

## Music in Two Voices

Guitar music is often written in two or more voices or lines. Each voice represents an independent musical part. When guitar music is written in two voices, often the bass line, or lower sounding line, is written with the note stems pointing down and is played by the thumb, while the treble line, or higher sounding line, is written with the note stems pointing up and is played by the fingers.

Look at the first measure of “Lección No. 2” below. Notice that the bass line has one half note and the treble line has an eighth rest followed by three eighth notes. These two voices occur simultaneously (the eighth rest in the treble line happens at the same time as the half note in the bass voice) and both lines have a rhythmic value that equals two quarter note beats.

# Lección No. 2

Dionisio Aguado  
(1789 - 1849)

The musical score for "Lección No. 2" is written in 2/4 time and consists of four staves. The first staff (measures 1-4) shows a treble line with eighth notes and rests, and a bass line with half notes. The second staff (measures 5-8) continues the melody and bass line. The third staff (measures 9-12) includes a repeat sign at the beginning. The fourth staff (measures 13-16) ends with a "rit." marking and a double bar line. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 0, 1, 2, and 3. The bass line notes are marked with a 'p' for piano.