

# Theory and Application



## Strumming 1

**STRUMMING** - the rhythmic brushing of strings - is an important part of playing the ukulele, but it can be difficult to get going with it if you've never done it.

These exercises are to help you develop your strumming skills. Do each exercise a few times, the idea being to build up momentum and establish steady rhythm.

**Exercise 1:** Start off just doing down strums, slightly emphasising the first of each group of four:

1            2            3            4            1            2            3            4

**Exercise 2:** Now alternate the down strums with up strums: *down-up-down-up*, etc:

1 and 2 and 3 and 4 and    1 and 2 and 3 and 4 and

**Exercise 3:** One group of four down strums, then one group of downs and ups, then repeat:

1            2            3            4            1 and 2 and 3 and 4 and

**Exercise 4:** Now we're mixing it up more, with a *down, up, down-up-down-up* pattern:

1            2            3 and 4 and    1            2            3 and 4 and

**Exercise 5:** Finally we're mixing it up a little more with a *down, down-up, down, down-up* pattern:

1            2 and 3            4 and    1            2 and 3            4 and