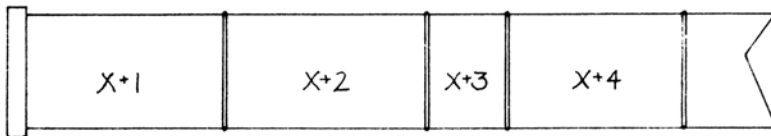


So the tuning for the Mixolydian mode looks like this:

(X)  
(X+4)  
X  
X

Always read the notation from bottom to top as if you were holding the dulcimer with the headstock to your left.

Each fret has a tuning value, as shown in this illustration.



Open value is  
X

In brief, our tuning procedure for all modes is:

1. Tune the "X" strings (the unisons) first.
2. Always tune to octave values.
3. Always tune the middle and bass strings to the unison strings fretted at the appropriate tuning intervals ( $X+1$ ,  $X+2$ , etc.), depending on into what mode you wish to tune.

If everything's gone well, you should now be tuned into the Mixolydian mode, transposed somewhere, we hope, around the note D. But in any case, the first note of your scale, the "do" note, is the unison note, and the chord you hear when you strike all of the strings should be a pleasant-sounding chord.

When tuning any instrument, you are dealing with tight measurements of sound, tuning tolerances as fine as hundreds of cycles per second and maybe less. And to tune correctly you have to pick these sounds out of the air as they go by. In the beginning, you obviously are not going to get them right all the time. You will get close, but even then what you are hearing and what you think you are hearing are going to be different, especially when you are dealing with the unison strings.