

Lesson Thirteen : G major and other Tunings

G Major

We have been tuning and playing the guzheng on **D major pentatonic** since the beginning of the book. We can also play in other scales by adjusting the tuning of the guzheng. Please refer to the introduction to see some other possible tunings.

One other common played scale is the G major pentatonic. Changing the tuning of the guzheng from **D** to **G**, we need to tighten the tension of 4 strings. String #4, #9, #14, and #19.

These are the strings that are tuned in **F[#]** originally. Now we want to tune them into **G**. In order to do so, we can move the bridge slightly to the right to increase half a key, or we can tighten the string using the tuning wrench to increase the pitch.

So, now we have a new scale :

G major Pentatonic Scale

5 6 1 2 3 5 6 1 2 3 5 6 1 2 3 5
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·

Notice that the **1 2 3 5 6** are all in different places. The **1** string is now a **5**, the **2** is now a **6**, the **3** is now a **1**, the **5** is now a **2**, and the **6** is now a **3**. Pluck through a few times to get familiar with the new scale.

(29) Fisherman Song of Wusuli 烏蘇里船歌

1=G 2/4

$\text{♩} = 72$

Chinese Folk Song

5_{///} 1̣ 3̣ 2̣ | 1̣2̣3̣ 6̣ 5̣ | 6̣ 6̣5̣ 5̣3̣2̣3̣ | 5_{///} - | 5̣ 6̣ 3̣ 5̣ |

1̣ 2̣ 6̣ 5̣ | ¹1̣ 3̣ 5̣ 6̣ | 5_{///} - | 1̣ 1̣ 5̣ 6̣ | 1_{///} 2̣3̣ |

6̣ 6̣5̣ 1̣2̣5̣ | 3_{///} - | 5̣ 6̣ 3̣ 5̣ | 1̣ 2̣ 6̣ 5̣ | 1̣ 3̣ 5̣ 6̣ |

1_{///} 2̣3̣ | 5_{///} 6̣ 5̣3̣2̣ | 5_{///} - | 5̣5̣5̣3̣ ³3̣ 2̣ 1̣ | 1_{///} - ||

(30) Moon Over West River 西江月

1=G 2/4

♩ = 54

Chaozhou Classics

Lin Ling Performing Score

$\underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{\times}2}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{2}}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{6}1}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{2}235}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{2}2}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{6}6}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{6}5}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{2}34}} \mid \overset{\sim}{3} \overset{\sim}{3} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{\times}3}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{3}}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{6}}}$

mf

$\underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{1}123}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{1}1}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{7}\times}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{6}1}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{2}2}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{6}6}} \mid \overset{\sim}{5} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{5}61}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{5}5}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{3}5}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{2}2}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{6}1}}$

mp

$\underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{5}5}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{\times}45}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{3}3}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{5}}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{3}536}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{5}635}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{2}2}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{\times}22}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{2}3}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{5}54}}$

$\underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{3}3}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{3}2}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{1}1}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{5}536}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{5}5}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{1}161}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{5}535}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{2}2}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{6}6}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{6}5}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{3}3}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{3}2}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{1}161}}$

$\underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{2}2}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{\times}6661}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{5}556}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{4}545}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{3}335}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{2}223}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{1}112}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{7}272}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{6}661}}$

♩ = 72

$\underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{5}5}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{5}5}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{5}}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{\times}762}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{7}6}} \mid \overset{\sim}{5} \overset{\sim}{5} \parallel \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{\times}2}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{2}}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{6}1}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{2}2}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{3}5}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{6}6}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{2}5}}$

mf

$\underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{3}3}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{1}2}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{3}3}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{6}2}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{1}1}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{5}6}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{7}2}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{6}1}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{5}5}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{6}1}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{5}5}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{3}5}}$

f

$\underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{2}2}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{6}1}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{5}5}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{4}5}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{3}3}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{5}}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{3}536}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{5}635}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{2}2}} \mid \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{2}2}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{2}3}} \underline{\underline{\overset{\sim}{5}54}}$

