

Traditionally, artificial harmonics are shown as regular fretted notes of normal pitch along with the abbreviation "H. 8," "Har. 8ve," or "Harm 8ve." This indicates that the notes are to be sounded as harmonics, one octave higher than written. Often the notes are diamond shaped. For example:



Use right hand harmonic technique at the 15th fret (see the Appendix, page 187).

Combining Harmonics with Regular (non-harmonic) Notes*

When a harmonic is rapidly alternated in the same octave with a note that is not a harmonic, the ear tends to perceive all the notes as harmonics. This technique creates an illusion of a shower of rapidly flowing, harp-like tones. The beautiful sounds that can be produced with this relatively new approach should provide you with many new areas for tonal exploration.

You can hear some astonishing examples of this effect in the recordings of three great finger style guitarists: Lenny Breau, Ted Greene and Chet Atkins.

Here is how the effect works:

Before you read and play the following material, review Right Hand Harmonic Technique (page 187).

Using right hand harmonic technique on open strings over the 12th fret:

1. Play regular D on open ④ with your *a* or *c*† finger.
2. Play harmonic E on open E, touch ⑥ over the 12th fret with your *i* finger and sound the string with your thumb *p*.
Note: although the notation for E on ⑥ is in a lower octave, the sound of the harmonic E is in the same octave as the low D on ④. This is what helps create the desired effect.
3. Play regular G on open ③ with *a* or *c*.
4. Play harmonic A on ⑤ with *p*.
5. Play regular B on ② with *a* or *c*.
6. Play harmonic D on ④ with *p*.
7. Play regular E on ① with *a* or *c*.
8. Play harmonic G on ③ with *p*.
9. Play harmonic B on ② with *p*.

* See photo 6 on page 185.

† I prefer the fourth or pinky finger *c* rather than *a* for combining regular notes with artificial harmonics. It is easier and faster to use and gets a better sound.

*yes =
Lenny's clinic out here
I had the honor of
writing the instructions
page handout, & labeled
it 'HARP HARMONICS'*

*thanks... but I should be 1st since he discovered/invented
this technique!
And Lenny certainly
2nd... since I
got the inspiration
from Dohanic
Lenny's
telling
me to play
w/ Lenny's 2nd
(or 1st) album &
try again.*