

Bruddah John

Fingerpicking Exercise

Taro Patch

Traditional

The musical score is divided into three systems:

- System 1 (Measures 1-3):** Shows a steady alternating bass pattern (T, A, B, T, A, B) with melody notes on the treble staff. The bass notes are on the same beats as the melody notes.
- System 2 (Measures 4-6):** The bass pattern continues, but the thumb (T) now plays melody notes between the strokes of the index (A) and middle (B) fingers.
- System 3 (Measures 7-8):** The bass pattern continues, with a variation in the thumb's role. Measure 8 ends with a 'Pau' (Pauze) marking.

In measures 1 and 2, the bass and melody notes fall on the same beats. Try alternating fingers for the melody. In the next two measures, notice that the final beat is played by the thumb alone.

Measures 5 and 6 introduce melody notes played between the thumb strokes. Finally, the last measure: introduce a variation of the thumb pattern.

Practice *Bruddah John* until you can maintain a steady alternating bass throughout the piece.