



Make Space for Music

# Skill Maps

# GUITAR

## INTERMEDIATE LEVEL 1: 13 - ADULT

Taaqademy's music teachers are carefully chosen for their musical ability, teaching aptitude, live performance experience and music qualifications - pretty much in that order. We can confidently claim to have some of the country's top musicians with us. As a result, we use a proprietary method of '**Skill Maps**' to bring structure and focus

to our classes, enabling our musicians to **avoid cookie-cutter methods** when working with students. Skill Maps provide **detailed specifics** on what students should be able to accomplish at every level while allowing our teachers to use their own **unique approaches**, songs, techniques and shortcuts to get students there!

## GUITAR INTERMEDIATE LEVEL 1: AREAS COVERED



**MUSIC THEORY & FUNDAMENTALS**



**SONG LEARNING**



**EAR TRAINING**



**LIVE PERFORMANCE**



**MUSCULAR TRAINING**



**IMPROVISATION**



**SIGHT READING**



**MUSIC EXAMINATIONS**

**MORE DETAILS BELOW...**



## MUSIC THEORY & FUNDAMENTALS

- 2-Octave Maj & min scales using 2 different movable shapes.
- 5 Pentatonic Scale shapes across the neck.
- Maj, min, 7th, sus, and add9 and 9 chords, open-string and movable barre shapes (CAGED). All chords learnt with 'spellings'
- Understanding Intervals, harmonizing scales and chord families, cadences and resolutions.
- Understanding rhythm patterns for at least 3 different genres/styles.
- For Electric Guitarists - good grasp of tone setting and understanding of elements of a signal chain'. Acoustic guitarists - good grasp of tone and dynamics.



## EAR TRAINING

- Ability to sing major, minor and pentatonic scales with only root as reference.
- Ability to sing chord tones for major and minor chords.
- Ability to pick up melodies solos and chords for pop songs by ear.
- Understanding non-diatonic chord progressions and beginning to develop the ability to work them out by ear.



## MUSCULAR TRAINING

- Alternate picking: 1/4 notes at 100 - 120 bpm; 1/8 notes at 80 - 100 bpm ; 1/16 notes at 60 - 80 bpm (at a minimum).
- Technique - palm muting, sliding, string bending, pre-bends, double stops, vibrato, hammer-ons, pull-offs, legato, etc.
- Technique - finger-picking, acoustic muting, percussive rhythms.



## SIGHT READING

- Book Examples - Mel Bay Guitar Method Grade 1, up to Duets, simple bass + chord accompaniment. RSL Grade 1 pieces.
- Ability to read chord charts fluently for accompaniment.



## SONG LEARNING

- Ability to play at least 15 pop-style songs and a few solos as well.
- Ability to play RSL Grade 1 or Grade 2 pieces fluently and well.



## LIVE PERFORMANCE

- 2-3 Taaqademy Recitals, 1 Taaqademy Live performance, participation in 1-2 Taaqademy 'Jam-Bands'.



## IMPROVISATION

- Knowledge of simple pentatonic licks that can be used to play spontaneously over static harmony and I-IV-V Blues progressions.



## MUSIC EXAMINATIONS

- RSL Awards Grade 2 or 3 (depending on ability/practice); Trinity Rock & Pop Grade 3 - 4 (depending on ability/practice).

## HOW LONG WILL THIS TAKE?

- At this level, if you **consistently practice** an avg. **30min - 1 hr. per day**, you can expect to have mastered the above in **6 months (24 classes)** or less.
- If you practice around **2 hrs. per week**, this could **add 2 months**.
- If you practice **<1 hr. per week**, you could take **10+ months!**