

*Vintage*  
**GUITAR PACK**

# **BEHRINGER's Guitar Method**



English



Deutsch



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**BEHRINGER**  
INSTRUMENT AMPLIFICATION

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# Guitar Pack Contents

**Top-notch electric guitar**



**Padded gig bag**



**BEHRINGER VINTAGER AC108 guitar amplifier**



**Adjustable black nylon strap**



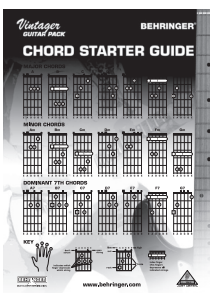
**6.5 foot high-quality instrument cable**



**3 picks**



**Chord chart poster**



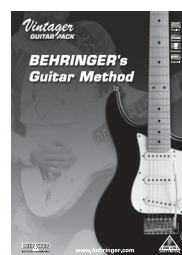
**Vibrato arm**



**Amp manual**



**Guitar instruction book**



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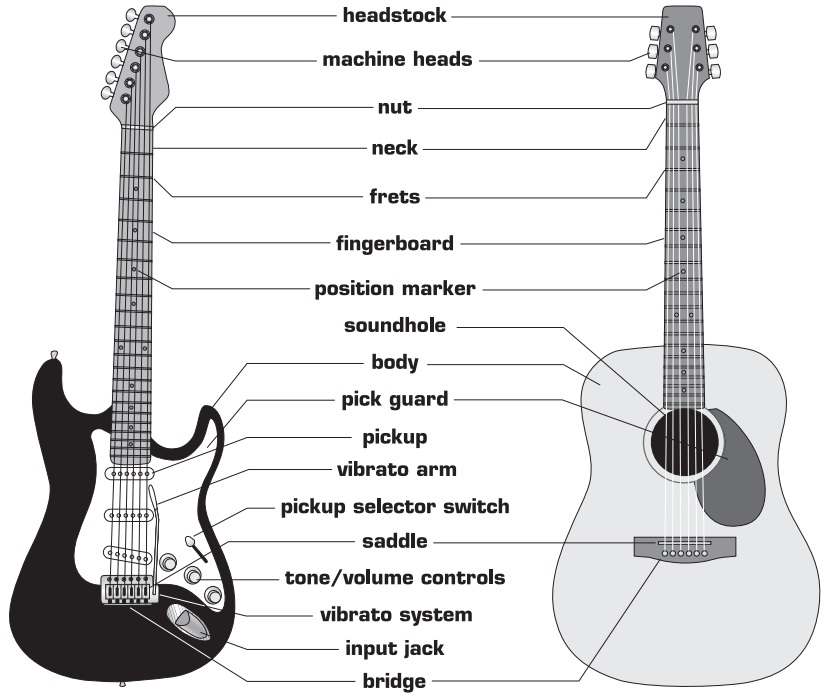
# Your Guitar

## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the BEHRINGER family! We'll show you how playing a musical instrument like the guitar can be a lot of fun. The following pages will help you learn some guitar basics. You'll get familiar with chords that allow you to play well-known songs. You'll get the skills you need to add a musical flair to your life.

