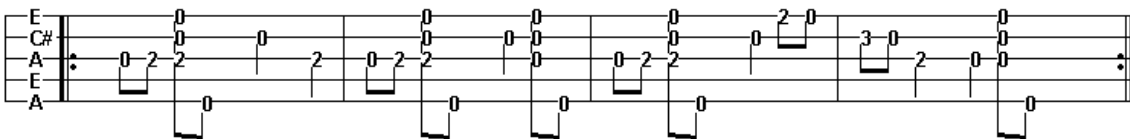
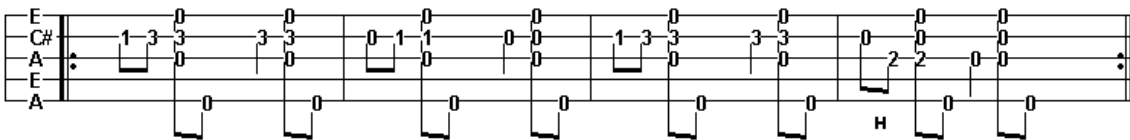
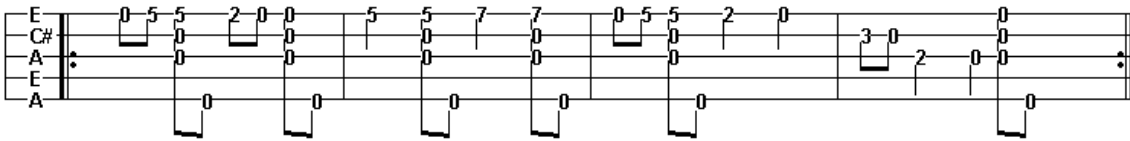


Old Time Banjo / Frailing Lesson #5

More Frailing Tunes: By now you really know about all there is to know to "frail" the banjo. Congratulations! Here is a collection of some of my favorite old time banjo and fiddle tunes to help round out your playing experience, and learn a few other tricks as well.

A. John Brown's Dream

There are three parts to this simple but very compelling traditional tune in the Open A tuning (Open G tuning capoed at the 2nd fret). Play each part twice. In the second part pay attention to the last measure where you actually hammer-on to a string that had not been just previously played (third string, 2nd fret). Note the letter "H" beneath it indicating the hammer on. To do this you must use a bit more force than you typically would to sound the note since the note will not be previously vibrating!



B. June Apple

Probably my all time favorite banjo piece. When I've forgotten all other tunes I know I will always remember this one. Most apples I know of ripen in the Fall, so this must be a very special one. Also in Open A tuning (Open G tuning capoed at the 2nd fret).

The image displays four systems of banjo tablature for the piece "June Apple". Each system consists of five staves representing the strings: E (top), C#, A, E, and A (bottom). The first system shows the initial measures with various fret numbers (5, 0, 2, 3) and rhythmic patterns. The second system continues the piece, including a double bar line and ending with a repeat sign. The third and fourth systems provide alternative or more detailed versions of the same musical lines, with different fretting and rhythmic notations.

Wished I was a June Apple, just hang'in on a tree
Every time my true love passed, she'd take a little bite of me.

Peaches in the summer time, apples in the fall
If I don't get the one I love, won't have none at all.

C. Cripple Creek

This tune needs no introduction; everyone knows it. Here we play it in the Open G tuning. Play each part two times. In the second part note the "sl" indicating the slide. Also, in the last measure of the second part note the "H" indicating a hammer-on for two notes at the *same* time, creating an E minor chord.

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the tune 'C. Cripple Creek' in Open G tuning. The first staff contains the first part of the tune, and the second staff contains the second part. The notation includes fret numbers (0, 1, 2, 4, 5) and specific techniques like 'sl.' (slide) and 'H' (hammer-on). The strings are labeled D, B, G, D, G from top to bottom.



D. Buffalo Gals

Here's the full fledged version of this fine traditional tune. Won't you come out tonight? Also in the Open G tuning. Again, in the next to last measure of each part we have a hammer-on to two notes at the same time, this time forming a D7 chord.

