



Skill Maps

GUITAR

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL 2

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 2: AREAS COVERED



MUSIC THEORY & FUNDAMENTALS



SONG LEARNING



EAR TRAINING



LIVE PERFORMANCE



MUSCULAR TRAINING



IMPROVISATION



SIGHT READING



MUSIC EXAMINATIONS

MORE DETAILS BELOW...



MUSIC THEORY & FUNDAMENTALS

- 3 Major Scale Modes with movable 1 and 2-octave shapes.
- Constructing chords from intervals; understanding of chords such as 9ths, 11ths and 13ths.
- Understanding inversions (1st & 2nd); knowledge of shapes across the neck; also knowing when and how they are used. Understanding different chord voicings and usage.
- Transposition - understanding how to move a song to a different key
- Modulation - understanding key changes and usage.
- Introduction to alternate tunings.
- Rhythm studies - introduction to compound time, odd-meters, syncopation and usage.
- Introduction to composition - building melodies over simple chord progressions.
- Electric Guitar - ability to customize tone using pedals/processors and a variety of amps/guitars.
- Basic understanding of acoustics, recording gear and recording process/technique.



EAR TRAINING

- Ability to sing major, minor, pentatonic scales and 3 major scale modes with only root as reference.
- Identify Octave/unison, 3rd and 5th Intervals by ear.
- Ability to pick up more complex 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: 1/8 notes at 120 - 150 bpm; 1/16 notes at 100 - 130 bpm
- Technique -good grasp of selective muting (LH & RH) bending, vibrato, tapping, harmonics, legato, whammy/tremolo, octave playing, large voicings, etc.
- Acoustic Technique - finger-picking, flatpicking, intro to hybrid picking.



SIGHT READING

- Book Examples - Mel Bay Guitar Method Grade 1, RSL Grade 2/3 pieces
- Ability to read chord charts fluently for accompaniment.



SONG LEARNING

- Ability to play at least 20 pop-style songs; at least 10 guitar solos with fluent technique.
- Ability to play RSL Grade 3/4 or Trinity Rock & Pop Grade 4/5 pieces fluently and well.



LIVE PERFORMANCE

- 5-6 Taaqademy Recitals, 2-3 Taaqademy Live performance, participation in 1-2 Taaqademy 'Jam-Bands'.



IMPROVISATION

- Ability to improvise over Blues, diatonic and very simple non-diatonic chord progressions, with mostly pre-rehearsed 'licks'.



MUSIC EXAMINATIONS

- RSL Awards Grade 4 (depending on ability/practice); Trinity Rock & Pop Grade 4/5 (depending on ability/practice).

HOW LONG WILL THIS TAKE?

- At this level, if you **consistently practice** an avg. **1 - 2 hr. per day**, you can expect to have covered the above in **6 - 8 months (24 - 32 classes)**.
- If you practice around **2 hrs. per week**, this could **add 3 - 4 months**.
- If you practice **<1 hr. per week**, you could take **12+ months!**