Chapter 1: The E Position

This chapter provides exercises aimed at honing the accurate placement of your thumb on E (on the G-string), the first finger on F# and the second finger on G (as well as the parallel notes on the D-string). This is the E Position target hand.

The E Position Target Hand



This target position is a very natural one for the hand, with a whole step between thumb and first finger, and a half-step between first and second fingers. Of course by changing the shape of the hand you can play other notes without actually shifting:



However, consider The E Position Hand shown in the first example to be the anchor or the target from which you can play these other notes.

With all exercises and etudes, always begin slowly. *Practice makes permanent*, so begin with the tempo that allows you to play it correctly, then increase the tempo from there. Repeat as needed.

Exercise 1



^{*}As a reminder: this squiggly line indicates ROLLING the hand, which you may need to do. See the "Getting Started" section, p. ix