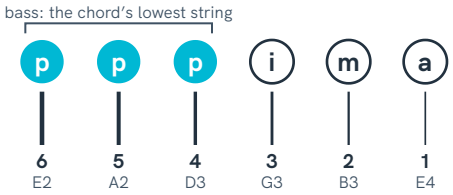
Fingerpicking: p, i, m, a

Four letters name the plucking fingers. Put them in order over a chord shape and you have a pattern.

1 · FOUR LETTERS FOR THE RIGHT HAND



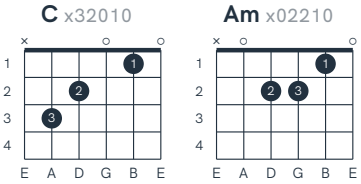
p thumb	**i** index	**m** middle	**a** ring
pulgar	*índice*	*medio*	*anular*

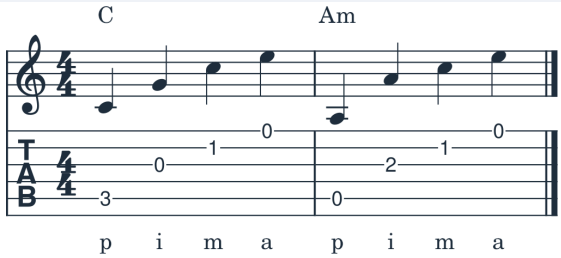
The letters come from the Spanish finger names. They name the **plucking** hand. Left-hand finger numbers 1–4 (in the chord boxes) are separate: they name the fingers that press the strings.

By default **i**, **m** and **a** stay on strings 3, 2 and 1. The thumb **p** plays the chord's bass, so it changes string with the chord: string 5 for C and Am, 6 for G and Em, 4 for D.

2 · THREE PATTERNS, ONE BAR EACH

Standard tuning, no capo. Staff notes are written an octave higher than they sound. In the tab, the top line is string 1 and each number is a fret (0 = open). The letter under each note is the finger that plucks it; "5/3" means string 5, fret 3.





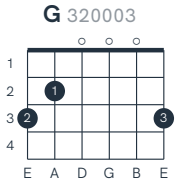
A **p-i-m-a, going up**

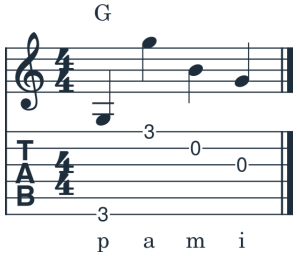
4/4 · four quarter notes

C: **p** 5/3 · **i** 3/0 · **m** 2/1 · **a** 1/0

Am: **p** 5/0 · **i** 3/2 · **m** 2/1 · **a** 1/0

Bar 2: the same strings over a new shape.



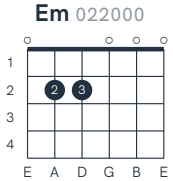


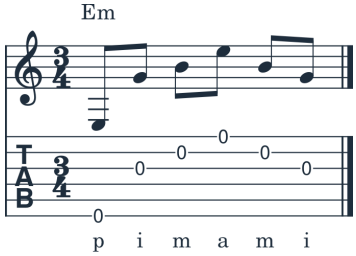
B **p-a-m-i, going down**

4/4 · four quarter notes

G: **p** 6/3 · **a** 1/3 · **m** 2/0 · **i** 3/0

After the thumb, the fingers come back down: a, m, i.





C **p-i-m-a-m-i, six-note roll**

3/4 · six eighth notes

Em: **p** 6/0 · **i** 3/0 · **m** 2/0 · **a** 1/0 · **m** 2/0 · **i** 3/0

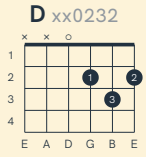
Up to a, then back: m, i. Count "1 & 2 & 3 &".

Chord boxes: nut at the top, string 6 at the left; × = don't play, ○ = open, dot numbers = fretting fingers (1 = index). These are common fingerings; others exist.

3 · LET IT RING

Hold the chord shape for the whole bar, so every string keeps sounding after you pluck it. The thumb starts each bar on beat 1: keep that pulse steady and every pluck even. Play each bar **4 times at quarter = 60**, then change chords on beat 1 of the next bar.

Try it



Play **p-i-m-a over D**. Write the fret for each finger.

p: string 4, fret ____ **i**: string 3, fret ____ **m**: string 2, fret ____ **a**: string 1, fret ____

Check: string 4 open, string 3 fret 2, string 2 fret 3, string 1 fret 2.

Listen: scan or visit tissimo.co/worksheets/guitar-fingerpicking-pima-patterns

Patterns A, B and C, each played twice at quarter = 60, every note held to the end of its bar. Piano pitch model at sounding pitch: audio cannot show which finger plays.

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