

Course Information Sheet

Guitar Beginners

Introduction

This course is aimed at aspiring guitarists who wish to strum or pick along as an accompaniment to either a song or a melody played on another guitar or another musical instrument.

It is not designed to produce another Eric Clapton, Ralph McTell, Mark Knopfler or John Williams. However – delivered in a very user-friendly way - it will impart the fundamental understanding and the basic techniques required to accompany yourself, at an acceptable standard, whilst playing several songs in various styles – (Folk, Pop, Country, Acoustic Rock & Blues).

What are the course entry requirements?

To get the best from this course you should :-

- Have a desire to play a guitar (and if you like to ‘Sing along’ too – that is even better)
- Be prepared to practice – several times a week
- And please note (this is particularly aimed at the ladies) the finger nails on your left hand (if you are right-handed) need to be kept short.
- A sense of humour, desire to have fun while you learn and an ability to ‘Not take yourself too seriously’ are essential

You DO NOT need to be able to read music to take this course

How long is the course?

8 weeks

What will the course involve?

During the course you will:-

- Learn to tune your guitar
- Understand Chord Diagrams
- Learn simple strumming/picking patterns
- Performance skills

How will I be learning?

Handouts/ Group exercises/ Interactive website available

What equipment will I need?

ESSENTIAL – an acoustic guitar (either a steel strung acoustic or a nylon strung classical) A Capo
NICE TO HAVE (But not essential), A Tuner, Plectrums, Strap, Thumb and finger picks. If you don't already have these – wait until you start the course before buying.

Work sheets will be provided (You may like to bring along a file to keep them in)

Access to a computer is useful as there will be information on the internet.

A small sound recording device if you feel that it may be of use.

How will I know if I am making progress?

Your tutor will monitor your progress by carrying out an assessment at the start of the course and giving individual help and advice during each session. There will also be group discussion, question and answer and peer assessment as an ongoing part of the course.

What course work will I be expected to complete?

15 minutes practice, 5 times per week

What can I expect to learn from this course?

Ability to accompany yourself using basic chords/ basic strumming patterns

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

