### **BASICS**

# Tone-semitone patterns

Intonation is all about measuring. When you use three or four fingers to play a phrase or a group of notes, the intervals between the fingers fall into patterns of tones and semitones. Thinking in tone—semitone patterns clarifies your mental picture of the notes and their relationships to one another.

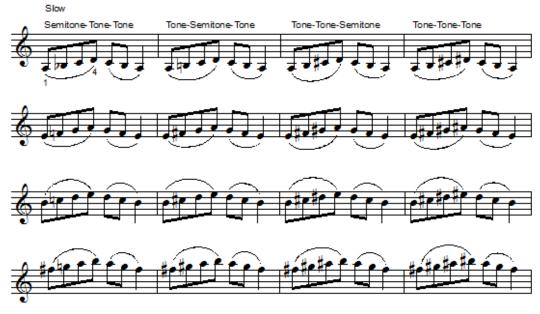
There are only a few basic patterns that the fingers most usually fall into. Play repetitive exercises to reinforce the patterns, to drive the sensations in the hand and fingers ever deeper into the unconscious. Then there is a feeling that the hand itself is in tune, and whatever the music you know where every note is.

#### Group 1

There are four primary tone-semitone patterns. Three have a semitone between one pair of fingers, and the remaining group is all whole tones. Starting in 1st position:

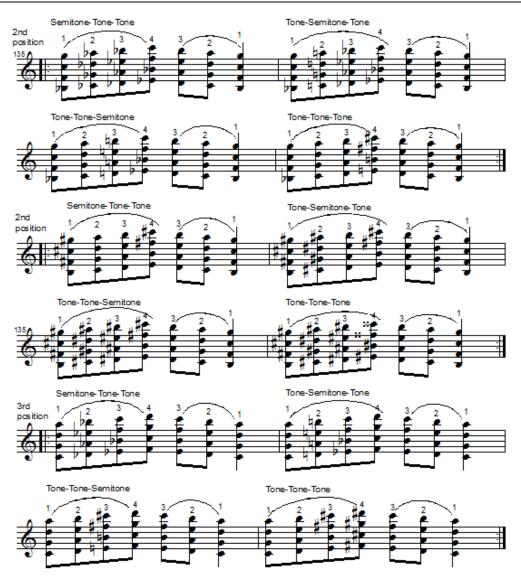


• Play through the patterns in one position on one string:



• Then move up into 2nd position and repeat the same patterns across the strings, continuing up through 3rd position, 4th position, up as far as you can go:

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• Alternatively, stay in one finger pattern and repeat across the strings before moving to the next pattern:



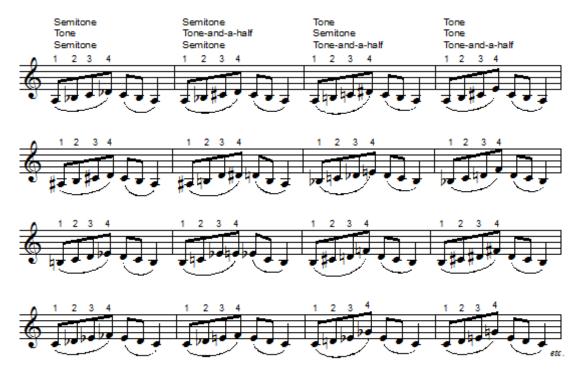
#### Group 2

There are four other common groupings that are good to practise in the same way:



Play them in another continuous sequence, continuing on up the string as far as you can go:

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• Repeat the sequence on each string.