



Make Space for Music

Skill Maps

GUITAR

INTERMEDIATE LEVEL 3

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 3: AREAS COVERED



MUSIC THEORY & FUNDAMENTALS



SONG LEARNING



EAR TRAINING



LIVE PERFORMANCE



MUSCULAR TRAINING



IMPROVISATION



SIGHT READING



MUSIC EXAMINATIONS

MORE DETAILS BELOW...



MUSIC THEORY & FUNDAMENTALS

- All Major Scale Modes with movable 1 and 2-octave shapes. Blues Scale shapes across the neck.
- Augmented and Diminished chords, theory and usage.
- Chord voicings, inversions and usage based on style and ensemble.
- Simple alternate tunings and usage.
- Deeper understanding of tone and articulation - steps to creating a personal 'voice' on the instrument.
- Rhythm Studies - odd-meters, syncopation, techniques and approaches across different genres.
- Basic understanding of composition - working with melodies and chord progressions.
- Functional understanding of acoustics, recording equipment and recording process/technique.



EAR TRAINING

- Sing the scales and modes learned with only root as reference
- Ability to sing chord tones for major, minor, 7th, add9, 9th chords.
- Ability to pick up more sophisticated melodies, solos and chords / songs by ear.
- Ability to identify 3rd, 4th, 5th and 7th intervals by ear.



MUSCULAR TRAINING

- Alternate picking: 1/8 notes at 150 - 170 bpm; 1/16 notes at 100 - 120 bpm.
- Comprehensive grasp of various techniques - large bends, tapping, vibrato, tremolo/whammy usage, artificial harmonics, trills, legato, sweep picking, etc.
- For Acoustic Guitar - finger-picking independence (ability to play bass lines along with melody/chords etc.)



SIGHT READING

- Book Examples - Mel Bay Guitar Method Grade 1; RSL Grade 3 - 4 pieces.
- Ability to read chord and rhythm charts fluently for accompaniment.



SONG LEARNING

- Ability to play at least 30 songs from different styles/genres.
- Ability to play at least 15 - 20 guitar solos with fluent technique.
- Ability to play RSL Grade 5, Trinity Rock & Pop Grade 6 pieces fluently and well.



LIVE PERFORMANCE

- Several Taaqademy Recitals, Taaqademy Live performance, participation in 3 - 4 Taaqademy 'Jam-Bands'.



IMPROVISATION

- Ability to use pre-rehearsed licks and phrases as well as create spontaneous melodic lines to improvise over Blues, diatonic pop and simple non-diatonic chord progressions.



MUSIC EXAMINATIONS

- RSL Awards Grade 5 (depending on ability/practice); Trinity Rock & Pop Grade 6 (depending on ability/practice).

HOW LONG WILL THIS TAKE?

- At this level, if you **consistently practice** an avg. **1 - 2 hrs. 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 **14+ months!**