

LEARNING AID #1 for Mountain Dulcimer 1-3-5 Tuning

Some may find it helpful to locate notes on the 1-3-5 fretboard by using layout patterns showing note positions. The three most common tunings being used are D-F#-A, E-G#-B and F-A-C.

Note Positions For Various 1-3-5 Tunings

D-F#-A Fretboard:

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	6+	7	8	9	10	11	12
D	E	F#	G	A	B	C	C#	D	E	F#	G	A	B
F#	G#	A#	B	C#	D#	E	F	F#	G#	A#	B	C#	D#
A	B	C#	D	E	F#	G	G#	A	B	C#	D	E	F#

E-G#-B Fretboard:

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	6+	7	8	9	10	11	12
E	F#	G#	A	B	C#	D	D#	E	F#	G#	A	B	C#
G#	A#	C	C#	D#	F	F#	G	G#	A#	C	C#	D#	F
B	C#	D#	E	F#	G#	A	A#	B	C#	D#	E	F#	G#

F-A-C Fretboard:

0	1	2	3	4	5	6	6+	7	8	9	10	11	12
F	G	A	Bb	C	D	Eb	E	F	G	A	Bb	C	D
A	B	C#	D	E	F#	G	G#	A	B	C#	D	E	F#
C	D	E	F	G	A	Bb	B	C	D	E	F	G	A

Note: G# = Ab Also: B# = C; Cb = B
 A# = Bb E# = F; Fb = E
 D# = Eb



Since most players are already familiar with note patterns for the D-A-d and D-A-A tunings, it may be easier to start with the D-F#-A system. Here, the note distributions for the "D" and "A" strings remain the same, leaving the "F#" to be studied.