



VIEW OF HAND AS IT MOVES
THROUGH THE STRUM

on the floor; but whatever you do, try to keep your down-up strum at an even, non-jerky pace...nice and even, very fluid.

All this is the beginning technique for rhythmic strumming. The dulcimer is a very rhythmic instrument, and we're laying the foundation for your playing. The speed at which you are strumming determines the tempo—no matter how fast or slow it is or whether you are in the process of increasing or diminishing that speed, each one of the divisions (down/up) within the tempo is a beat.

Now lay your left hand on top of the dulcimer near the area around the nut, and with your forefinger or middle finger lightly cross all of the strings just to the right and parallel to the nut. Don't depress the strings, just lay your finger on top of them. This will uniformly mute the strings so that you can better hear your strumming. Holding the pick in your right hand, strum the strings, crossing them perpendicularly about four to six inches from the bridge.

TOP VIEW OF RIGHT HAND IN
STRUM POSITION

