

Picking Patterns for Ukulele

Simple Picking (using right-hand Thumb and fingers 1, 2, 3)

Count: 1 2 3 4, 1 2 3 4

A diagram of a four-string ukulele (A, E, C, G) showing a simple picking pattern. The strings are labeled on the left. The pattern consists of two measures. In the first measure, the thumb (T) picks the G string (black dot), finger 1 picks the C string (white dot), finger 2 picks the E string (white dot), and finger 3 picks the A string (white dot). In the second measure, the thumb (T) picks the G string (black dot), finger 1 picks the C string (white dot), finger 2 picks the E string (white dot), and finger 3 picks the A string (white dot). Below the diagram, the sequence of right-hand fingers is listed as T 1 2 3 T 1 2 3.

T 1 2 3 T 1 2 3 : Right-Hand Fingers

Double Picking (two strings picked at once)

Count: 1 2 3, 1 2 3, 1 2

A diagram of a four-string ukulele (A, E, C, G) showing a double picking pattern. The strings are labeled on the left. The pattern consists of three measures. In the first measure, the thumb (T) picks the G string (black dot), finger 2 picks the C string (white dot), and finger 3 picks the A string (white dot). In the second measure, the thumb (T) picks the G string (black dot), finger 2 picks the C string (white dot), and finger 3 picks the A string (white dot). In the third measure, the thumb (T) picks the G string (black dot), finger 1 picks the C string (white dot), and finger 2 picks the E string (white dot). Dotted arrows indicate the simultaneous picking of the G and C strings in the first two measures, and the G and E strings in the third measure. Below the diagram, the sequence of right-hand fingers is listed as 3 2 1 3 2 1 3 2.

3 2 1 3 2 1 3 2 : Right-Hand Fingers

T

Double Picking (alternative)

Count: 1 2 3, 1 2 3, 1 2

A diagram of a four-string ukulele (A, E, C, G) showing an alternative double picking pattern. The strings are labeled on the left. The pattern consists of three measures. In the first measure, the thumb (T) picks the G string (black dot), finger 1 picks the C string (white dot), and finger 2 picks the E string (white dot). In the second measure, the thumb (T) picks the G string (black dot), finger 1 picks the C string (white dot), and finger 2 picks the E string (white dot). In the third measure, the thumb (T) picks the G string (black dot), finger 3 picks the C string (white dot), and finger 1 picks the E string (white dot). Dotted arrows indicate the simultaneous picking of the G and C strings in the first two measures, and the G and E strings in the third measure. Below the diagram, the sequence of right-hand fingers is listed as 3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1.

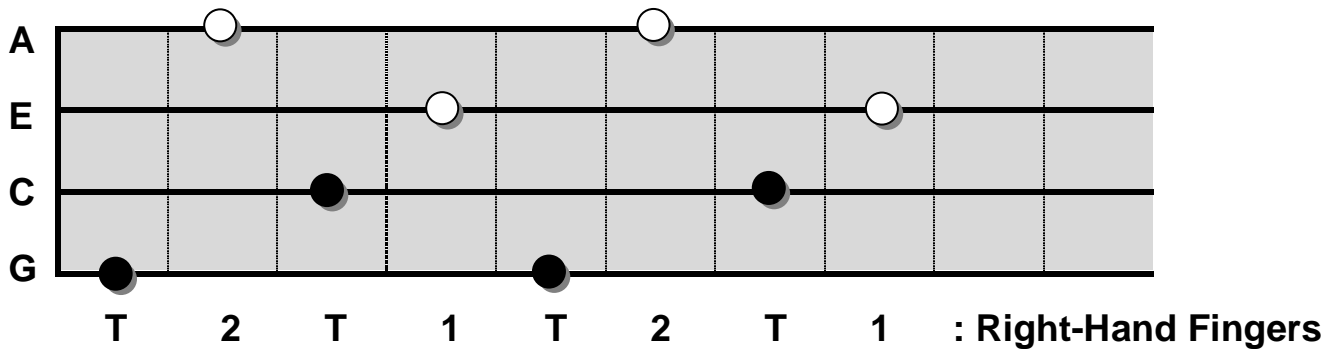
3 1 2 3 1 2 3 1 : Right-Hand Fingers

T

Travis Picking (using alternating thumb)

