

## Reading in Positions II and IV

The transposable major scale you learned in Level 3 was a good example of what we call “position playing.” It is the same concept you have always applied to align the fingers of your left hand with the fretboard of the guitar – assigning the first finger to notes in the first fret, second finger to notes in the 2<sup>nd</sup> fret and so on.

To play in second position, we simply shift that concept up one fret so that our first finger plays notes in the 2<sup>nd</sup> fret, our second finger plays notes in the 3<sup>rd</sup> fret, third finger/4<sup>th</sup> fret and fourth finger/5<sup>th</sup> fret. Given that, you can imagine what it means to play in fourth position. In written music, positions on the guitar fret board are identified with Roman numerals: Positions II (2) and IV (4).

“Occam’s Razor” and “Ring the Bells” ensembles introduce melody parts in positions II and IV respectively. There are detailed indications that will help you decide which finger, fret and string to use for most notes, including one that you learned with the transposable scale: circled numbers are used to indicate on which string a note should be played. To get ready to play the new ensemble parts, explore the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> position notes and accompanying finger, fret and string indications below.

### Position II notes in Occam’s Razor Part 1

### Position IV notes in Ring the Bells Part 1

# Ring the Bells Ensemble

*Ensemble*

9

13

17

21

25