



Skill Maps

GUITAR

BEGINNER LEVEL 2: 6-12 YRS.

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 BEGINNER LEVEL 2: AREAS COVERED



MUSIC THEORY & FUNDAMENTALS



SONG LEARNING



EAR TRAINING



LIVE PERFORMANCE



MUSCULAR TRAINING



MUSIC EXAMINATIONS



SIGHT READING

MORE DETAILS BELOW...



MUSIC THEORY & FUNDAMENTALS

- Ability to tune the guitar with a reference note only for the first string
- Note names for first 3 frets on the guitar, all strings
- Understanding of note/rest values (whole/half/quarter/eighth), time signatures (4/4, 3/4, 2/4) and other staff markings
- C Major Scale - 'Open' position, 1 Octave
- A minor Scale - 'Open' positions, 1 Octave
- Pentatonic Scale - 1 position, 2 Octaves
- CAGED open-string major & minor chords and understanding of movable chord shapes



EAR TRAINING

- Ability to sing a Major or minor scale in a comfortable key
- Ability to pick up simple melodies by ear and play them on the instrument in open positions
- Ability to pick up simple major/minor chords by ear
- For Electric Guitar - basic understanding of tone and guitar pickups/controls



MUSCULAR TRAINING

- Alternate picking, 2-, 3- and 4-finger chromatic exercises with metronome: quarter notes at 70 - 90 bpm
- Alternate picking, 1-octave major, minor and pentatonic scales with metronome; quarter notes at 70 - 100 bpm
- Chord changes with metronome - open string chords (1 chord/bar) at 70 - 90 bpm
- Knowledge of at least 2 - 3 variations of strength, accuracy and articulation exercises



SIGHT READING

- Book Examples - Mel Bay Guitar Method Grade 1, up to notes on 4th string
- Ability to fluently read and play melodies using first 4 strings, in first position



SONG LEARNING

- Ability to play 3 - 4 melodies on 4 strings; ability to play accompany 2 - 3 songs (perhaps from Mel Bay book) with open-string chords in time
- Ability to play e.g. RSL Awards or Trinity Debut pieces in time with backing track



LIVE PERFORMANCE

- 1 Taaqademy Recital



MUSIC EXAMINATIONS

- RSL Awards/Trinity Debut or Grade 1 Examination (based 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 **3 months (12 classes)** .
- 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!