

2 inverted mordents  
can't be next  
to each other.

# RULES for Applying Ornaments

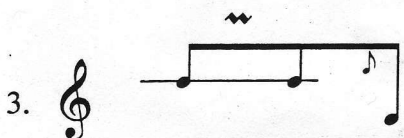
(Bulgarian Wedding Music style)



1. Group of three notes (1 + 2), which contains a leap **DOWN** (or even a step down motion) followed by two repeated notes, is ornamented with an inverted mordent.

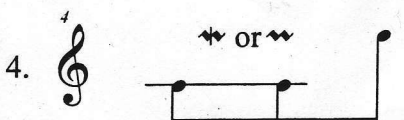


2. Group of three notes (1 + 2), which contains a leap **UP** (or even a step motion) followed by two repeated notes, is ornamented with an inverted mordent.



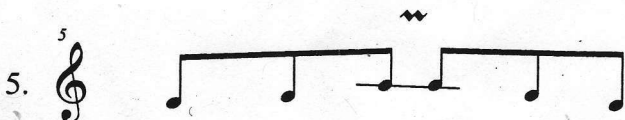
3. Group of three notes (2 + leap **DOWN**, or step down) is ornamented with a regular mordent followed by an additional grace note ("extended mordent").

3.A could be an inverted mordent



4. Group of three notes (2 + leap **UP**) is ornamented usually with an inverted mordent. A group of three notes (2 + step **UP**), however, could be ornamented with both regular and inverted mordents.

Inverted for accent, regular for smoothness.



5. Repeated notes surrounded by stepwise motion are ornamented with regular mordents **ONLY**. If a descent is initiated after the repeated note (see example), the mordent becomes "extended."



6. Grace notes (GNs) are very important dividers in descending lines. GNs are built on the first "available" step above. GNs on half steps sound Bulgarian, GNs on whole steps and thirds sound Middle Eastern or Gypsy. Avoid making GNs on whole steps if the scale suggests a half step! For example, an upper GN embellishing a D in D hijaz should be an Eb (E natural sounds bad).

7. In a step-wise ascending motion, there is no need to apply upper GNs everywhere. If considering proportions, GNs are twice as many in descending motion. In a group of three ascending (stepwise) notes, one embellishing GN is enough. (or even less, you can skip it completely).

8. GNs are nice, but there are not mandatory. They are not structural embellishments like the mordents. If playing faster, they are simply omitted. Usually, the fingers themselves determine where to apply GNs. Applying GNs everywhere creates a feeling of redundancy.

mordent → grace

Romani music only ornaments  
on the scale