

Kingwood Music School
Beginning Guitar Class I
Loren Zawodny
832-318-1331
loren.zawodny@gmail.com

Course Materials

- *Beginning Guitar Superbook* by Will Schmid (Blue edition with 4 CDs)
- Acoustic guitar with nylon or steel strings
- Guitar picks (medium thickness)
- Music stand (for home use, optional)
- Guitar footstool or cushion support (optional)

Course Objectives

Guitar class is a fun way for adults to learn to play in a group setting. In addition to receiving instruction from an expert teacher, you also learn from interactions with your classmates.

During this 8-week course, the student will:

- Apply basic music skills like notes and rhythm
- Read, write, and play music from tablature and musical notation
- Develop good playing technique and posture.
- Utilize the entire fingerboard on all 6 strings
- Play several single-note melodies
- Play several songs using chords and strumming and picking patterns
- Learn basic maintenance and care of your instrument

A Note on Practicing:

Students should expect to practice 15-20 minutes at least 4 days per week in order to reap full benefit of the lessons. Practice time should always include warm-up exercises, practicing new concepts, and review of old material. As you progress, and as time permits, it is beneficial to look at additional songs or other music sources. The ultimate goal is to enjoy playing the guitar and to have a firm foundation for future group or private study.

Class Schedule

- 1 Intro to course materials, proper playing position, musical symbols, counting
Up'n'down Exercise (handout)
Notes on 1st string, *First String Exercises*(10-11)
One strum per measure, C and G7 chords (3-string), chord changes
He's Got the Whole World in His Hands(81)

- 2 Tuning your guitar
1234 Exercise (handout)
Notes on the 2nd string
Exercises(12-13), Begin *Ode to Joy*(14)
G and D7 chords (3-string)
This Land is Your Land(85)
- 3 Long-Jump Exercise (handout)
Notes on the 3rd string, Scales
Ex. 22 - G Major Scale(16), Begin *Au Clair de la Lune*(17)
D chord, two strums per measure
Begin *Love Me Do*(124)
- 4 Catch-up Day! Review
Changing strings and regular guitar maintenance
- 5 Finger-Stretch Exercise (handout)
Notes on the 4th string
Continue *Au Clair de la Lune*, Begin *Let It Be*(56)
Continue *Love Me Do*
- 6 Finger-Switch Exercise (handout)
Notes on the 5th string
Continue *Let It Be*, Begin *Don't Be Cruel*(59)
Four strums per measure, up-strokes
Continue *Love Me Do*
- 7 Review of Strings 1-5
Continue *Don't Be Cruel*
Strumming patterns
Continue *Love Me Do*, review of other songs using strumming patterns
- 8 Course review and Jam Session
Additional guitar resources