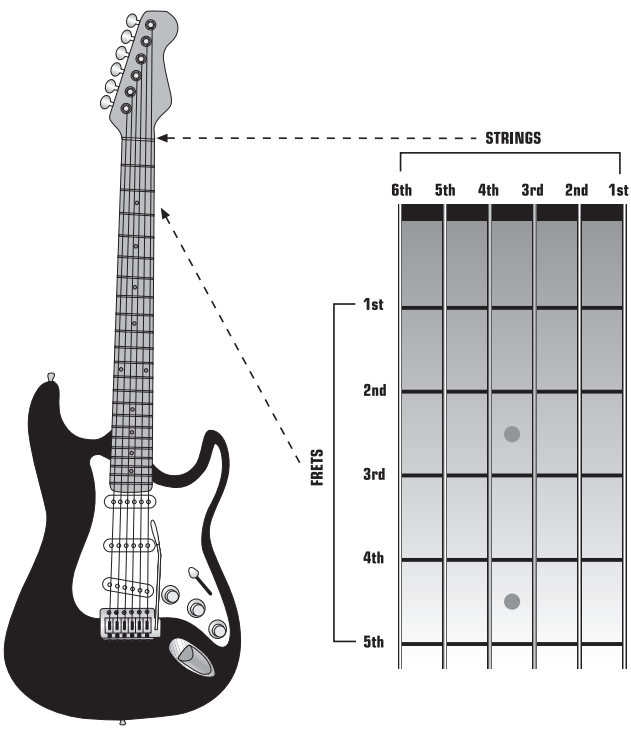
## PARTS OF A GUITAR

No matter what guitar you use (acoustic or electric), and no matter what it is used to play (folk, rock, country, jazz, or even classical music), the basic parts of the guitar are always the same. The illustration to the right shows you what these parts are called. Take some time to familiarize yourself with those! Knowing those parts by name will help you understand what you read in this book and elsewhere.



## INSTALLING THE VIBRATO ARM

Carefully insert the threaded end of the vibrato arm into the arm socket in the bridge (see diagram above for the correct position). Rotate the arm clockwise until it is firmly (but not too tightly) attached. The arm swing can be adjusted (some players prefer a loose arm swing) by turning it counter-clockwise one turn. Depressing the vibrato arm (while playing the instrument) lowers the pitch and pulling up on the arm will raise the pitch.

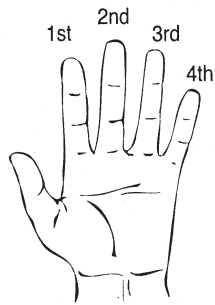


## GUITAR FRETBOARD DIAGRAM

Fretboard diagrams are like road maps for playing the guitar. They show you what notes to play and what strings to strum. Take note of how the diagram represents the guitar fretboard.

## LEFT-HAND POSITION

Left-hand fingers are numbered 1 to 4, beginning with the index finger. Always press the strings with the tips of the fingers; keeping your fingernails short will make your life a lot easier.



# Holding Positions

## HOLDING THE GUITAR

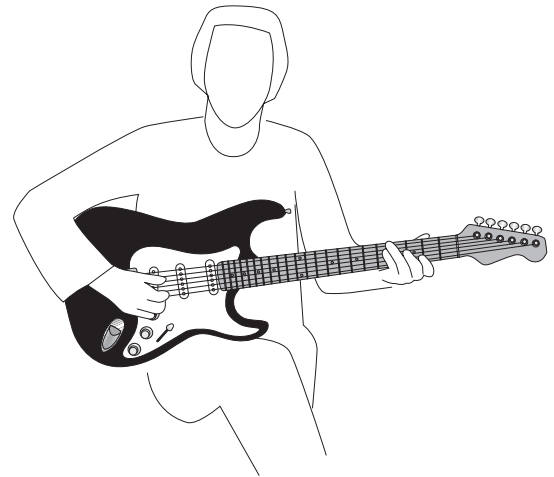
Place the guitar on your right thigh and hold it against the right side of your chest using your right arm. Try to stay relaxed. You should support the guitar using your body and not your hands, tilting the guitar neck upwards. If you cross your legs, you can elevate the neck to a higher position.

A couple of general guidelines to follow:

- \* Adjust the position of your body, arms and legs so you avoid tension
- \* Try several positions before you find the one that feels most comfortable
- \* Try to hold your head up straight; letting it droop causes strain on your spine

If the guitar hangs too low while you are playing in the standing position, this may cause unnecessary strain on your left wrist. Similarly, it may also overwhelm your right hand when you are strumming. Therefore, adjust the strap so that you find yourself in a relaxed playing position, allowing both of your hands to comfortably assume their positions.

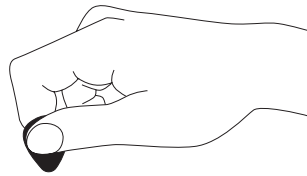
## SITTING



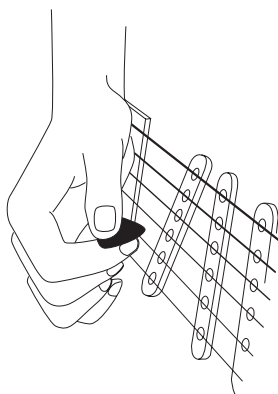
## THE PICKS

Hold the pick firmly between your thumb and index finger.

