

Extreme Basics For Brand New Guitarists

How To Tune

Here is one way to tune the guitar. Let's remember that the 1st string (smallest, towards the ground) is the high E and the 6th string (largest, towards the sky) is the low E. First, tune the low E (6th string).

Using a piano or keyboard: turn the 6th string until it rings in unison (matches the pitch) with the 12th white key to the left of middle C.

Then put your finger on the 5th fret of the 6th string (press hard) and pick the 6th and 5th strings together, turning the 5th string until their pitches match.

Use the 5th fret of the 5th string to tune the 4th string, the 5th fret of the 4th string to tune the 3rd string, the 4th fret of the 3rd string to tune the 2nd string, and the 5th fret of the 2nd string in order to tune the 1st string.

You can also buy pitch pipes or battery powered tuners with instructions for use at your local music store.

How To Hold A Pick



Rest thumb of picking hand on tip of index finger.



Slide the wide end of the pick between the index finger and the thumb.



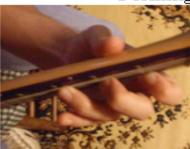
The curve of the pick (wide end) should follow the crease in the skin at the joint of the index finger.

Placement Of Picking Hand On The Guitar



Place tip of extended pinky finger under the strings halfway between the bridge and the neck. The forearm rests on the top, back edge of the body. The small end of the pick points toward the body of the guitar. You strum (pick) using a wrist motion, not your whole arm.

Forming A Chord



Place thumb of fret hand on the back of the neck.



Place tips of fingers on the fretboard directly behind the fret bar.