



## Muting Notes After Fretting Them

After fretting a note, it can be muted by abruptly decreasing the pressure to the point that you are lightly touching the string. This will mute the string. Let the string lift off of the fret quickly. If it lifts off slowly, it may buzz.

## Muting Single Notes When Moving To A Larger String

**Rolling technique.** If two consecutive notes are fretted on the same fret with the second note on a larger string, the *rolling technique* can be used to mute the first note.

The rolling technique exercises below should involve a slight “cradle-like” rocking motion of the palm to help move each finger from one string to another. The base of the first finger should be closer to the fretboard than the base of the little finger.

The rocking motion should involve more movement on the side of the palm near the little finger. This causes a slight rotation of the finger. From the player's view of the fingertip, the finger rotates clockwise when moving to a smaller string and rotates counter-clockwise when moving to a larger string.

fingers:: 1 1 2 2 3 3 4 4 4 1 1 2 2 3 3 4 4 4 1 1 2 2 3 3 4 4 4 1 1 2 2 3 3 4 4 4 1 1 2 2 3 3 4 4

T 4/4  
A 4/4  
B 4/4

8 8 9 9 10 10 11 11 8 8 9 9 10 10 11 11 8 8 9 9 10 10 11 11 8 8 9 9 10 10 11 11 8 8 9 9 10 10 11 11

4 4 3 3 2 2 1 1 4 4 3 3 2 2 1 1 4 4 3 3 2 2 1 1 4 4 3 3 2 2 1 1 4 4 3 3 2 2 1 1

T 11 11 10 10 9 9 8 8 11 11 10 10 9 9 8 8 11 11 10 10 9 9 8 8 11 11 10 10 9 9 8 8 11 11 10 10 9 9 8 8

A  
B

When two consecutive notes are fretted on different strings with the second note on a larger string and a higher-numbered fret (closer to the guitar body), the finger fretting the second note can mute the first note. This is easier on adjacent strings, but can be done two or more strings apart by using the fretting fingers flattened against the strings.

fingers:: 1 2 1 3 1 4 2 3 2 4 3 4

T 4/4  
A 4/4  
B 4/4

7 8 7 9 7 10 8 9 8 10 9 10