

# Hungarian Dance No. 1

Johannes Brahms  
(1833-1897)

**Allegro**

Musical notation for measures 1-6. The piece is in 2/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first measure starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The notation includes guitar-specific markings such as fret numbers (0, 1, 2, 3, 4) and fingering (1, 2, 3, 4, 5). A trill is indicated in measure 6 with the instruction "arm VII" and circled numbers 4 and 5.

Musical notation for measures 7-12. This system continues the piece with similar guitar markings and fingering. A trill in measure 12 is marked with "arm VII" and circled numbers 3 and 4.

Musical notation for measures 13-18. The notation includes various guitar techniques such as slurs and specific fingering. A trill in measure 18 is marked with a circled number 1.

Musical notation for measures 19-24. The piece concludes with a final chord in measure 24, marked with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

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Am Am E E Am

*mf*

T  
A  
B

7 Am Am G7 A7 Dm

T  
A  
B

13 E7 E7 F(b5) Dm E E

T  
A  
B

19 F(b5) F(b5) E E7 Am

T  
A  
B

# Practice Tip Sheet

## The Big 5:

1. Reduce work with posture and high dynamic energy
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 Main Practice Areas:

1. Technique - Abilities, Movements, Chords, Scales, Patterns, Exercises, etc.
2. New Notes - One new piece of music at a time
3. Tricky Spots - Detailing small sections of pieces
4. Repertoire Maintenance - Pieces you already know
5. Sight-Reading practice - note recognition/playing; clapping/counting rhythms

## 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, taking corrective pauses (no mistakes!)
7. Play hands together in rhythm, with slow metronome

## Musical Starting Points:

1. Know 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 those 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 (blind repetitions are lazy practice).
5. Video yourself for performance practice and to hear what is and is not working.

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