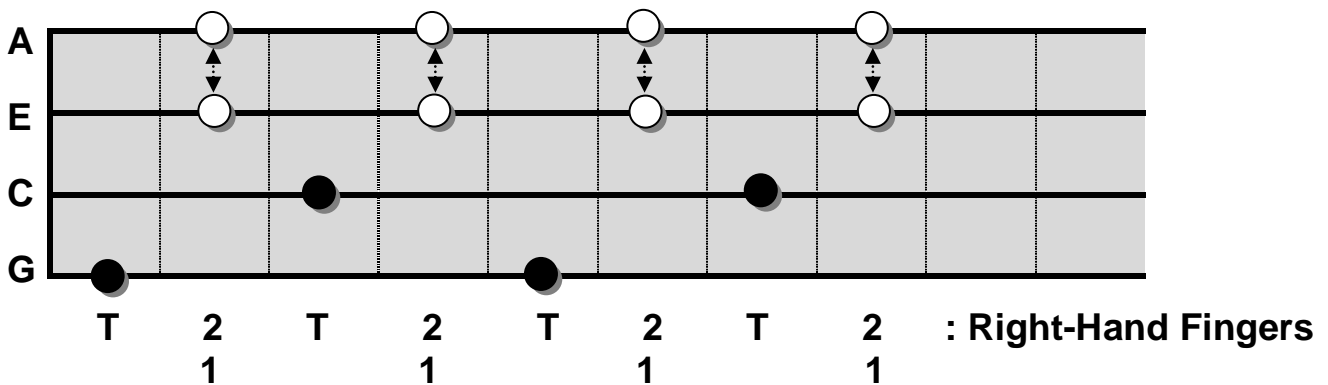
Uses right-hand Thumb and fingers 1 and 2 only (not 3)

Count: 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & (outer strings, then inner strings)



Travis Picking Alternative 1 (alternating thumb with double picking)

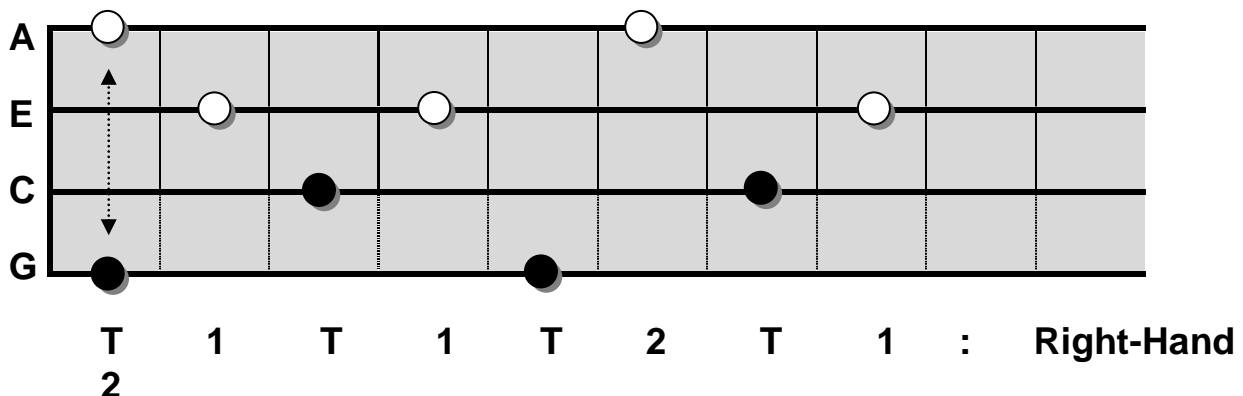
Count: 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &



(Note: Instead of double-picking the A and E strings, you could strum them, up-down, with the index finger)

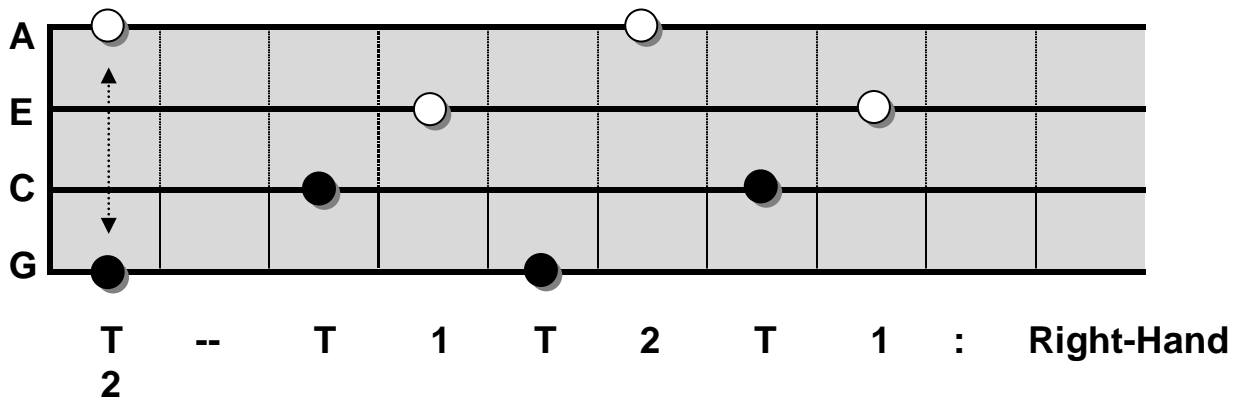
Travis Picking Alternative 2 (double-pick first)

