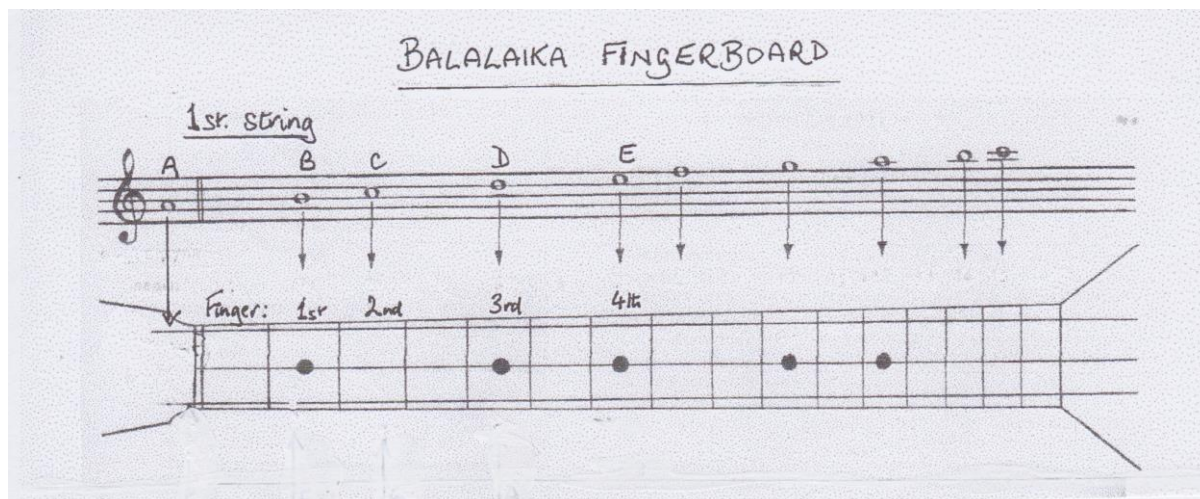


## Notes on the Balalaika Fingerboard

### 1<sup>st</sup> position

Notes on 1st string: A (open string), B (2<sup>nd</sup> fret, 1<sup>st</sup> finger), C (3<sup>rd</sup> fret, 2<sup>nd</sup> finger), D (4<sup>th</sup> fret, 3<sup>rd</sup> finger), E (5<sup>th</sup> fret, 4<sup>th</sup>/little finger)



### Notes E – A (“high A”) on 1<sup>st</sup> string & Scale of A minor (natural)

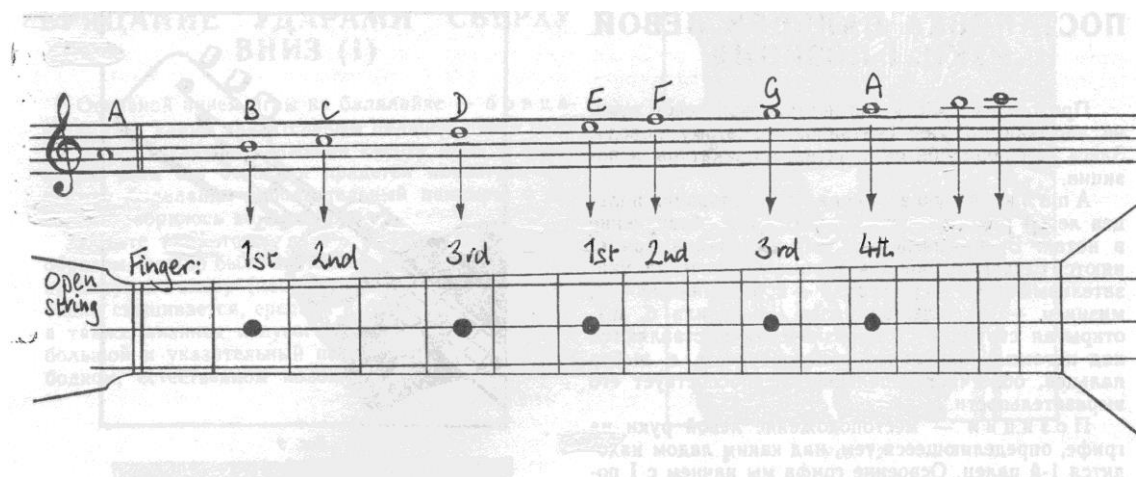
New technique: shift from 1<sup>st</sup> position (notes A – D) to 4<sup>th</sup> position (from E on 7<sup>th</sup> fret played with 1<sup>st</sup> finger), then -

New notes:

F (8<sup>th</sup> fret, 2<sup>nd</sup> finger),

G (10<sup>th</sup> fret, 3<sup>rd</sup> finger),

“high A” (12<sup>th</sup> fret, 4<sup>th</sup>/little finger)



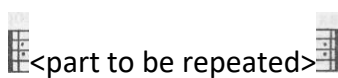
Written like this (numbers refer to fingers of left hand)




*Note* – in this exercise, the first 4 bars show the 8 notes of the A minor scale; bars 5 and 6 (between the repeat signs) show the A minor “arpeggio”.

Signs used: 1. *Pizzicato*  - pluck the string with the right hand thumb

2. *Repeat signs* – play the part between the signs again, e.g.



(if there is no sign marking the beginning, repeat from the start of the piece)

3. End bar -  marks the end of the piece