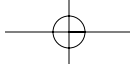


Contents at a Glance

<i>Introduction</i>	1
<i>Part I: So You Wanna Play Guitar</i>	9
Chapter 1: Guitar 101	11
Chapter 2: Turn On, Tune In	19
Chapter 3: Ready, Set . . . Not Yet: Developing the Tools and Skills to Play	27
<i>Part II: So Start Playing: The Basics</i>	39
Chapter 4: The Easiest Way to Play: Basic Major and Minor Chords	41
Chapter 5: Playing Melodies without Reading Music!	61
Chapter 6: Adding Some Spice: Basic 7th Chords	71
<i>Part III: Beyond the Basics: Starting to Sound Cool</i>	87
Chapter 7: Playing Melodies in Position and in Double-Stops	89
Chapter 8: Stretching Out: Barre Chords	103
Chapter 9: Special Articulation: Making the Guitar Talk	127
<i>Part IV: A Cornucopia of Styles</i>	153
Chapter 10: Rock	155
Chapter 11: Blues	183
Chapter 12: Folk	207
Chapter 13: Classical	231
Chapter 14: Jazz	247
<i>Part V: Purchasing and Caring for Your Guitar</i>	261
Chapter 15: Perfectly Good Guitars	263
Chapter 16: Guitar Accessories	279
Chapter 17: Getting Strung Along: Changing Strings	295
Chapter 18: Staying Fit: Basic Maintenance and Repairs	307
<i>Part VI: The Part of Tens</i>	325
Chapter 19: Ten Guitarists You Should Know	327
Chapter 20: Ten Guitars You Should Know	333



<i>Part VII: Appendixes</i>	337
Appendix A: How to Read Music	339
Appendix B: 96 Common Chords	351
Appendix C: How to Use the CD	355
<i>Index</i>	365

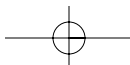
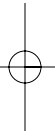
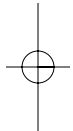


Table of Contents

<i>Introduction</i>	1
About This Book	1
Finding a guitar	1
Playing the guitar	2
Caring for your guitar	3
Not-So-Foolish Assumptions	3
What You're Not to Read	3
Conventions We Use in This Book	4
How This Book Is Organized	4
Part I: So You Wanna Play Guitar	5
Part II: So Start Playing: The Basics	5
Part III: Beyond the Basics: Starting to Sound Cool	6
Part IV: A Cornucopia of Styles	6
Part V: Purchasing and Caring for Your Guitar	6
Part VI: The Part of Tens	7
Part VII: Appendixes	7
Icons Used in This Book	7
Where to Go from Here	8
<i>Part I: So You Wanna Play Guitar</i>	9
Chapter 1: Guitar 101	11
Anatomy of a Guitar	11
How Guitars Work	14
String vibration and string length	15
Using both hands to make a sound	15
Frets and half steps	16
Pickups	16
Chapter 2: Turn On, Tune In	19
Counting on Your Strings and Frets	19
Everything's Relative: Tuning the Guitar to Itself	20
The fifth-fret method	20
In Deference to a Reference: Tuning to a Fixed Source	22
Taking a turn at the piano	23
Tuning your guitar with a pitch pipe	24
Sinking your teeth into the tuning fork	24
Experiencing the electronic tuner	25
Using your CD	26

Chapter 3: Ready, Set . . . Not Yet: Developing the Tools and Skills to Play27

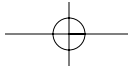
Hand Position and Posture	27
Settling in to a sitting position	28
Standing position	29
Left-hand position: Fretting made easy	30
Right-hand position	32
You Don't Have to Read Music to Understand Guitar Notation	34
Getting by with a little help from a chord diagram	34
Reading rhythm slashes	36
Taking a look at tablature	36
How to Play a Chord	37
Fingering a chord	37
Avoiding buzzes	38

Part II: So Start Playing: The Basics39**Chapter 4: The Easiest Way to Play:****Basic Major and Minor Chords41**

Playing Chords in the A Family	42
Fingering A-family chords	42
Strumming A-family chords	43
Playing Chords in the D Family	45
Fingering D-family chords	46
Strumming D-family chords	47
Playing Chords in the G Family	48
Fingering G-family chords	48
Strumming G-family chords	48
Playing Chords in the C Family	49
Fingering C-family chords	50
Strumming C-family chords	50
Playing Songs with Basic Major and Minor Chords	51
Having Fun with Basic Major and Minor Chords:	
The "Oldies" Progression	58