3̣3̣ 3̣2̣ | 1̣ 1̣ | 5̣5̣3̣6̣ 5̣ 5̣ | 1̣1̣6̣1̣ 5̣5̣3̣5̣ | 2̣ 2̣ 6̣6̣ 6̣5̣ | 3̣2̣3̣5̣ 1̣2̣1̣3̣ |

2̣ 2̣ | 6̣ 6̣ 05̣5̣ | 4̣ 4̣ 03̣3̣ | 2̣ 2̣ 01̣1̣ | 7̣ 7̣ 06̣6̣ | 5̣ 5̣ 0 7̣ |

♩ = 84

6̣6̣ 6̣2̣ | 7̣2̣6̣1̣ | 5̣ 5̣ 5̣ || 2̣2̣2̣2̣ 2̣2̣6̣1̣ | 2̣2̣3̣5̣ 2̣2̣2̣2̣ | 6̣6̣6̣5̣ 2̣2̣2̣4̣ |

mf

3̣3̣3̣3̣ 3̣3̣3̣3̣ | 3̣3̣3̣3̣ 3̣3̣3̣6̣ | 1̣1̣2̣3̣ 1̣1̣1̣1̣ | 7̣1̣7̣1̣ 7̣1̣7̣6̣ | 5̣5̣5̣5̣ 5̣5̣6̣1̣ |

5̣5̣5̣5̣ 5̣5̣3̣5̣ | 2̣2̣2̣2̣ 2̣2̣6̣1̣ | 5̣5̣5̣5̣ 5̣5̣4̣5̣ | 3̣3̣3̣3̣ 3̣3̣3̣5̣ | 3̣3̣3̣6̣ 5̣5̣3̣5̣ |

f

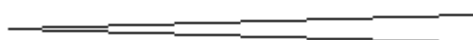
2̣2̣2̣2̣ 2̣2̣2̣2̣ | 2̣2̣2̣3̣ 5̣5̣5̣4̣ | 3̣3̣3̣2̣ 1̣1̣1̣1̣ | 5̣5̣3̣6̣ 5̣5̣5̣5̣ | 1̣1̣6̣1̣ 5̣5̣3̣5̣ |

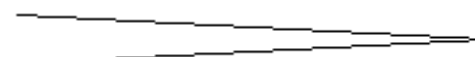
2̣2̣2̣3̣ 6̣6̣6̣5̣ | 3̣3̣3̣5̣ 1̣1̣1̣3̣ | 2̣2̣2̣2̣ 2̣2̣2̣2̣ | 6̣6̣6̣1̣ 5̣5̣5̣6̣ | 4̣5̣4̣5̣ 3̣3̣3̣5̣ |

f
rit

2̣2̣2̣3̣ 1̣1̣1̣1̣ | 7̣1̣7̣1̣ 6̣6̣6̣6̣ | 5̣ 5̣ 5̣ | 7̣6̣2̣ 7̣ 6̣ | 5̣ - ||

This song is a Chaozhou classic, where 4 is slightly higher than a regular 4, and 7 is slightly lower than a regular 7.

 volume from soft to loud

 volume from loud to soft

Other Tuning

Besides G-major, we can also tune to other pentatonic scale. Common ones are F-major, C-major, and A-major. Please refer to the introduction for these major scales.

Other than that, we can also tune guzheng in different tunings by changing the tension of the strings.

For this song “Auld Lang Syne”:

1. Move the bridge (or tighten the string) of string #12 to the right to raise the pitch to C#, or 7 in the D-major scale.
2. Move the bridge (or tighten the string) of string #19 to the right to raise the pitch to G, or 4 in the D-major scale.

