

# Guitar Lessons

By Alex Van Valen



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## What I Teach

I teach basic and beginner guitar for children and adults, as well as a curriculum-based course for beginners who'd like to level-up by learning chord shapes and scales up and down the guitar fretboard, chord embellishments, and improvisation. In all of this the interests, artistry, and creativity of the student is prioritized while rudimentary skills are built over time.

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## Musical Experience

I began playing guitar nearly 15 years ago, and have been performing with bands for the last 5 years, ranging from Pop, Rock, Folk, Blues, R&B, and Soul.

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## About Me

I moved to Santa Barbara nearly 10 years ago to attend Westmont College and receive my B.A. in Psychology. I spent many years working in various settings in mental health and related services thereafter.

Working in those settings helped me to hone in on the skills I incorporate in my teaching style- patience, active listening, and adapting to the needs of each individual.