

Popping:

- When popping a string, primarily use your index finger, as it is the closest finger to your thumb and generally the strongest. The string should always be in contact with the area around the tip of your finger (*Picture 13.5*), and much like slapping, strictly use the rotation of your wrist to pop the string. After a string is popped, your thumb should be pointing almost directly upwards and away from the bass, almost like a “thumbs-up” gesture (*Picture 13.6*). This will place your thumb in the perfect position to come back down to slap again. These two motions work hand-in-hand to create one fluid movement when using this technique.

Double-Popping:

- Double-popping will require your hand to essentially never leave the area right above the strings until the second and final string is popped. In addition to regular string-popping, this technique will add an additional string that will be popped using the middle finger. However, instead of rotating your wrist to pop the string, you must pop the string strictly by the action of “retracting” your finger inward to your hand in order to ensure that the middle finger’s position is unaffected (*Picture 13.7*). When a passage that requires double-popping occurs, you must quickly and simultaneously hook your index and middle fingers around both of the strings to be popped right as you slap your thumb down onto the string (*Picture 13.8*).

Before learning any exercises in this chapter, practice slapping and popping octaves around the neck. After you slap the first note (root note) and before you pop the second note (octave), raise your fretting hand finger up just enough to stop fretting the note but without removing your finger from the string. This will deaden the note and prevent the slapped note and the popped note from ringing together. This will be effective in ensuring your slap/pop parts are clear and audible.



Picture 13.1



Picture 13.2



Picture 13.3



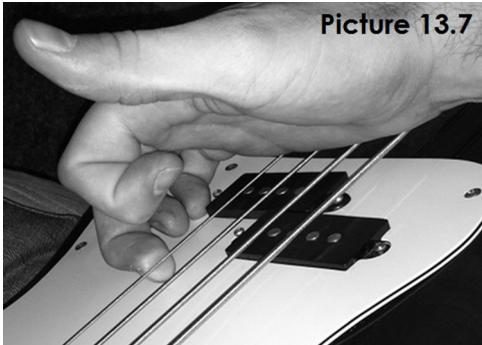
Picture 13.4



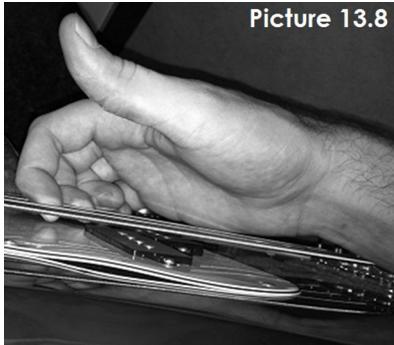
Picture 13.5



Picture 13.6



Picture 13.7



Picture 13.8