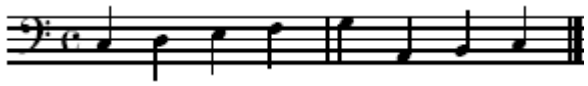
Guitarrón and *Armonía* Notation

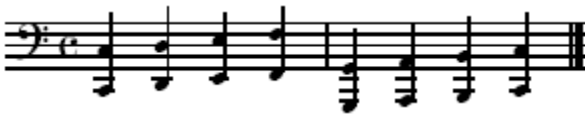
Because the harp most often plays the role of bass and harmonic accompaniment, it is adequate to combine standard *guitarrón* and *armonía* notation with traditional harp notation.

Standard *guitarrón* notation places all of its notes within the bass clef staff, and it is assumed (unless otherwise indicated) that the performer will execute the notated pitch and its lower octave simultaneously. Where the harp is executing bass lines and harmonic accompaniment, this notation suffices.

The harpist reads *guitarrón* notation like this:

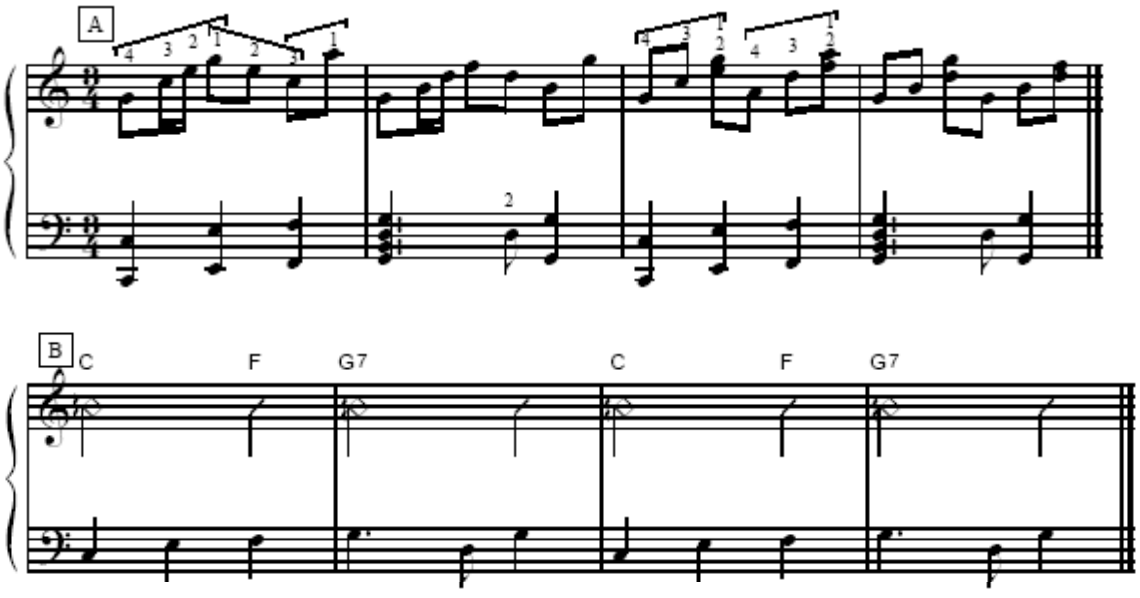


. . . and plays it like this:



Armonía instrumentalists read rhythmic notation from a treble clef staff, where chord names are notated above specific notes. Where the harp is executing bass lines and harmonic accompaniment, this notation is also adequate.

Mariachi harp notation then may alternate from traditional harp notation when executing specific melodic lines (A) and *guitarrón* and *armonía* notation when performing only bass and harmonic accompaniment (B).



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