be easy
3. Breathe
4. Trust yourself to play accurately and musically inspired (instead of judging)
5. Always play as a gift to yourself and others

The 7 Steps to Learn Any Piece:

1. Make small sections
2. Know all the notes and musical markings
3. Clap and count the rhythm aloud
4. Play the right hand alone, counting aloud
5. Play the left hand alone, counting aloud
6. Play hands together, pausing when needed (no mistakes!)
7. Play hands together slowly in rhythm, counting aloud

Musical Starting Points:

1. Decide which notes are melody (probably stems up), and play the others quieter
2. Connect all melody notes smoothly (no gaps)
3. When a musical line or melody goes up in pitch, get quieter
4. When a musical line or melody goes down in pitch, get louder
5. Don't let the high notes stand out (any note higher than the ones before and after)

Practice Tips:

1. Before slowing down or speeding up (rubato) master it at a steady pace.
2. For tricky spots, state out loud exactly what the problem is, in every detail.
3. Memorize every piece (even if you don't, you'll learn it faster if you try)
4. Have a purpose behind each repetition (so you don't ingrain bad habits).
5. Video yourself for performance practice, and to hear what is working.

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