



Anthem Music Studios

12 Week Guitar Lesson Plan – From Absolute Beginner to Playing Your Favorite Songs

The following schedule doesn't cover everything. Mastering an instrument is a lifelong endeavor. However, it does provide instructor lead musical and guitar fundamentals necessary to get students playing songs in the shortest amount of time possible.

- It is highly recommended students practice daily for 20-40 minutes.

While students can't always practice daily and some weeks may be missed, it is necessary to dedicate time to stay on schedule. It is common for some students with prior music experience or a natural proclivity for music to advance faster, while others need more time; however, just like with any project schedule, falling too far behind will likely jeopardize the project.

Month 1 Schedule	
Lesson 1 Introductions & Guitar, Notes, and Music overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introductions & background• Lesson overview and framework (timelines, expectations, etc)• Client instrument review• Music, notes, scales, and guitar strings overview• First scale (includes sitting, holding, and finger placement review)• Homework = "A Minor" Scale
Lesson 2 First Chords	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lesson 1 Review• Tuning• First Chords G Major and C add9• Muting strings• Basic Time Signature Overview (includes down strums and foot tapping)• Homework = Key of G Chord Transition Worksheet Exercises
Lesson 3 Chords and strumming	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lesson 2 Review• Tuning• Next Chords Em and D• Strumming basics review• Homework = Key of G Chord Transition Worksheet Exercises
Lesson 4 Key of G Chord Progression and timing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lesson 3 Review• Tuning• Practice switching chords G, Cadd9, Em, D• Next-level strumming patterns• Correlation between chord transition worksheets, strumming and simple songs• Homework = Key of G Chord Transition Worksheet Exercises
Month 1 (approximately 4 lessons). Working knowledge of the following:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Guitar parts, history, and how it fits into the musical family of instruments• What musical notes are and how they work together with rhythm to make music• All musical notes, basic scales (key of C and Am), and chords I, IV, V, and VI in the key of G• 3/4 and 4/4 time signatures, sheet music measures, and basic strumming within that framework• Stretch Goal: 1-2 songs within the key of G	

Month 2 Schedule	
Lesson 5 First Songs (either student or instructor provided)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 4 Review • Tuning • First Songs (either student or instructor provided) • Homework = First Song Worksheet (instructor provided or generated) <p><i>Note – It is recommended the students chose their own songs to practice. The instructor will convert the student’s chosen songs into simple chord & lyric sheets the student will be able to read, understand, and practice from</i></p>
Lesson 6 Key of C – remaining open chords and strumming	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 5 Review • Tuning • Next Chords E, Am, C, Dm, F, & A • Common strumming patterns • Homework = Key of C Chord Transition Worksheet Exercises
Lesson 7 Barre Chords, strumming review, and new songs in the key of C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 6 Review • Barre chord introduction • Common strumming review • Key of C song examples (either student or instructor provided) • Homework = Student/Instructor provided song examples and/or Key of C Chord Transition & Strumming Worksheet Exercises
Lesson 8 Becoming a guitar chord and timing master (sort of)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 7 Review • Overall chord review – Majors, Minors, and how to make all using barre chords • Timing and Strumming – 8th notes and 16th notes • Homework = Chord Transition Worksheet – Advanced Chords and Rhythm and/or Student/Instructor provided song examples
Month 2 (approximately 8 lessons). Working knowledge of the following:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Several songs in the key of G and C • How to tune any guitar (different guitar tunings) • The I, IV, V, and VI chord concepts in common keys • Common strumming patterns • Barre Chords 	

Month 3 Schedule	
Lesson 9 Advanced chord intro and other common chord progressions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 8 Review • Next Level Chords – Dominant 7ths • Timing and Strumming – 8th notes and 16th notes review • How to combine strumming patterns and improvise • Other common chord progressions (Key of A, E, and D) • Homework = Chord Transition Worksheet – Advanced Chords and Rhythm and/or Student/Instructor provided song examples
Lesson 10 Advanced chords continued, finger picking, and utilizing online resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 9 Review • Next Level Chords – Maj7ths, Sus2/4, Slash Chords, Min7ths • Basic Finger Picking • How to use online learning resources • Timing and Strumming Review • Homework = Finger picking worksheets
Lesson 11 Basic scale review, how to listen and find the key of songs, and common chord progressions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 10 Review • Scales (music review and where to find them on guitar) • Song keys and how to find them • Common Chord Progressions including the 2nd and 3rd (I, II, III, IV, V, & VI) • Homework = guitar scales worksheet practice
Lesson 12 How to play lead guitar using scales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lesson 11 Review • Basic guitar-based scales • Advanced Chord Progressions • Hammer-ons and pull-offs for chords and scales • Homework = Practice scales with Student/Instructor provided song examples
Month 3 (approximately 12 lessons). Working knowledge of the following:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Play advanced songs in any key • Advanced chord progressions • How to find the key of songs and determine what chords are associated with that key • Convert any chord progression into picking patterns • Complex strumming patterns and time signatures and how to improvise with strumming • How to play simple lead guitar to any song • How to look up and play most songs 	