

Walter Lupi

# Flatfinger

One Hand Band

New perspectives for your right hand!  
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Neue Perspektiven für die rechte Hand!

Gitarrenworkshops von **FINGERPRINT**



FP 8118

"In 1970 I started playing the electric guitar focusing on the rhythmic parts but after a few years I turned to the classical guitar, playing in this way for many years two different styles: strumming with the pick on the electric guitar and finger-style on the classic guitar. In my last Cds, "Zumiè" and "Sulle Corde dell' Anima" I began to play combining this two styles and the result is this technique I've called Flatfinger.

### **Well, what can we use it for?**

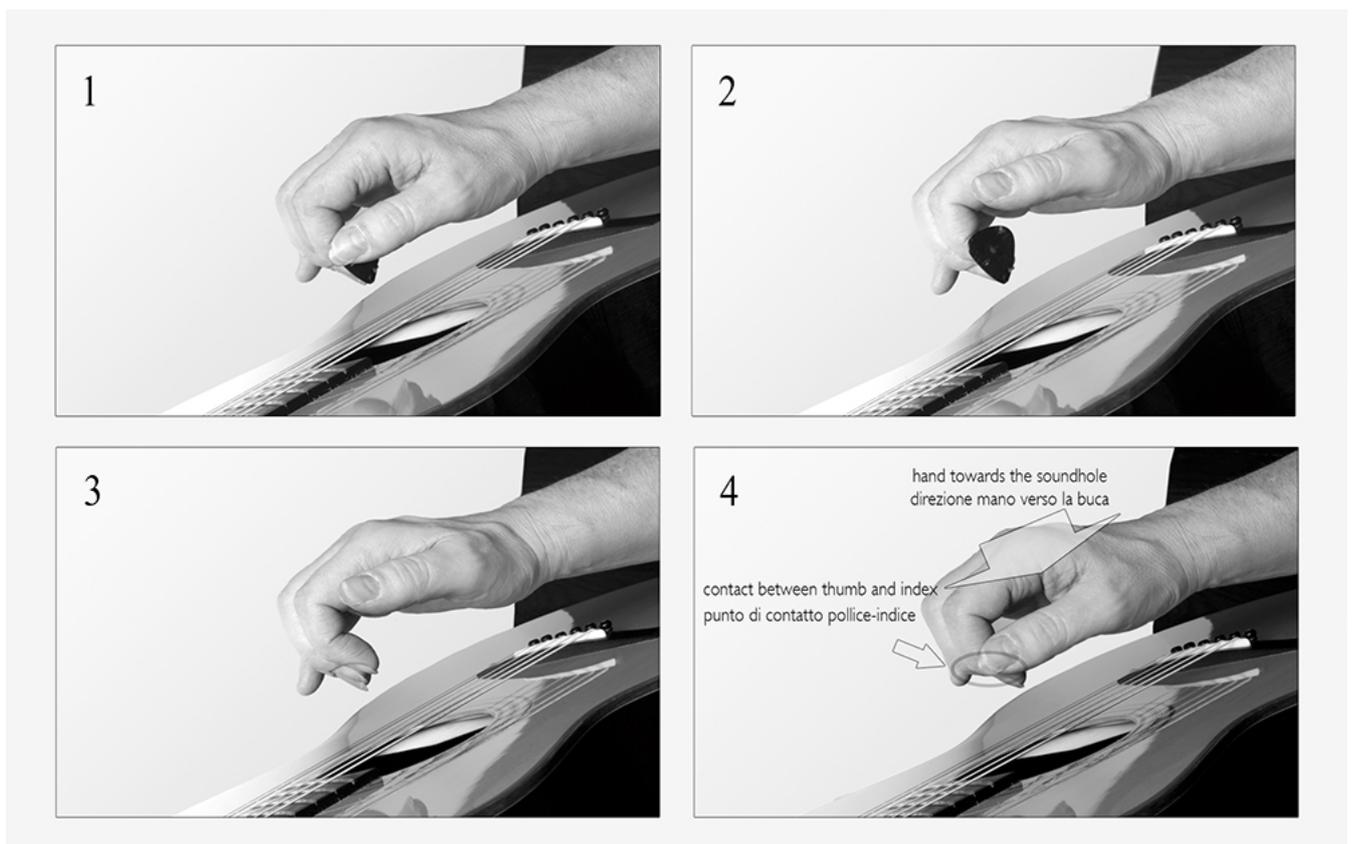
To strum, To play the melody and also improvise. All these aspects can be played together; it will depend on you!

### **So, what does Flatfinger mean?**

It means the use of the tip of your index finger instead of a pick; look at the picture 1)

### **How does it work?**

The main difference is that we also use the back of the nail to hit the strings on the down beat combined with the normal plucking on the up beat.



However, the biggest innovation of this technique, is the possibility with a guitar to "sing" the melody, almost like a human voice would, having at the same time a complete rhythmic and harmonic support; be able to exploit these 3 fundamental elements that compose a musical piece as one prefers, and play songs and compositions coming from completely different styles such as Pop, Country, Blue Grass, Reggae, R&B etc... using just one musical instrument. Needless to say, without this technique the final result would be barer and starker.

### What are the advantages of using this technique?

A good example is represented by my arrangement of the traditional Freight Train;

a song that I put as example at the end of the method. This example represents a significant increase in the rhythmic support to the voice of the theme, having in add a more complete and richer sound on way to play.

### Traditional picking, melody:

#### Freight's Train

♩ = 120

### Melody + Strumming:

♩ = 120

### Melody + strumming + percussion:

♩ = 120

## Flatfinger on the melody line:

Freight's Train

The image displays two musical examples of the flatfinger technique. The first example, titled "Freight's Train", shows a melody line in the treble clef with a flatfinger (indicated by a vertical bar) on the first string. The melody consists of eighth notes, and the bass line is a simple strummed pattern. The second example, titled "C. V 1/2", shows a similar melody line with a flatfinger on the first string. The bass line is more complex, featuring a mix of strumming and picking patterns. Both examples include guitar-specific notation such as fret numbers, string numbers, and picking directions (upbow 'u' and downbow 'd').

As you can see, with the Flatfinger you can give rhythm to the melody and percussion keeping unchanged bass, strumming and percussion.

## What do these examples show?

The Flatfinger is, in effect, a sound tool that you can use to combine as you want melody, (Picking) rhythm accompaniment, (strumming) and sometimes drum percussion on the bass, without losing your rhythmic feel...!

Now you have some basic elements that will help you to understand better what characterizes this technique.

To purchase the method: <http://www.acoustic-music.de/>

Walter Lupi  
[www.walterlupi.com](http://www.walterlupi.com)  
[info@walterlupi.com](mailto:info@walterlupi.com)  
Cell. 3389476014

