

Chris Burton Jácome's  
Quick Guide to:  
Palmas Básicas

**Palmas:**

1. Purpose of palmas in flamenco
  - a. To support
  - b. To be musical/enhance
2. Types of palmas
  - a. Sordas – soft, palm to palm clapping
  - b. Claras/Abiertas/Vivas – loud, fingers across palm clapping
3. Posture
  - a. Upright, straight back, one hand to the other, not typical golfer's clap!

**Rhythm #1: Tangos**

1. Basic foot/palmas pattern
  - a. F = Foot, C = Clap

<u>Basic Tangos Pattern #1 &amp; #2</u>			
1	2	3	4
	C	C	C
F		F	

<u>Basic Tangos Pattern #3</u>					
1	&	2	&	3	&
		C	C		C
F				F	

**Rhythm #2: Bulerías**

1. Accent Variations:
  - a. 12, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11
  - b. 12, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11
  - c. 12, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11
  - d. 12, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11

**Contra Basics:**

1. Purpose of Contras (upbeats)
  - a. Automatically means the support is taken care of
  - b. Adds more advanced musicality and enhancement
2. Clicking/Metronomes
3. Síncopa (syncopation-contras)
  - a. In 2's

*If you are interested in setting up flamenco music, song or dance  
lec/dems, workshops, residencies or a performance,  
Chris can be contacted at: 602-690-5544.*

**Or Visit Chris' website: [www.CBJMusic.com](http://www.CBJMusic.com)**

**Chris Burton Jácome's**  
**Quick Guide to:**  
**Flamenco Básics**

**Who:** The Gypsies created this art form using a multitude of diverse cultures.

**What:** Flamenco is a song & dance folk art

**Where:** Andalucía, Spain (the Southern-most province)

**When:** Flamenco as we see it today is probably only 150 years old but the roots of flamenco spring from different cultures that date back thousands of years.

**Why:** Flamenco, like any art form, is a reflection of a culture. Flamenco's culture is that of the gypsy. Throughout history, gypsies have been marginalized and largely considered outcasts, thieves and second-class...even people of witch-craft. The gypsies that now reside in Andalucía, Spain are the children of their nomadic gypsy tribe elders. With their nomadic nature, these gypsy tribes took on influences of many different cultures over hundreds of years. Flamenco's tradition began as far back as the 15th Century, but gained official recognition late in the 17th Century. Although early history of Flamenco is not well documented, it is accepted that Flamenco evolved out of the traditions of several cultures including those of the Moorish Arabs, the Jewish and the indigenous Southern peoples of Spain. Flamenco can be described as the "Blues" of Southern Spain as it was the outlet used by the poor and oppressed gypsies to express their sorrows and grief. Flamenco evolved out of the voice. Dance and guitar were eventually incorporated, in that order. Today, flamenco is all these elements together and it is through these three elements, performed together, that Flamenco achieves its powerful and intense expression. Flamenco is an art form that inspires, educates and entertains people the world over.

**How:** To get a feel for how flamenco evolved, one must imagine themselves within a huge extended family outside of a Spanish pueblo. Feel the warmth of the campfire, the soft dirt as you lean against the wagon wheel of your family's traveling wagon, smell the strong Sherry wine, and sense the safety that the clan provides while still being ever-wary of any passers-by or non-family members. Songs are the tribe's way to tell of their woes, their successes, share their history and exhibit their strong pride in being 'gypsy' even though the rest of society thinks down on them. Do you feel the song emerging from your lips that would describe this? How would it sound?

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