

Accelerated Intermediate Guitar

Lesson Plan

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OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

In this class, we will be going over basic chord structures, improvisation and melody, ear training, and each student will provide a list of five of their favorite songs they want to learn to play and/or sing.

The individual student's unique style and artistry will be prioritized, as will ear training with an emphasis on melody. Each student will learn to play and/or sing melodies that fit in the key and to navigate the guitar fretboard by ear. Scales will also be incorporated, but will be secondary in improvisation to learning to play melodic lines.

The instructor incorporates a patient and non-rigid approach that allows each student to steer teaching towards their own interests. No student will be forced to learn material that causes them to resent the process or the instrument. They will be encouraged to experiment, jam, and find things that feel right for them.

EDUCATION STANDARDS

1. Student will be encouraged to put in daily practice time between sessions.
2. Student can self-pace and communicate needs with instructor.
3. Student will be able to ask clarifying questions between sessions.

OBJECTIVES

1. Student will gain an understanding of individual notes and chords over the entire fretboard of the guitar.
2. Student will begin to gain an understanding of how to replicate melodies they hear onto the guitar.

3. Student will learn to play their five songs of choice all the way through, and identify the individual song elements (chords, hook, melody).

MATERIALS NEEDED

1. The student must have their own acoustic or electric guitar.
2. The student must have their own guitar picks if they choose to use one.

VERIFICATION

Steps to check for student understanding

1. On the last week of classes, students will perform the pieces they've learned.
2. A before-and-after audio recording will be taken to assess skill growth.
3. Students will receive a chord and note knowledge quiz.

ACTIVITY

What will reinforce the lesson

One-hour daily of individual practice will keep a student on track for each subsequent lesson. Beginning each lesson with a warm up and a proper hand stretch will optimize practice productivity and prevent injury.

Lesson 1: Basics, Mechanics, and Skills Assessment

OVERVIEW

In this lesson we will go over the absolute basics: how to hold the guitar, how to hold a pick if the child decides to use a pick, how to warm-up and how to stretch your hands properly.

Warm Up #1: Spider Walks

Warm Up #2: The 4-Chord Song

The 4-chord song is a name given to the progression that shows up most commonly in pop music. By going over these chords to begin, the student will be able to play several popular songs.

It is a “I-V-vi-IV”

In the key of C major, the 7 notes are simply: C-D-E-F-G-A-B

So, the “I-V-vi-IV” is C-G-Am-F