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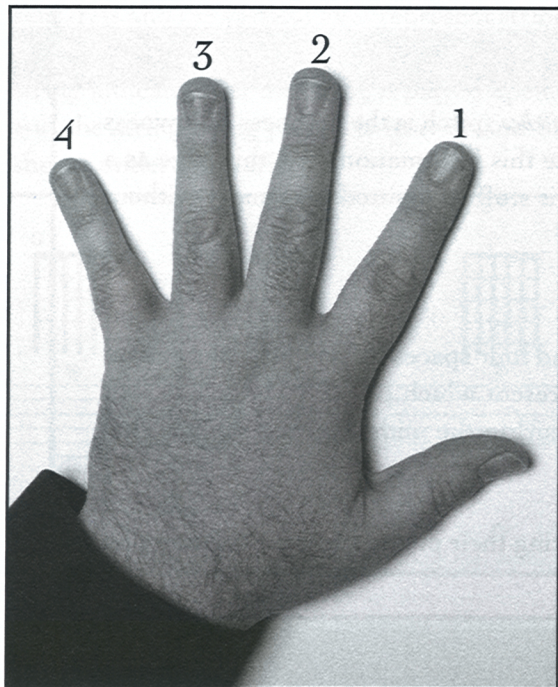
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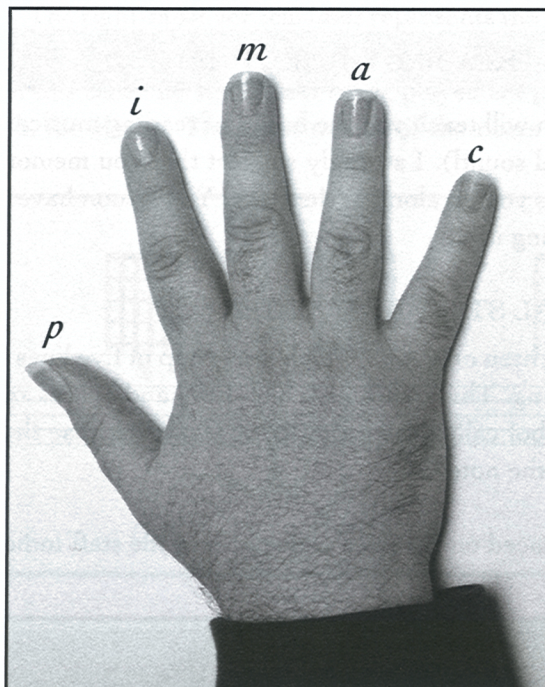
TRACK 1

A compact disc is included with this book. This disc can make learning with the book easier and more enjoyable. The symbol shown at the left appears next to every example that is on the CD. Use the CD to help ensure that you're capturing the feel of the examples, interpreting the rhythms correctly, and so on. The track number below the symbol corresponds directly to the example you want to hear. Track 1 will help you tune your guitar to the CD.

Below are photographs of the hands with the fingers labeled. These letters and numbers are used in the music to tell us which finger, either on the right or the left hand, should be used to play a given note. The right-hand fingers are named with the first letters of their Spanish names.



The left-hand fingers.



The right-hand fingers.

(Again, just a reminder that, if you are left-handed, simply reverse the right- and left-hand labels.)

p = *pulgar*. Thumb.
i = *indicio*. Index finger.
m = *medio*. Middle finger.
a = *anular*. Ring finger.
c = *chiquita*. Pinky.

FINGERNAILS

Traditionally, we pluck the strings with the nails of our right hand. Great care and discussion is devoted to obtaining and maintaining good, healthy nails, and to shaping them. We will save going into greater detail about the right-hand nails until *Volume 2*. As a beginner, you probably don't have any nails right now anyway, and I would prefer you begin without long nails so that you get a chance to feel the strings on your fingertips as you learn to play.

I highly recommend that you keep the nails of your left hand cut and trimmed. If you don't, pushing your fingertips against the fingerboard will be very awkward.