

Quintuplet traditional rasgueados

Another rhythmic subdivision widely used in the medium tempo flamenco forms is the 5-notes-per-beat or quintuplet rasgueado. There are situations when the tempo is too slow to make triplets or 16th notes effective, but too fast to allow sextuplets or 32nd notes, and in these cases the quintuplet rasgueados are used.

[The emall rasgueado:

This is a variation of the basic rasgueado pattern, adding one index upstroke at the end of the pattern.

Movement description: This is played usually as a stream of continuous quintuplets. Out of each group of five notes the little finger plays the 1st, the ring finger plays the 2nd , the middle finger plays the 3rd , the index finger plays the 4th, and the index finger plays again, but with an upstroke this time, the 5th note. Hand position is the same as in the basic rasgueado.

Here's a 2-beat example played on a static E major chord:

[The team team team rasgueado]

This is a sextuplet rasgueado.

Movement description: The hand position is the same as the basic rasgueados. The thumb rests lightly on the 6th string. All other RHM fingers are loosely curled in the palm in a very relaxed way. The index finger is flicked out, then the little finger, followed by the ring, the middle and finally, the index finger. Repeat twice. Therefore, we have:

The score consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Both staves show a repeating pattern of six vertical strokes. The top staff has fingerings above the strokes: i, m, r, l, m, i. The bottom staff shows the corresponding notes on the strings, with green dots indicating which strings to play. The pattern repeats for a total of twelve strokes.

Be very careful with the timing of this pattern, since now we are playing sextuplets and not 16th notes.

Here's an example where this pattern is used to end a musical phrase with a quick sextuplet, with a duration of 2 beats. This example is based on the form of the Farucca.

The musical score consists of two staves. The top staff is for the treble clef guitar, and the bottom staff is for the bass clef guitar. Both staves are in common time (C). The top staff starts with a downstroke (D) and ends with an upstroke (U). The bottom staff starts with an upstroke (U) and ends with a downstroke (D). The patterns are identical except for the stroke direction. The score ends with a measure of sixteenth notes followed by a repeat sign.