

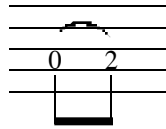
# Hammer-on

## (Slur)

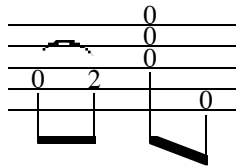
The hammer-on (slur) is a good place to begin exploring the left hand techniques which give the banjo it's characteristic sound.

Start with the following preparatory exercise:

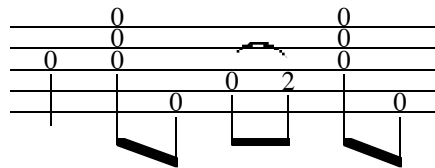
- 1) Using a downstroke, strike the open fourth string with the nail of either the index or middle finger of the right hand .
- 2) While the string is still “ringing”, throw the middle finger of the left hand down behind the second fret. Don't pluck the string again!
- 3) Repeat this exercise until the second note sounds out as clearly as the first.



- 4) Now try the same idea again, only this time follow the hammer-on with a “brush-thumb”.



- 5) Let's plug this into our “basic strum”.



(\*Use this as a “fill-in lick” while accompanying your voice.)