Know Your Guitar Inspection Sheet: Acoustic Guitar

Guitar brand __________________ Guitar model __________________

Mark any damage: Dings, dents, scuffs, or noteworthy blemishes

High E String Gauge .............................................................. ______
B String Gauge ................................................................. ______
G String Gauge ................................................................. ______
D String Gauge ................................................................. ______
A String Gauge ................................................................. ______
Low E String ..................................................................... ______

String Brand ________________________________________________
String Gauge ____________________________

Neck Inspection

Height of high E string. At 3rd fret ______ At 12th fret ______
Height of low E string. At 3rd fret ______ At 12th fret ______

Radius of the fret board: ________

High frets: Are they causing dead notes? (Yes) (No)

Worn frets or fret sprout: Are they causing dead notes? (Yes) (No)

Do frets need polishing (Yes) (No)

Neck relief looks like: Back bow () Forward bow () Straight ()

Notes: ________________________________

______________________________
Know Your Guitar Inspection Sheet: Acoustic Guitar

Inspection check list

1) **Check bridge for cracks in glue and lifting**
   Looking at the back of the bridge, check to make sure it is not lifting away from the body and the body is not bobbling up around the bridge. You can also use a card or piece of paper and use it like a gap gauge.

2) **Tighten nuts and screws on tuning keys**
   You can use a socket wrench or the ESP wrench. Tighten until they feel snug.

3) **Check bracing for missing pieces and breaks**
   You can purchase an inspection mirror at any auto store, stew mac, or sometimes the dollar store. This and a flash light will let you look inside the guitar for issues.

4) **Tune guitar**
   Tune the guitar and if it goes out of tune pay attention to the neck and bridge to see if they are moving. It is also a good time to make sure the strings are wrapped correctly around the tuning keys.

5) **Check nut slots for damage or to see if they are cut incorrectly**
   Acoustic guitars tend to make a lot of noise when there is something wrong. If you hear a ping sound or you see the needle jump on the tuner display while tuning it could be signs the nut is improperly cut.

6) **Check the glue joint where the neck meets the body**
   You can visibly inspect the neck joint for gaps and separation from the body. You should also look for cracks at this time.

7) **Check bridge for chips**
   Look and feel the bridge to make sure it doesn't have any chips. Also make sure it is not loose fitting and moving.

8) **Tighten nut on output jack**
   This is if you have an acoustic electric. Use a socket wrench or output jack tool. Do not use the wrong tool because it can strip or cross thread the component.

9) **Check to make sure the body is not separating**
   Visually inspect the side where the top and back meet the body. You can also run your finger on the edge to feel for micro cracks and gaps.

10) **Check the electronics controls out**
    Most acoustic controls run on the batteries when the tuner is on or the guitar is plugged in. If you are getting scratchy noises from the electronics you can use DeOxit to clean them out. If you are getting no sound make sure the tuner is not being used and the battery is fresh and new.