
Lead Guitar Milestones

High School – Based on a desirable curriculum pacing for a beginning guitar class for Grades 9-12 that meets 4-5 times per week for 50-60 minutes each time. Classes meet Arts Standards for Harmonizing Instruments and Performing Ensembles at the level of Intermediate to Proficient at the end of Year 1 and Accomplished to Advanced at the end of Year 2.

End of Quarter 1

Method Book I, Level Two (beginning of level two)

Key Pieces of Music Students Should Be Able to Perform

1. Ode to Joy
2. Freight Train
3. Sundance Opera

Learning Objectives Achieved

1. Understanding the principles of ergonomic technique
2. Reading music in standard notation
3. Following a conductor

Technique focus

- Alternating right hand rest strokes

End of Quarter 2

Method Book I, Level Three (middle of level three)

Key Pieces of Music Students Should Be Able to Perform

1. 12 Bar Blues
2. Minuet in G
3. De Colores

Learning Objectives Achieved

1. Playing in large and small ensembles with 3 or more independent lines
2. Increasing rhythmic complexity including dotted notes, tied notes and playing in a variety of meters
3. Sharps, flats and key signatures
4. Staccato, Legato
5. Transposable Major Scale Patterns

Technique focus

- Left hand position shifts

End of Quarter 3

Method Book I, Level Four

Key Pieces of Music Students Should Be Able to Perform

1. Six Rock Riffs
2. Leyenda
3. Leccion No. 2

Learning Objectives Achieved

1. Performing solo guitar music with two independent voices
2. Performing with expressiveness using dynamics, phrasing and tone color changes
3. Reading ledger lines

Technique focus

- Thumb free strokes and mixing finger rest strokes with thumb free strokes

End of Quarter 4

Method Book I, Level Five

Key Pieces of Music Students Should Be Able to Perform

1. Etudes in E minor, G and A minor
2. Malaguena

Learning Objectives Achieved

1. Refining performance skills and etiquette
2. Understanding how music is transcribed from one medium to another
3. Playing music from a variety of cultures and traditions

Technique focus

- Free strokes with p-i-m-a