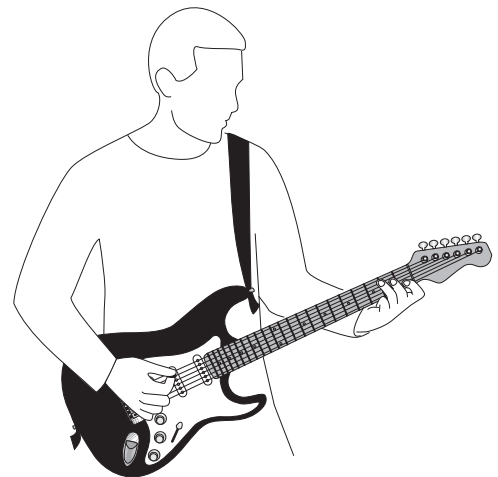
We have included 3 picks with the guitar pack. Most players start with a thin pick and then graduate to a thicker pick as their skills improve.



This is how you hold a pick in relationship to the strings. Try to relax and not think about what you are actually doing. This will help you feel more comfortable.



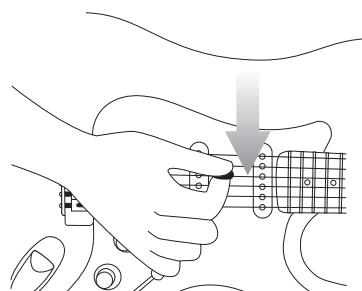
## STANDING



## DOWNWARD STRUM

Use your right hand to strum your guitar. When strumming, it is important to go over all the strings using just one motion.

Follow the direction symbols given on sheet music you use (upstroke vs. downstroke). Always try to keep a steady rhythm. Tapping your foot or counting out loud will help you keep the rhythm.



# Tuning

## INTRODUCTION

Correcting the pitch of each string is called tuning. Pitch simply means how high or how low the sound of a musical instrument (in this case, your guitar) is. There are several ways to tune your guitar:

## GUITAR PITCH PIPE

Pitch pipe is a pipe that you can buy at your local music store. Blow into it to produce a reference tone. The guitar string is then tuned to this tone.

So let's start with what we know for sure: there are six strings on your guitar and six holes in the pitch pipe. Now how do you match the six sounds of the pitch pipe to the sound of the strings?

1. Sit comfortably and hold your guitar.
2. Have the pitch pipe near you.
3. Now here is the tricky part. Pick up your pitch pipe and blow through the hole marked E1. Try to match the sound of the pitch pipe to the E1 string (all the way at the bottom) by turning the tuning key for that string. When both the pitch pipe and the string have the same pitch, you're done with that string.
4. Do the same for the top string (E6) by blowing through the hole marked E6 and turn the tuning key for that string until the sounds match.
5. Continue the same steps to do B2 (2<sup>nd</sup> string) and A5 (5<sup>th</sup> string) and the same thing for G3 and D4 (3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> string).
6. When you are finished tuning all six strings, go back through the tuning once again to be sure all strings match the sounds of the notes on the pitch pipe. Your guitar is now in tune and ready to play.

If you experience difficulty in tuning all six strings to the pitch pipe's tones, tune only one string to the pitch pipe and then tune the rest by using the relative tuning method.

## ELECTRONIC TUNER

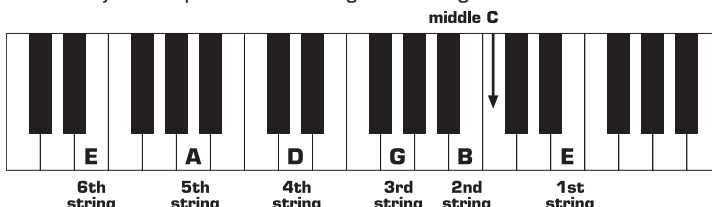
Electronic tuners are widely available at music stores, and are probably the easiest method to tune a guitar. The tuner "listens" to the pitch of each string as you strum it, one at a time, and uses an easily understandable display to let you know if your pitch is too high or too low. You may consider getting one if you find it difficult to tune your guitar using the other tuning methods we describe in this book.

## ONLINE TUNING

At [www.behringer.com](http://www.behringer.com), you will find an awesome online tuner for your guitar. Go for it!

## KEYBOARDS

If you have a piano or electric keyboard, here's a quick overview of how to tune your guitar. Follow the same procedure as with the pitch pipe. Which key corresponds to which guitar string is shown below.



## RELATIVE TUNING

Relative tuning is the most versatile tuning method because you can use it anywhere and anytime.

