Half Position: 1, 2, 4

Double bass · teacher-confirmed 1–2–4 half position · A and D strings

1 · MAP PITCH ORDER TO FINGERS

Orchestral tuning, low to high: E1–A1–D2–G2 (sounding). Use this sheet with a teacher who uses the 1–2–4 half-position approach. Other systems differ.

Left hand: 1 = index, 2 = middle, 3 = ring, 4 = little finger. 0 means an open string.

A string · sounding pitches

+0 semitones	+1 semitone	+2 semitones	+3 semitones
A1	**B♭1**	**B1**	**C2**
open 0	finger 1	finger 2	finger 4
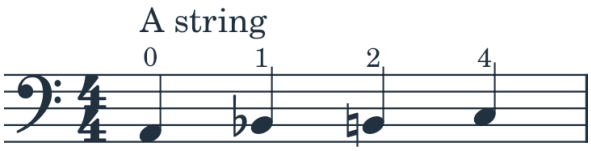
D string · sounding pitches

+0 semitones	+1 semitone	+2 semitones	+3 semitones
D2	**E♭2**	**E2**	**F2**
open 0	finger 1	finger 2	finger 4
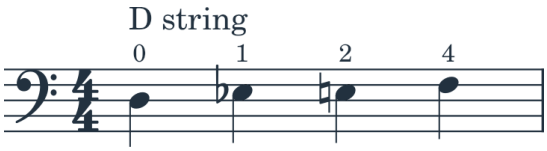
Pitch-order schematics, not frets or equal physical distances. Each step adds one semitone. Finger 3 has no separate pitch target here. Ask your teacher to show how it supports finger 4. Your teacher checks bass size, setup and comfortable reach.

2 · READ ONE OCTAVE ABOVE THE SOUND

The bass-clef part is written one octave higher than it sounds. Here, middle C = C4. Numbers above notes are left-hand fingers; 0 means open.
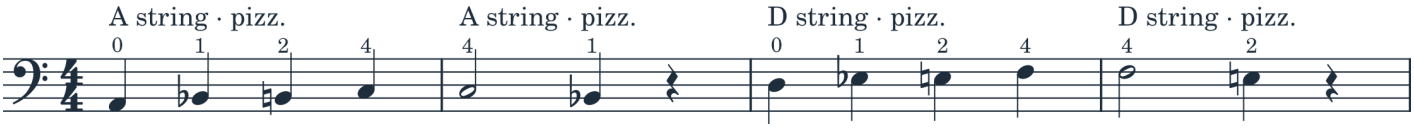


Written: A2–B♭2–B2–C3
Sound: A1–B♭1–B1–C2



Written: D3–E♭3–E3–F3
Sound: D2–E♭2–E2–F2

3 · PLAY A SHORT PIZZICATO CELL

Pizzicato means plucked. Stay on the named string for the whole bar. Count four quarter-note beats per bar; quarter = 60. Change strings only at a barline.



Teacher/self check: named string ☐ · supplied fingers ☐ · pitch and rhythm ☐ · comfortable placement ☐. Piano playback checks pitch and timing; your teacher checks execution.

Try it On the A string, which finger gives sounding C2? Write ____ . Which finger number is omitted from the stopped-note map? ____ . Ask your teacher to confirm your placement before playing.

Listen: scan or visit
tissimo.co/worksheets/double-bass-half-position-map
Sounding-pitch piano checks · four high piano count-in pulses · quarter = 60.
Pitch/timing references; not a bass tone or finger-placement model.

Self-check: sounding C2 on A = finger 4; omitted target finger = 3.

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