

String stopping

We stop:

- Previously played notes
- Resonances that occur when playing other notes

Why?

- To respect the given duration of a note
- To respect the written rests
- Change of harmony
- For the sake of clarity of the voices
- To mark the ending of a piece or section

Musical and
technical
aspects



How?

Right hand

- placing one or more fingers on the string(s)
- placing the hand on the strings
- using rest stroke

Left hand

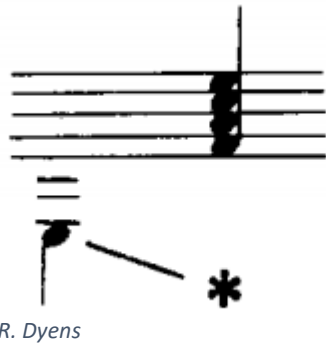
- releasing the pressure of a fretted note
- lifting the finger(s)
- stopping adjacent strings by inclining the finger
- placing finger(s) over several strings

Indications in sheet music:

- rests



- symbols:



- description

extinction "halogène"
(terme non "officiel")

Roland Dyens



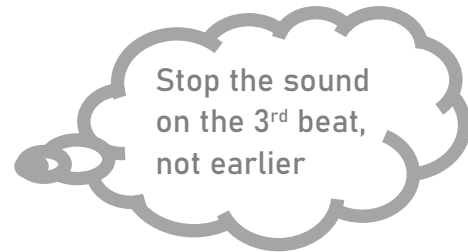
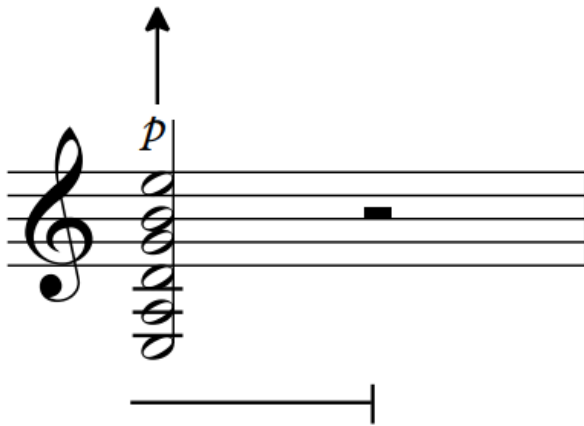
M. Langer

Example 1: stopping all the strings at the same time

- a) Stop the chord with the right side of the hand
 - useful for marking the end of a piece or a section of a piece

- b) Stop the chord by placing the thumb on strings 6,5,4, index on 3rd, middle finger on 2nd and ring finger on 1st string

- c) Stop the chord by placing the thumb on strings 6,5,4, 3, index on 2nd and middle finger on 1st



Example 2: playing and returning to the same string

- stop the note exactly on the rest, not earlier or later
- the finger should return to the same contact point with the string
- avoid the nail click

a) Playing and stopping the notes with the thumb

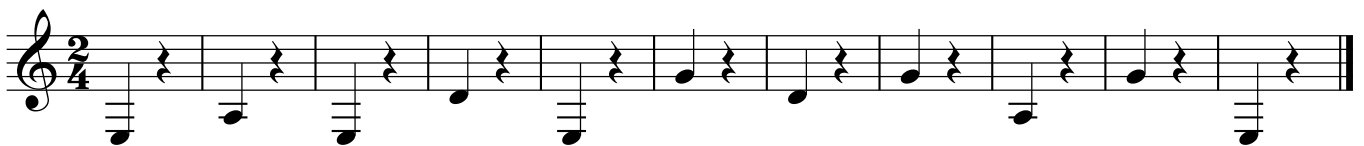


b) Playing and stopping the notes with the index (repeat the exercise using m and a fingers)



c) to f) Playing and stopping all the notes with the thumb

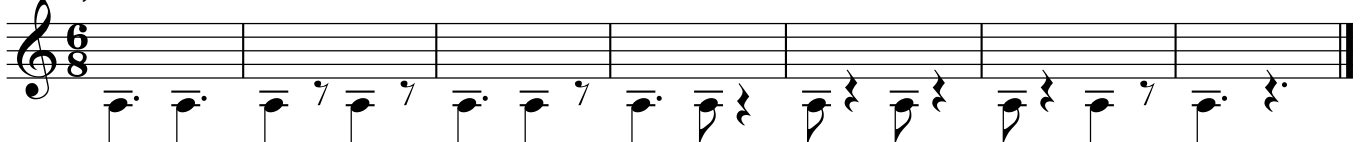
c)



d)



e)



f)



Example 3: stopping adjacent strings with the thumb

a)

b)

c)

d) and e) Stopping the bass line (①rings on)

d)

e)

f) and g) Stopping the bass line (strings ①, ② ring on)

f)

g)

Example 4: stopping a string shortly after another string has been played

a)

b)

c)

Example 5: combination of different types of bass stoppings

Etude by A. Cano

Andante