The new scale is :

1 2 4 5 6 1 2 3 5 7 1 2 3 5 6 1̇ 2̇ 3̇ 5̇ 6̇ 1̇
 : : : : : · · · · ·

(31) Auld Lang Syne

1=D 4/4

Scottish Folk Song

♩ = 72

5	1̇ ·	7̇ 1̇	3̇	2̇ ·	1̇ 2̇	3̇ 2̇	1̇ ·	1̇ 3̇	5̇	6̇ -	-	6̇
	15	1	0	0	52	7	0	0	15	1	0	0
	15	1	0	0	52	7	0	0	15	1	0	0

5̇ ·	3̇ 3̇	1̇	2̇ ·	1̇ 2̇	3̇ 2̇	1̇ ·	6̇ 6̇	5̇	1̇ -	-	6̇	
	15	1	0	0	52	7	0	0	63	1	0	0
	15	1	0	0	52	7	0	0	63	1	0	0

$\overset{\frown}{5} \cdot \overset{\frown}{3} \overset{\frown}{3} \overset{\frown}{1}$	$\overset{\frown}{2} \cdot \overset{\frown}{1} \overset{\frown}{2} \overset{\frown}{6}$	$\overset{\frown}{5} \cdot \overset{\frown}{3} \overset{\frown}{3} \overset{\frown}{5}$	$\overset{\frown}{6} - - \overset{\frown}{1}$
$\overset{\frown}{15} \overset{\frown}{1} \overset{\frown}{0} \overset{\frown}{0}$	$\overset{\frown}{52} \overset{\frown}{7} \overset{\frown}{0} \overset{\frown}{0}$	$\overset{\frown}{15} \overset{\frown}{1} \overset{\frown}{0} \overset{\frown}{0}$	$\overset{\frown}{46} \overset{\frown}{14} \overset{\frown}{6} \overset{\frown}{0}$

$\overset{\frown}{5} \cdot \overset{\frown}{3} \overset{\frown}{3} \overset{\frown}{1}$	$\overset{\frown}{2} \cdot \overset{\frown}{1} \overset{\frown}{2} \overset{\frown}{32}$	$\overset{\frown}{1} \cdot \overset{\frown}{6} \overset{\frown}{6} \overset{\frown}{5}$	$\overset{\frown}{1} - - \overset{\frown}{6}$
$\overset{\frown}{15} \overset{\frown}{1} \overset{\frown}{0} \overset{\frown}{0}$	$\overset{\frown}{52} \overset{\frown}{7} \overset{\frown}{0} \overset{\frown}{0}$	$\overset{\frown}{63} \overset{\frown}{1} \overset{\frown}{0} \overset{\frown}{0}$	$\overset{\frown}{15} \overset{\frown}{13} \overset{\frown}{5} \overset{\frown}{0}$

$\overset{\frown}{5} \cdot \overset{\frown}{3} \overset{\frown}{3} \overset{\frown}{1}$	$\overset{\frown}{2} \cdot \overset{\frown}{1} \overset{\frown}{2} \overset{\frown}{6}$	$\overset{\frown}{5} \cdot \overset{\frown}{3} \overset{\frown}{3} \overset{\frown}{5}$	$\overset{\frown}{6} - - \overset{\frown}{1}$
$\overset{\frown}{15} \overset{\frown}{1} \overset{\frown}{0} \overset{\frown}{0}$	$\overset{\frown}{52} \overset{\frown}{7} \overset{\frown}{0} \overset{\frown}{0}$	$\overset{\frown}{15} \overset{\frown}{1} \overset{\frown}{0} \overset{\frown}{0}$	$\overset{\frown}{46} \overset{\frown}{14} \overset{\frown}{6} \overset{\frown}{0}$

$\overset{\frown}{5} \cdot \overset{\frown}{3} \overset{\frown}{3} \overset{\frown}{1}$	$\overset{\frown}{2} \cdot \overset{\frown}{1} \overset{\frown}{2} \overset{\frown}{32}$	$\overset{\frown}{1} \cdot \overset{\frown}{6} \overset{\frown}{6} \overset{\frown}{5}$	$\overset{\frown}{1} - - -$
$\overset{\frown}{15} \overset{\frown}{1} \overset{\frown}{0} \overset{\frown}{0}$	$\overset{\frown}{52} \overset{\frown}{7} \overset{\frown}{0} \overset{\frown}{0}$	$\overset{\frown}{63} \overset{\frown}{1} \overset{\frown}{0} \overset{\frown}{0}$	$\overset{\frown}{15} \overset{\frown}{13} \overset{\frown}{51} \overset{\frown}{31}$