



3 EASY PIECES FOR CLASSICAL GUITAR + EASY NOTATION

Sor Study Op 60 No 1

Sor Study Op 60 No 2 (Extract)

Sor Study Op 31 No 1 (Extract)

Learn **basic sight reading skills** and connect notes on the page to notes on the guitar. The pieces are studies by the great Fernando Sor from the 18th century which are still played today. The fingering suggestions are by us folks at NylonPlucks.com.

Learning Guitar Notation: Basics

Nylon Plucks

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 3/4 time. The first staff contains notes for the 3rd, 2nd, and 1st strings. The 3rd string has notes G (0), A (2). The 2nd string has notes B (0), C (1), D (3). The 1st string has notes E (0), F (1), G (3). The second staff contains notes for the 6th, 5th, and 4th strings. The 6th string has notes E (0), F (1), G (3). The 5th string has notes A (0), B (0), C (0). The 4th string has notes D (0), E (0), F (1). A large watermark of a guitar headstock and the text 'NYLON PLUCKS' is visible in the background.

Some common notes for the beginner to memorize. These are notes on the first three frets of the guitar.

The numbers on top of the staff lines represent **left hand fingers** to use:

0 - Open string, no finger of the left hand used

1 - Index finger (usually on the first fret)

2 - Middle finger (usually on the second fret)

3 - Ring finger (usually on the third fret)

4 - Pinky finger (usually on the fourth fret)

In actual pieces that follow, the string to use for any given note is marked below the staff lines with numbers 1 to 6 inside a circle: 1 for first string, 2 for second string and so on.

Op 60 No. 1

Sor Study Arranged By Nylon Plucks

Fernando Sor

1 0 0 1 0 0 1 3 0 3 1 0 3 0
② ③ ② ③ ② ① ② ③ ① ② ③

5 1 0 0 1 0 3 0 2 1 0 3 4 0 0 3
② ③ ② ① ② ③ ② ④ ① ② ③ ④ ② ③ ④ ⑥

9 3 0 0 3 1 0 3 1 0 0 1 0 3 0 0 3
① ③ ① ③ ② ① ③ ② ① ③ ② ① ② ③ ④

13 2 0 1 2 3 2 0 3 2 0 3 2 3 0 3
③ ② ④ ③ ④ ③ ④ ③ ⑥ ⑤ ③ ① ② ③ ⑤

This study focuses on single note playing except for an occasional chord. It familiarizes the student with notes on the top 3 strings of the guitar and the notes they represent. Learning this is a good foundation for developing sight reading skills. Doesn't get easier!

Remember the numbers inside a circle are the string numbers (1 to 6) and the top numbers identify fingers of the left hand (1 to 4).

Op 60 No 2

Sor Study Extract Arranged by Nylon Plucks

Fernando Sor

The musical score is presented in four staves, each starting with a measure number (8, 5, 9, 13) and containing eighth notes with fingerings indicated by circled numbers 1, 2, 3, and 0. The time signature is 3/4. A large watermark for 'NYLON PLUCKS' is visible in the background.

The main feature of this piece by Spanish composer Fernando Sor is it is in 3/4 time - 3 beats to the measure. All the notes are mainly in the top 3 strings and the student gets further grounding on reading notes off the page. The study also introduces faster eighth notes, which are played two to a beat.

Op 31 No 1

Sor Study Excerpt Arranged by Nylon Plucks

Fernando Sor

The musical score is presented in four systems, each with two staves. The first staff (measures 1-4) shows a melody in the upper staff and accompaniment in the lower staff. The second staff (measures 5-8) continues the piece. The third staff (measures 9-12) includes a key signature change to one sharp (F#) in measure 11. The fourth staff (measures 13-16) concludes the excerpt. Circled numbers 1-5 indicate fingerings for both melody and bass notes.

This is one of Sor's simple and elegant studies for the student. The music is in two lines (and a third line of accompaniment briefly). The study is more challenging because you have to read two lines of music simultaneously. But it will be rewarding for the ambitious beginner.

Because the music is in two lines, for easy readability, circled numbers relating to the melody notes are shown above the staff lines. Those relating to the bass notes are shown below.

Nahayan Kumah