All you need is a single reference tone (e.g. from another instrument or your pitch pipe). You can tune all strings relative to one another, provided one of them is tuned right.

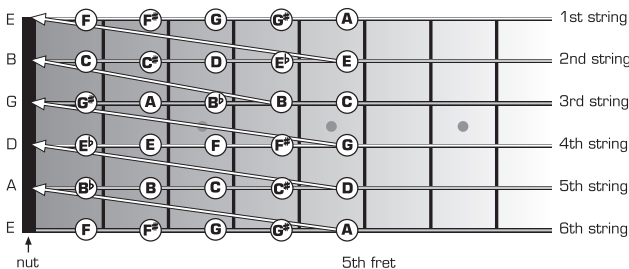
What makes it even better: if you don't have a reference tone against which to check your pitch, simply choose a reference tone. The following example uses the 6<sup>th</sup> string (E6) as the reference tone.

1. Tune the open (no chord played) 6<sup>th</sup> string (E6) to a clear, low-pitch sound. Get the string to the point of not being too loose, otherwise it will buzz when you play.
2. Press the sixth string at the fifth fret. This is the pitch to which you should tune the open fifth string. Keep on strumming the pressed 6<sup>th</sup> string and the open 5<sup>th</sup> string until their sounds match. They are now in tune with one another.
3. Keep doing the same for the remaining strings, always using the higher-numbered string as the reference for tuning the adjacent lower-numbered string.

Here's a short overview of how it's all done:

- 6<sup>th</sup> string 5<sup>th</sup> fret = open 5<sup>th</sup> string
- 5<sup>th</sup> string 5<sup>th</sup> fret = open 4<sup>th</sup> string
- 4<sup>th</sup> string 5<sup>th</sup> position = open 3<sup>rd</sup> string
- 3<sup>rd</sup> string 4<sup>th</sup> position = open 2<sup>nd</sup> string
- 2<sup>nd</sup> string 5<sup>th</sup> position = open 1<sup>st</sup> string

Simply refer to the following diagram:



## TUNING WITH BEHRINGER GUITAR AMPS

The 2-channel amps of our V-TONE guitar amp series (GMX212, GMX210 and GMX110) feature an integrated electronic tuner! Further information can be found at [www.behringer.com](http://www.behringer.com).

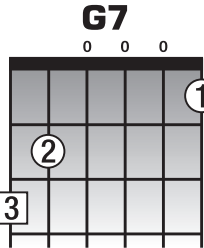
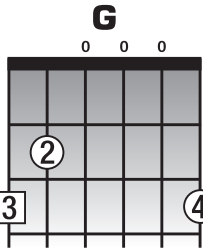
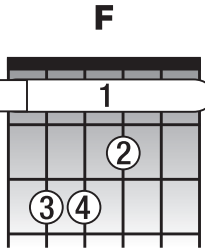
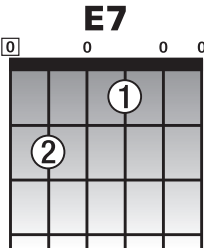
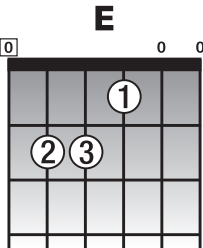
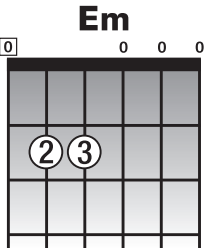
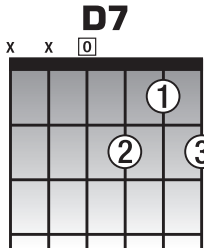
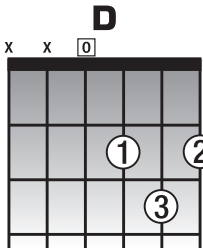
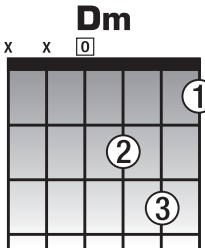
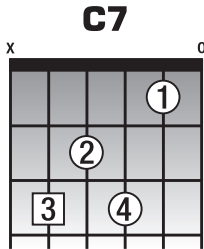
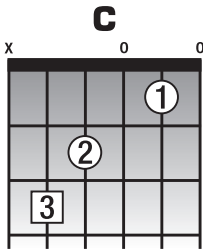
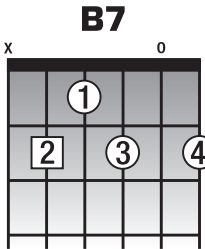
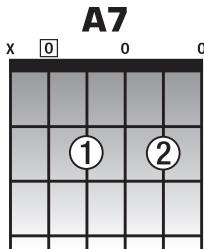
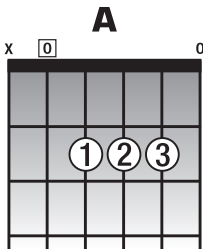
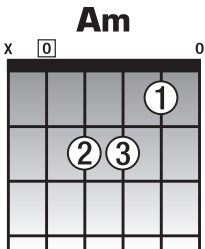
# Chords

