

# Combining Harmonics with Regular (non-harmonic) Notes\*

yes:  
Lenny's clinic out here, I had the honor of writing the instructional page handout, and labeled it 'HARP HARMONICS'!

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:

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

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.

\* \* \* \* \*

[Ted's comments:]

Yes, for Lenny's clinic out here I had the honor of writing the instructional page handout, and labeled it "Harp-Harmonics" [See: [Harp-Harmonic Technique Part 1, 1977-02-03](#)]

Thanks...but he [Chet Atkins] should be 1st, since he discovered/invented this technique!  
And Lenny certainly 2nd, and since I got the inspiration from Domenic Troiano, telling me to stay with Lenny's 2nd (& 1st) album and try again.