



Giotàr Adhartach | Advanced Guitar

Lesson 1: Advanced Reel Techniques (Part 2) - Triplets

Lesson 2

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Introduction to Triplets

The musical score for guitar is divided into two main sections. The first section contains two measures of straight quavers, each marked with a 'V' above the notes. The second section contains two measures of quavers and triplets, also marked with a 'V' above the notes. The guitar part is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The tablature part consists of two staves, labeled 'T' and 'B', with fret numbers 0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0 for the first two measures and 0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0 for the next two measures.

Anns an leasan seo, bidh sibh ag ionnsachadh mu trì-rinn!

In this lesson, you will learn about **triplets** and how they are used in a reel. A triplet is a type of **rhythmic ornament** that is often found in **reels, Strathspeys, and jigs**. You can find out more about ornaments and what they are used for in **lesson 3 in the intermediate block**.

There are two main types of triplets: **rhythmic triplets**, and **melodic triplets**. This lesson will focus on rhythmic triplets. A rhythmic triplet is when there are **three of the same note** one after another, and it can be used to add extra rhythm into a tune. Triplets are quick-sounding ornaments, and you can play them using a **down, up, down** picking pattern with the plectrum.

On this page, you can see some triplet examples compared to a regular bar of quavers.

Ruidhle Mo Nighean Donn

Traditional
Arr. C.R. McIlroy

A Part

Gtr.

T
A
B

Gtr.

1. 2.

T
A
B

Now you can have a go at "Ruidhle Mo Nighean Donn" with the triplets added in. They are marked with a * symbol.

B Part *

Gtr.

T
A
B

2 0-0-0-0 2 0-4 4-2 4-2-0-2-4 4 2 0-0-0-0 2 0-4 4-2-4 2-4-4 3

*

1. 2.

Gtr.

T
A
B

2 0-0-0-0 2 0-4 4-2 4-2-0-2-4 2 3-2-3 4-2 4 4-2-4 2-4-4 4-2-4 2-4-4 2