## BRIEF INTRODUCTION TO CHORDS

Don't be afraid of chords—there's no reason for it. Chords are simply three or more notes that are being played together at the same time. The most popular chords are major and minor chords. Major chords have an elevated, cheerful character, while minor chords often connote a sense of melancholy and sadness.

A chord consists of a "root" note and some additional notes that have a specific tonal relationship to the root. This relationship, or distance between the root and the other notes in the chord, depends on the type of chord (e.g. major, minor or seventh chords) being played. This is why the finger positions for the C major, C minor and C seventh chords are different.

Remember the last camp fire sing-along with the guy playing the guitar? Chances are, he was just playing a couple of chords, but only a couple of chords you master are enough to get you started and be able to play a couple of simple songs.



x = don't strum

o = open string

□ = root

▭ = index finger (1st finger) depresses all indicated strings

# First Steps

## F MAJOR

The F chord (F major) on page 7 is a base "barre" chord, and it may take some time to get it right. So, what's a "barre" chord? Barre chords are basically chords moved up the fretboard by using your "barred" finger as the nut.

Don't avoid practicing; doing it just a little each day, you'll be positively surprised by the results. Once you've mastered basic chords, you'll have a powerful tool for controlling how you play your guitar.

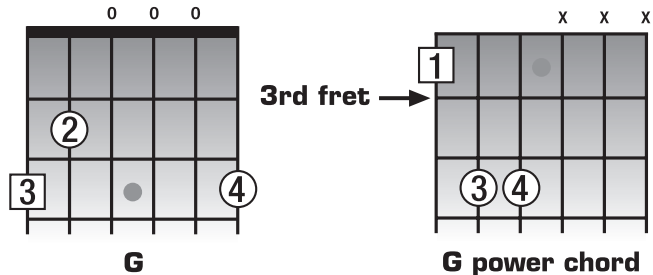
Did you notice the similar shape of the E and F chords? Right, the F chord is simply an E chord, shifted upward one position.

This trick works equally well for a lot more chords, e.g. Am. Shift to the 5th fret position and play Dm! Here, too, the index finger replaces the nut.

## POWER CHORDS

Power chords are those chords that utilize only the bottom three strings of the guitar. This creates a more closed sound and mutes the top strings. It's called "power chord" because this technique creates a more imposing overall sound. Power chords are an integral part of rock and metal music.

See the following example:



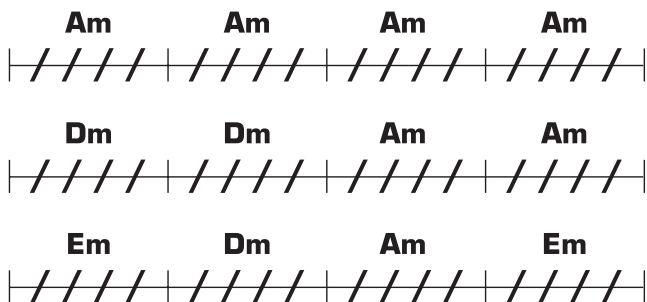
You can easily mute the top three strings with your index finger while playing the power chord.

Note: If you move the G power chord 2 frets upward (in the direction to the pickups), you get an A power chord, 4 frets upward and you get a B power chord... you get the picture. ;-)

## EASY CHORD PROGRESSIONS

This diagram shows an easy chord progression in the key of A minor. The tune has a total length of 12 measures, divided in three parts of four measures each. Start again from the beginning when you've played it all the way through.

Each slash means a downstroke. Study each chord as a single unit before you start playing the whole progression. Strive for a slow but steady beat. When you feel comfortable, experiment with different tempos.