Chapter 5: Playing Melodies without Reading Music!61

Reading Tablature While Listening to the CD	62
Top or bottom?	62
Right or left?	63
Getting a Grip on Left-Hand Fingering	64
Using Alternate Picking	64
Playing Songs with Simple Melodies	66



Chapter 6: Adding Some Spice: Basic 7th Chords	71
Dominant 7th Chords	72
D7, G7, and C7	72
E7 and A7	73
E7 (four-finger version) and B7	74
Minor 7th Chords — Dm7, Em7, and Am7	75
Major 7th Chords — Cmaj7, Fmaj7, Amaj7, and Dmaj7	76
Playing Songs with 7th Chords	77
Fun with 7th Chords: The 12-Bar Blues	84
Playing the 12-bar blues	84
Writing your own blues song	85

Part III: Beyond the Basics: Starting to Sound Cool87

Chapter 7: Playing Melodies in Position and in Double-Stops	89
Playing in Position	89
Playing in position versus playing with open strings	90
Playing exercises in position	90
Shifting positions	92
Building strength and dexterity by playing in position	93
Double-Stops	95
Understanding double-stops	95
Playing exercises in double-stops	95
Playing Songs in Position and in Double-Stops	97

Chapter 8: Stretching Out: Barre Chords	103
Playing Major Barre Chords Based on E	103
Finding the right fret	105
Playing progressions using major barre chords based on E	106
Playing Minor, Dominant 7th, and	
Minor 7th Barre Chords Based on E	107
Minor chords	108
Dominant 7th chords	109
Minor 7th chords	110
Playing Major Barre Chords Based on A	111
Fingering the A-based major barre chord	112
Finding the right fret	113
Progressions using A-based major barre chords	113
Playing Minor, Dominant 7th, Minor 7th, and	
Major 7th Barre Chords Based on A	115
Minor chords	115
Dominant 7th chords	116
Minor 7th chords	117
Major 7th chords	117

Wailing on Power Chords	119
Fingering power chords	119
How you use power chords	122
Playing Songs with Barre Chords and Power Chords	123

Chapter 9: Special Articulation: Making the Guitar Talk127

Getting the Hang of Hammer-Ons	128
Playing a hammer-on	128
Getting idiomatic with hammer-ons	130
Getting Playful with Pull-Offs	132
Playing pull-offs	132
Getting idiomatic with pull-offs	135
Getting Slippery with Slides	135
Playing slides	136
Playing idiomatic licks using slides	138
Getting the Bends	139
Playing bends	140
Getting idiomatic with bends	142
Varying Your Sound with Vibrato	145
Getting Mellow with Muting	147
Creating a thick, chunky sound as an effect	148
Preventing unwanted string noise	149
Playing idiomatic licks using muting	149
Playing a Song with Varied Articulation	151

Part IV: A Cornucopia of Styles153

Chapter 10: Rock155

Classic Rock 'n' Roll	155
Rhythm guitar	156
Lead guitar	159
Modern Rock	169
Sus and add chords	169
Slash chords	170
Alternate tunings	172
Country-rock and Southern-rock lead	174
Playing Songs in the Rock Style	177

Chapter 11: Blues183

Electric Blues	184
Blues rhythm guitar	184
Blues lead guitar	189

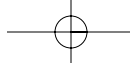
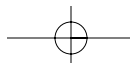
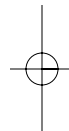
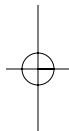


Table of Contents**xv**

Acoustic Blues	197
General concepts	197
Specific techniques	200
Turnarounds	202
Playing Blues Songs	204
Chapter 12: Folk207
Playing Fingerstyle	207
Fingerstyle technique	208
Right-hand position	208
Using the Capo	210
Arpeggio Style	212
Playing arpeggio style	212
“Lullaby” pattern	213
Thumb-Brush Style	214
Simple thumb-brush	214
Thumb-brush-up	215
Carter Style	215
Travis Picking	216
Playing the pattern	217
Accompaniment style	219
Solo style	220
Open tuning	220
Playing Folk Songs	222
Chapter 13: Classical231
Getting Ready to Play Classical Guitar	232
How to sit	232
The right hand	233
Left-hand position	235
Free Strokes and Rest Strokes	237
Playing free strokes	237
Playing rest strokes	238
Arpeggio Style and Contrapuntal Style	240
Combining free strokes and rest strokes in arpeggios	240
Point/counterpoint	240
Playing Classical Pieces	242
Chapter 14: Jazz247
Introducing a Whole New Harmony	248
Extended chords	248
Altered chords	249



