

# Ten Minute Tech

## C Major in Thirds

### C Major (on one string)

Playing a scale on one string helps us both visualise the steps and intervals of the scale as well as learn our way around the fretboard better.

Musical notation for C Major on one string in 3/4 time. The treble clef staff shows three measures: iii (fret 3), viii (fret 8), and xiv (fret 14). Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1, 2, 4, 1, 2, 4, 1, 2. The guitar staff shows fret positions 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 14, 15.

### C Major (in thirds)

One of the great things about the guitar is that unlike saxophones, trumpets, flutes and the human voice for example, we can play more than one note at the same time. The scale below is built by playing the C major scale, but with a note that is 3 notes above it at the same time.

In music we include the notes that we start and finish on when counting intervals. So we start with C and count C, D, E, - E is the third note above C so we play C and E together. The next step in the scale is D so we count D, E, F - and play D and F together. This goes on for the whole scale and sounds very cool.

This approach can be used for other scales too (eg the Minor scale).

Musical notation for C Major in thirds in 4/4 time. The treble clef staff shows four measures of dyads. The guitar staff shows fret positions for the lower note (2, 3, 5, 7, 8, 10, 12, 14) and the upper note (3, 5, 7, 10, 12, 14, 15).

Bare in mind, that on the guitar, there are often multiple ways of doing the same thing, as seen by the various different ways we have looked at the C major scale (there are even more ways to play the same scale, but we will keep it relatively simple for now!).

On the next page are two more ways of playing the C Major scale in Thirds.

Experiment and find which ways work best for you.

Personally I use my 1st & 3rd finger on my left hand to play these types of harmony up and down the same two strings (as in the exercise above), spreading or bringing them together as the intervals require. But for the next exercise- crossing strings, I use various fingers. Experiment yourself and try to find the smoothest and most efficient way to play!

### C Major in thirds (crossing strings)

7

T  
A  
B

	2	3	5	2	4	5	3
	3	5	7	3	5	7	4
							5

### C Major in thirds (High strings)

10

T  
A  
B

	0	1	3	5	7	8	10
	1	3	5	6	8	10	12
							13