Count: 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &



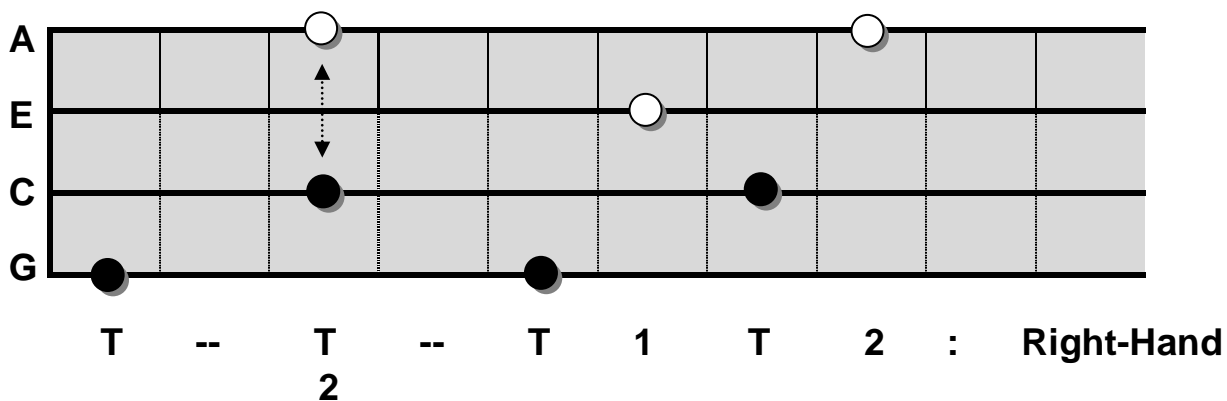
Travis Picking Alternative 3 (Hold first pick for twice as long)

Count: 1 (&) 2 & 3 & 4 &



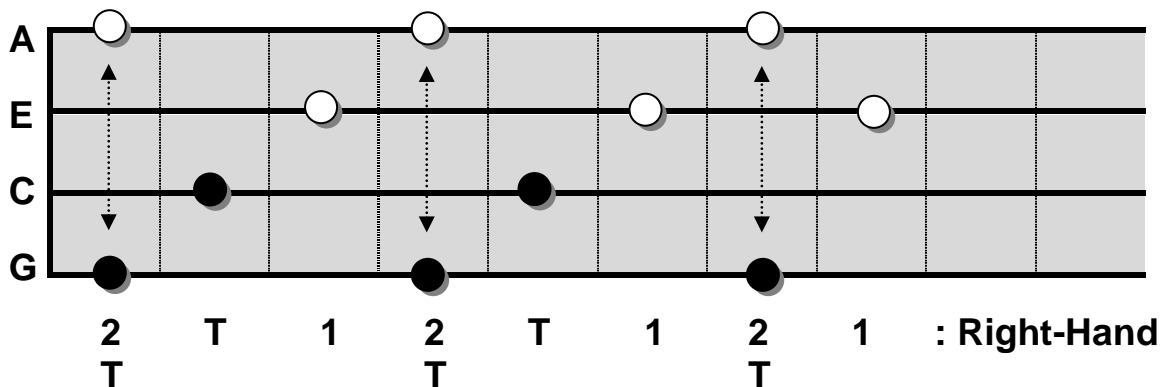
Travis Picking Alternative 4 (Hold first and second picks for twice as long)

Count: 1 (&) 2 (&) 3 & 4 &



Travis Picking Alternative 5

Count: 1 2 3, 1 2 3, 1 2

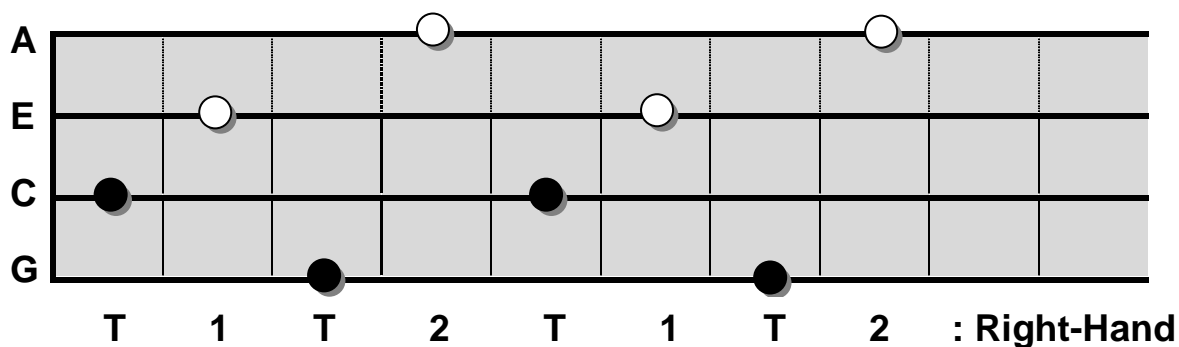


(Note: The second and third 'double-picks' could also be done as single picks)

Travis Picking Alternative 6 (simple variation on the first Travis)

Use right-hand Thumb and fingers 1 and 2 only (not 3)

Count: 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & (inner strings, then outer strings)



Travis Picking Alternative 7

Count: 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & (double-picking on 2 and 4)