Rhythm Comping	249
Inside chords	249
Outside chords	250
Full chords	252
Playing Solo: Chord-Melody Style	253
Making substitutions	253
Faking it with three chords	254
Taking the Lead: Jazz Melody	254
Scales with altered tones	255
Approaching target notes	256
Making melodies from arpeggiated chords	256
Playing Jazz Songs	257

***Part V: Purchasing and Caring for Your Guitar*261**

Chapter 15: Perfectly Good Guitars263

Before Breaking Out Your Wallet	264
Beginner Guitars	265
Models for a Particular Style	267
The Second (And Third . . .) Guitars	268
Construction	270
Materials	271
Workmanship	273
Appointments (cosmetics)	274
Buying an Ax to Grind	274
Bringing along an expert	275
Meeting the salesperson	275
The art of the deal	276

Chapter 16: Guitar Accessories279

Amps	279
Getting started with a practice amp	280
Powering up to a performance amp	281
A Case for Cases	284
Hard cases	284
Soft cases	285
Gig bags	285
Capos	285
Effect Pedals and Devices	286
Picks	289
Strings	290
Straps	290
Electronic Tuners	291
Some Other Helpful (But Nonessential) Goodies	292

Chapter 17: Getting Strung Along: Changing Strings	295
Restringing Strategies	296
Removing Old Strings	296
Stringing a Steel-String Acoustic Guitar	297
Changing strings step-by-step	297
Tuning up	300
Stringing Nylon-String Guitars	301
Changing strings step-by-step	301
Tuning up	303
Stringing an Electric Guitar	304
Changing strings step-by-step	304
The special case of the Floyd Rose bridge	306
Chapter 18: Staying Fit: Basic Maintenance and Repairs	307
Cleaning Your Guitar	310
Removing dirt and grime	310
Caring for the finish	312
Protecting Your Guitar	313
On the road	313
In storage	314
Providing a Healthy Environment	314
Temperature settings	315
Humidity	315
Do-It-Yourself Repairs	316
Tightening loose connections	316
Adjusting the neck and bridge	316
Replacing worn or old parts	319
Having the Right Tools	322
Ten Things That You Can't Do Yourself	323
 Part VI: The Part of Tens	 325
Chapter 19: Ten Guitarists You Should Know	327
Andrés Segovia (1893–1987)	327
Charlie Christian (1916–42)	327
Chet Atkins (1924–2001)	328
Wes Montgomery (1925–68)	328
B.B. King (1925–)	328
Chuck Berry (1926–)	328
Jimi Hendrix (1942–70)	329
Jimmy Page (1944–)	329
Eric Clapton (1945–)	329
Eddie Van Halen (1955–)	329
Guitarists Who May Be on Someone Else's Top Ten List	330

xviii **Guitar For Dummies, 2nd Edition**

Chapter 20: Ten Guitars You Should Know	333
D'Angelico Archtop	333
Fender Stratocaster	334
Fender Telecaster	334
Gibson ES-335	334
Gibson J-200	335
Gibson Les Paul	335
Gretsch 6120	335
Martin D-28	335
Ramirez Classical	336
Rickenbacker 360-12	336
 Part VII: Appendixes	 337
Appendix A: How to Read Music	339
The Elements of Music Notation	340
Reading pitch	341
Reading duration	343
Expression, articulation, and miscellaneous terms and symbols	346
Finding Notes on the Guitar	347
Appendix B: 96 Common Chords	351
Appendix C: How to Use the CD	355
Relating the Text to the CD	355
Count-offs	356
Stereo separation	356
System Requirements	357
Audio CD players	357
Computer CD-ROM drives	357
Using the CD with Microsoft Windows	357
Using the CD with Mac OS	358
What You'll Find on the CD	358
CD audio tracks	358
Digital music	364
Troubleshooting	364
 Index	 365