




Articulation

Articulation is a word used in music to describe how to play and connect the different notes. This can be compared to the way in which we say and connect words when talking and is, in the context of music, just as important. In general terms, articulation refers to how smoothly or ‘spiky’ something is played.

-  **Staccato** = short and detached
-  **Tenuto** = hold the note for its full value or even a little longer (this sign is also sometimes used to indicate a slight accent)
-  **Accent** = play with extra emphasis

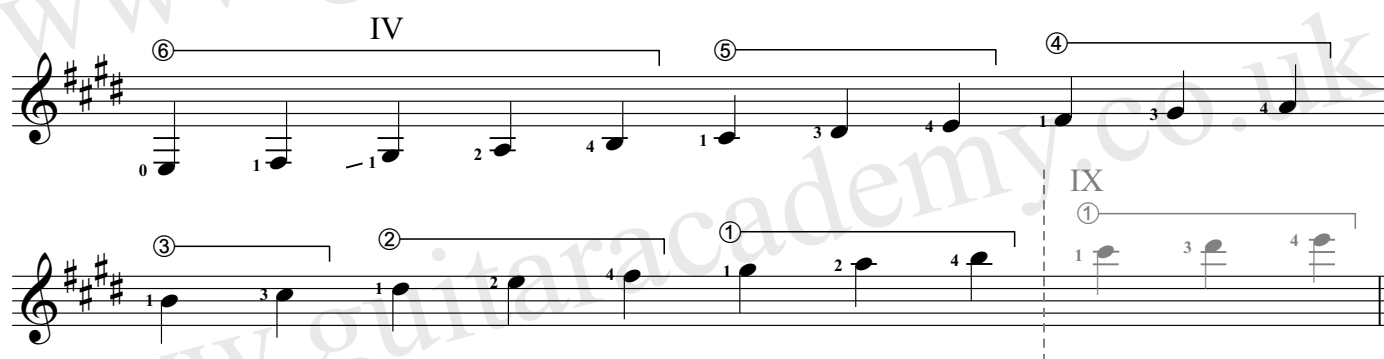
Staccato and Legato

Staccato: This technique is achieved by the right hand, through quick damping of the sounding string/s; or with the left hand, by rapidly releasing the pressure of the finger/s so as to mute the sound.

Legato = notes that are smoothly connected (i.e. the opposite of *staccato*). Listen carefully to ensure that each note lasts its full duration before playing the following note.

Fourth Position

 **25 E Major Scale** Practise this scale 1) *legato*, 2) *staccato*.



 **26**

Humoresque

Here's another piece that makes great use of the dotted quaver/semiquaver combination. Play the tune in fourth position with *staccato* articulation.



A. Dvořák
(1841–1904)

