



Course Information Sheet

Guitar Beginners Stage 2

Introduction

The aim of this course is to give learners an introduction to a wide range of guitar playing styles and techniques. It builds on the work of the Guitar Beginners stage 1 course and will give you experience of both accompanying songs and using the guitar as a melody instrument as well as for accompaniment.

What are the course entry requirements?

You will get the most out of this course if you already have some knowledge of basic chords and how to read chord boxes. A willingness to practice, to participate and to move forward is the prime requirement. You do not need to read music, although some exercises will be presented in both tablature and musical notation.

How long is the course?

Please see current brochure

What will the course involve?

You will gain an understanding of how chords are named, and of basic musical scales, major minor and pentatonic. You will be able to play melodies as well as chords and should know where to find notes over a range of the fingerboard.

How will I be learning?

The sessions typically involve a demonstration of a new technique, song or tune followed by opportunity to practice individually or in small groups before plating the piece as a group. The songs or tunes are vehicles for using the techniques that we learn in the sessions.

The course material on largely presented on worksheets with information in both written and diagrammatic form.

What equipment will I need?

A serviceable acoustic guitar is essential. This can be steel or nylon strung, we cover styles suitable for both types of instrument.

How will I know if I am making progress?

Your tutor will continually observe your progress and you are encouraged to discuss your progress and ask for help as needed. Periodically you will be asked to complete a brief written summary of what you have learned and what you need or want to work on as the course progresses.

What course work will I be expected to complete?

There is no formal coursework although to get the most out of the course you do need to spend time practising new techniques in readiness for the next class.

What can I expect to learn from this course?

You will cover the basics of a variety of guitar playing styles and will at the end be suitably poised to choose which direction or directions you want your guitar playing to take as you take further steps along a musical journey of discovery and self satisfaction that may well last the rest of your life. You can expect, at the end of the course to be able to

- Use a variety of techniques to play both chords and tunes in a variety of styles
- Recognise and play a range of chords (major, minor, 7ths, 9ths, augmented and diminished) from memory and to use chord diagrams to play new ones
- Play major minor and pentatonic scales in common keys including C G and D and to use scale boxes to play new scales
- Use the capo to ease chord work and to improve tone in group playing
- Play appropriate pieces, including instrumental pieces, solo and in groups

Will I need to cover anything in addition to the course fee?

Make sure your guitar is serviceable. It would be beneficial to buy a capo – the tutor will advise on this if you are unsure what to buy.

What other training programmes and progression opportunities are there?

If you require in-depth advice on progression opportunities or guidance on career choices please contact our Information Advice and Guidance Officers on 0845 600 1331. For general information about other courses, contact us on the same number or check out the website www.lancashire.gov.uk/adultlearning