

GUITAR ONE

Introduction

Hello and welcome to Guitar One.

To be clear...you have to WANT to play GUITAR!!! This is going to take some work and time. But I promise that I will make it as fun as possible. Once you get over the first little bit, it gets easier and a lot more fun. Put in the work and no one will ever be able to take the knowledge away from you:) It's not THAT hard!

Our goal in 10 lessons...

- be able to play 10 popular chords
- A Am B7 C D Dm E Em F G
- understand song structure
- know how to play the blues in 5 keys
- be able to play hundreds of songs

Here is what you will need to begin:

- Guitar
- Tuner (there are many free apps available)
- Picks (any size or thickness, experiment)
- Capo (ask if you are unsure)
- Chord chart printed out
- A loud enough speaker to play along with
(a phone is not enough, use the TV or blue tooth speaker!)
- Print out all song charts, or save to a digital file
- You will need to access songs from iTunes, Youtube or whatever medium you prefer. You will need this so you can play along. It is essential!!!

Let's Begin

Before you start Lesson 1 you will need to know and understand a few things. Call, text, email me, anything anytime if you have questions.

Electric Guitar

Acoustic Guitar



THE GUITAR

The guitar is made up of 6 major parts:

- Body
- Neck
- Frets
- Headstock
- Tuners
- Strings

On the neck you will see frets (the metal lines going across the neck). Each FRET has a number, the first one being 1. If we say to place a finger on the first fret, we mean behind the fret, not on it.

TUNING

The guitar is tuned by using a guitar tuner or using the app of your choice on your device. There are many free apps out there and they all do the same thing. It's hard at first, but will become second nature quickly.

DO NOT START ANY LESSON WITHOUT TUNING FIRST!!!



The strings are numbered from 1 to 6, with 1 being the skinniest string and 6 being the fattest. So looking down, the strings are as follows:

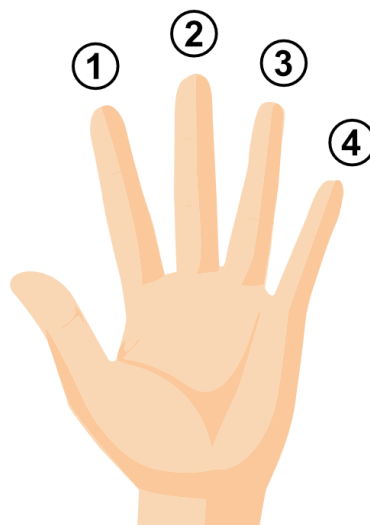
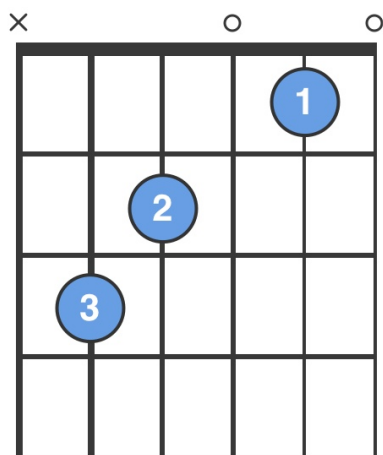
- 6 - E
- 5 - A
- 4 - D
- 3 - G
- 2 - B
- 1 - E

Make sure there are no sharps (#) or flats (b) following the note when you tune up. For example if you are tuning the 4th string and it says "D#", you have tuned too high...bring the pitch down a bit.

FINGER NUMBERS AND PLACEMENT

When we look at the chord chart we will see circled numbers on the fret board. Those numbers are finger numbers and placement.

- 1 - index
- 2 - middle
- 3 - ring
- 4 - pinky



It really helps to think of your hand as "THE CLAW"!

When placing fingers on the neck, use your fingertips to make the chords and place your thumb on the back of the neck to complete "**THE CLAW**". Make sure to leave space between the neck and the palm of your hand. Basically...make an "O" with your fingers and thumb!

PRACTICING

Ok. Let's get serious for a second. This will really work if you put in the time. Besides our meetings and watching the videos, plan on 2 - 15 minute practice sessions. If you practice longer and/or more often you will progress quicker. Duh!

You **MUST** play along with a loud enough speaker so that the accompanying music is the same volume as your guitar. I can't stress this enough!!! You must play along. It really helps and pushes memorization of finger placement.

Here's what a practice session looks like:

- Review chord positions by going from one chord to the next for 3 minutes. Just set a timer:)
- Play 3 songs or 1 song 3 times (about 10 - 15 minutes)
- DONE!

YOU GOT THIS!

LET'S DO IT!!

ON TO LESSON ONE AND BECOMING A GUITAR PLAYER!!!