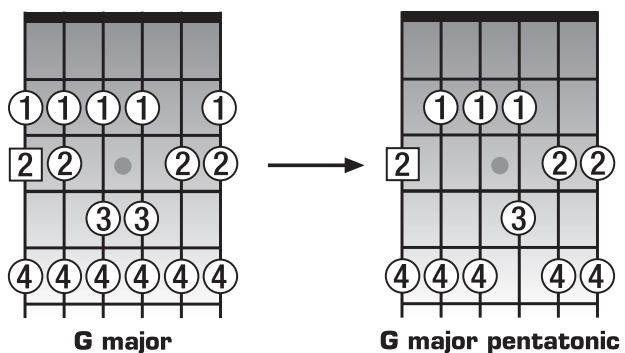
Here are some more chord progressions to play:

- 1) A - D - E - A
- 2) A - D - E7 - A
- 3) A7 - D7 - E7 - A7
- 4) D - G - A7 - D
- 5) G - C - D - G
- 6) D - Em - G - A - D
- 7) C - Am - Dm - G - C
- 8) G - Em - Am - D - E

## PENTATONIC SCALE

"Penta" means "five" in Greek, and "tonic" refers to tone. Therefore, the pentatonic scale consists of five tones per octave. In other words, it is a major scale without the 4th and the 7th note. Still with us? Keep in mind that, in contrast to the pentatonic scale, the major scale consists of 7 tones per octave.

The diagram shows you how a pentatonic scale is derived from a G major scale. For example, use the notes which belong to the G major pentatonic scale to play an easy guitar solo.





# Care/Maintenance

## CLEANING YOUR GUITAR

Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the strings of your guitar each time after you play. The wetness from your hands can cause the strings to rust. Cleaning the strings regularly will greatly prolong their life.

Polish your guitar from time to time using a high-grade instrument polish containing small amounts of non-silicon wax and maybe a little lemon oil.

To keep the fingerboard free from dry marks and cracks, some lemon oil on a cloth applied to the wood should do the job.

## CARE

Do not lean your guitar against walls; it could get knocked over or bumped into.

Never leave your guitar lying on the floor or on the edge of your bed where it may get stepped on or knocked off or even sat on.

Never leave your instrument in the trunk of a car when the weather is very warm or extremely cold. Extreme temperatures can be harmful to your gear. If you must store your guitar inside a car, first remove the tension from the strings and allow things to cool off or warm up completely before pulling up to pitch again.

## CHANGING STRINGS

Visit your local music store to purchase new strings and get detailed instructions on how to change them.

Replace the strings periodically, as they will lose their brilliance after a while. How often you change the strings depends on the type of strings, their gauge or diameter. Rule of thumb: When the strings start sounding dull, this is a hint that you should replace them.

## Tips

If you're looking for further guitar instructions, please take a look at the following books:

PETER BURSCH's ROCK GUITAR. Guitar tab/without notes. Learn to play guitar without notes! Rocking made easy—start playing right away! Master easy basic rhythms. Discover what made Jimi Hendrix, Metallica, Van Halen and AC/DC sound so great. Learn how to move your fingers faster than ever! Use the left-hand finger exercises included, plus much more. info@voggenreiter.de

ISBN 3-8024-0365-7

HAL LEONARD GUITAR METHOD BOOK 2, Will Schmid and Greg Koch. The second installment continues in the footsteps of the first book, covering Am, Dm, A, E, F and B7 chords; power chords; fingerstyle guitar; syncopations, dotted rhythms, and triplets; Carter style solos; bass runs; pentatonic scales; improvising; tablature; it also offers 92 great songs, riffs and examples; notes in first and second position; and more! The included CD contains 57 tracks that nicely demonstrate the techniques at hand and let the student play along.

ISBN: 0634013130

HAL LEONARD GUITAR METHOD BOOK 1, Will Schmid and Greg Koch, new revision! More teachers prefer this edition of the now-famous learning method by Will Schmid and Greg Koch because it is effective and user-friendly. The easy-to-follow format gives students a solid music education and lets them play songs right away. In Book 1, you will find beginning instruction on tuning, 1st position melody playing, C, G, G7, D7, and Em chords, rhythms through eighth notes, solos and ensembles and strumming. You also get a chord chart and many all-time favorites like Amazing Grace · Greensleeves · and When the Saints Go Marching In.

ISBN: 079351245X

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