

SHEEP MAY SAFELY GRAZE

(from Cantata No. 208)

What I allude to in left hand technique as the "double bar" or "cross fret bar" is utilized in the following piece by Bach. In this "double bar," the index finger bars across two adjacent frets simultaneously. The bottom half of the index finger depresses the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd (treble) strings on the lower-sounding fret. The top half of the index finger depresses the 4th, 5th, and 6th (bass) strings on the higher-sounding fret. I have notated this by showing the two frets with a slash line between them. If, for example, the eight and ninth frets are to be barred with the index finger, the notation is as follows: VIII/IX.

Transcribed by
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J.S. BACH

Tune the 5th string to "G"
Tune the 6th string to "C"

The musical score is presented on five staves. The first staff contains the introductory melody with guitar-specific notation: a circled '2' above the second measure, and '0' and 'p' below the first two notes. The second staff features a complex left-hand technique with a slash between frets III and V, and II and II. The third staff continues with techniques labeled 1/2 IV, 1/2 V, 1/2 V, and 1/2 II. The fourth staff shows techniques labeled 2/3 II, VI, VII, II, II, and 5/6 II. The fifth staff concludes the piece with further fret notation.

2/3 II

②

②

②

⑥

X

1/2 XII

(harm.)

harm.

harm.

①

②

③

④

⑥

harm.

III

VIII

VII

III

V

②

①

②

③

④

2/3 X

1/2 V

2/3 VII

1/2 X

②

②

④

②

④

12

1/2 III

②

III

V

II

①

③

②

②

1/2 V

V

Fine Only

②

④

1/2 VII 2/3 IX VI VII VIII/IX IV

V IV V VII/VIII VIII/IX X/XI

1/2 X 1/2 IV V VII

II - - - - - II - - - - -

② VII — V — VII — V IV — VIII IX

X — IV

1/2 II — 1/2 III X/XI IX VII VI

IX II XI/X II

VI VII II

VII IX 1/2 IX

1/2 II V II II

2/3 II VI VII II 5/6 II

1/2 VII D.S. al Fine