

# Harp Noodle Recipe

Here's the basic recipe for creating noodles (the direction of your improvisations). Prepare them at home ahead of time and then bring them along to be reconstituted and served up fresh when the unexpected happens during a gig.

## Equipment Needed:

- Musical pasta machine: Your harp tuned to the piece you're playing
- An open mind: Let go of the need to be perfect and just brainstorm
- A metronome or metronome app. Try the "Groovy Metronome" app at <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/groovy-metronome/id1550506250> In place of an obnoxious click, play along to a set of drum sounds

## Ingredients:

- Basic music theory knowledge: Chords, rhythms, the ability to read music, etc.
- Basic harp technique skills: How to place fingers, how to play chords, etc.
- Basic repertoire: A large enough music playlist for offering variety when you gig

## Directions:

### 1. Get to know the song you plan to noodle. Analyze your selection for noodle-worthiness.

- Count and clap or tap out the rhythm of the melody to get the rhythm in your body
- Figure out the chord progression and write the chords above each measure if they are not already provided
- Sight read the melody line (or play by memory) while rolling the chords indicated above the measures. Change them if they don't "taste" right to you
- When the piece includes an arrangement for the left hand, play the piece slowly with both hands. Substitute difficult-to-play sections with chords that are easier to play.
- Make note of accidentals (finger changes), modulations (changes in time signature), difficult passages that you'll need to work around for easy noodling. Not all songs are great noodling candidates.

### 2. Roll out the noodles.

- Listen to recordings of the song played and sung by others so that when you create noodles, the song will be recognizable by others
- Record yourself playing the melody slowly enough so that it is mistake free and free of pauses
- Play along with the recording, playing chords only on the downbeats. Then play along by adding other chords, but still emphasizing the downbeats, ensuring the chords fit the rhythm.
- Put your harp aside and play back the recording and hum along to it while clapping or tapping out the rhythm. Prove that you can stop the recording in any spot and continue playing and clapping along with it.

- Translate your sing-along to the harp. Play back the recording, stop it anywhere, and continue playing along without losing the rhythm. If you can't play the melody, play the chord progression and make up a melody to go with it.
- Memorize the tonic chord for the piece. Practice playing the piece without the recording, and stopping randomly to play the tonic chord on the downbeat to bring the song to an end.

### **3. Pre-cook your pasta to make your noodles ready for consumption.**

- Record your noodles. Play back to ensure you are on the right track. Make chord and melodic corrections to refine your noodles.
- Go to [audible.com](https://audible.com) and play back a sample of a poem or short story. Play along to the prose and practice matching your tempo and dynamics with the speaker. When the sample fades out, bring your noodles to an end.
- Develop your peripheral vision by practicing looking away and looking back at your music to ensure that you can see what's going on around you without breaking rhythm.
- If you have been practicing your noodled song slowly, it's time to make it really cook. Download the Groovy Metronome, find your current tempo, and then slowly bring up your tempo a little bit at a time.

**Depending on the rhythm and mood of the song, serve up your noodles hot and spicy, or chill and serve them way cool!**

# Pachelbel's Canon Advanced Harp Solo - Key of G

Arranged by Sylvia Woods

Music by Johann Pachelbel

G D Em Bm C G C D

G D Em Bm C G C D

noodle

Chords only - high octaves

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# Pachelbel's Canon

## Advanced Harp Solo - Key of G

Arranged by Sylvia Woods

Music by Johann Pachelbel

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both are in the key of G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The music features a repeating eighth-note pattern in the right hand (R.H.) and a bass line in the left hand. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1, 2, and 3. A 'R.H.' marking is present above the right-hand staff.

The second system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both are in the key of G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The music features a repeating eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4.

The third system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both are in the key of G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The music features a repeating eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4.

The fourth system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both are in the key of G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The music features a repeating eighth-note pattern in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. Fingerings are indicated by numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4.

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