



# Cripple Creek

- “Cripple Creek” is a bluegrass standard and typically one of the first songs every banjo player learns. Even though the main theme is easy enough for beginners, playing through the entire song at a high tempo is a challenge for an intermediate to advanced player.
- This song contains all the hallmarks of a classic bluegrass song: blazing licks in G, an “up the neck” backup section, and that quintessential banjo ending.
- I have broken the song up into short exercises to make practicing more manageable. Once you’re able to play through each exercise comfortably, you’ll be prepared to tackle the entire song!
- At the end of the lesson video I demonstrate the entire song played at a moderate tempo. Start here and gradually increase the tempo until you reach the song tempo.

1

t i t m t i t m t i t m t i t m t i t m t i m t i m

# Cripple Creek Exercises

2

0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

*t i m t m m t t i t m t i t m*

0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

*t i m t i m t m t t i t m t i t m*

0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

*t i m t i m t*

3

0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

*t i m t i t i m t i m t i t m t i m t i t m t i t m t m t*

4

0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

*t i m t i t i m t i m t i t m t i t i m i t m t i t m t*

# Cripple Creek Exercises

5

2 5 5 3 4 9 7 10 8 9 12 12 9 5 5 8 8 7

*t m i t m i t m i t m i t t i t i t i*

0 0 0 0 5 5 8 8 7 10 8 9 12 9 0 0 2 3 0 2 0

*t m t m t m t t i t i t i t m i t m t i m i t m*

0 0 4 0

*t i t m t*

6

2 5 5 3 4 9 7 10 8 9 12 12 9 5 5 8 8 7 0

*t m i t m i t m i t m i t t i t i t i m*

0 0 0 0 5 8 8 0 9 10 8 9 12 9 0 0 2 3 0 2 0

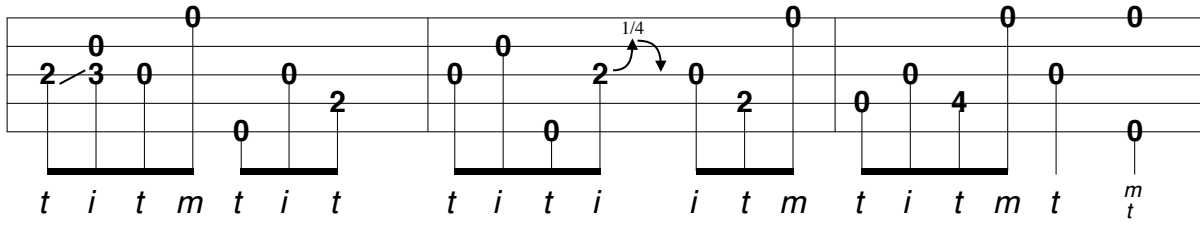
*t m t m t m t i t i t i m t m m i t m t i m i t m*

0 0 4 0

*t i t m t*

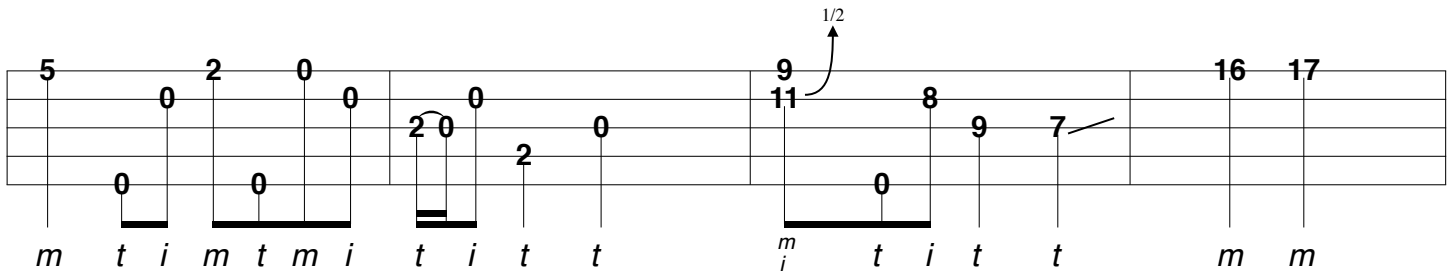
# Cripple Creek Exercises

7



Musical notation for exercise 7, consisting of three measures on a six-line staff. The notes are: Measure 1: 2, 3, 0, 0, 0, 2; Measure 2: 0, 0, 2, 0, 2, 0; Measure 3: 0, 0, 4, 0, 0, 0. A slur covers the first three notes of each measure. A 1/4 note slur is above the second measure's notes. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 2, 3, 0, 2, 0, 2, 0, 2, 0, 4, 0, 0. The lyrics below are: t i t m t i t t i t i i t m t i t m t m

8



Musical notation for exercise 8, consisting of three measures on a six-line staff. The notes are: Measure 1: 5, 0, 2, 0, 0, 0; Measure 2: 2, 0, 0, 2, 0, 0; Measure 3: 9, 11, 8, 9, 7, 16, 17. A slur covers the first three notes of each measure. A 1/2 note slur is above the first two notes of the third measure. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 5, 2, 0, 2, 0, 0, 2, 0, 9, 11, 8, 9, 7, 16, 17. The lyrics below are: m t i m t m i t i t t m i t i t t m m