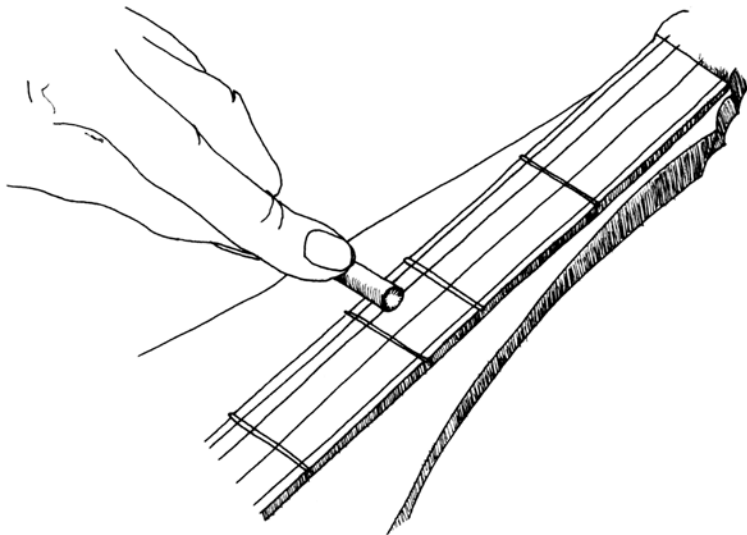


of all the harmonic notes, is at the midpoint of the instrument. There is only one harmonic of this particular tone; the other harmonics come in sets of two. What you find at half the distance between the nut and the first harmonic, you will also find at the same distance between the first harmonic and the bridge. Thus, your second harmonics are found over both the fourth and eleventh frets. The third harmonics are over the second and sixteenth frets. Actually, there is a harmonic tone over each fret, if it has been placed accurately; however, these can be difficult to find and hard to hear once you have found them. Harmonics make good endings, bringing the rhythm and melody to a quick close. They can also be used as accents within rhythms.

## USE OF THE NOTER

The noter, sometimes called a “fretter” or “playing stick,” is a finger-length cylindrical piece of wood about a quarter of an inch thick. It is used most often by traditional dulcimer players who hold it as if it were an extra finger, usually between the thumb and index finger. To depress the unison strings, you run the noter up and down the fretboard, and as you play it makes a slight “whistling” noise.



TRADITIONAL USE OF THE NOTER