

The Non-Method Guitar Book

52 Lessons for Teachers and Students

by Charlotte Adams

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Lessons Categorized By Topic

Scales

Lesson #2 - The Chromatic Scale
Lesson #8 - C Scale, First Position
Lesson #17 - Using the C Scale
Lesson #22 - The Pentatonic Scale
Lesson #23 - The Circle of Fifths
Lesson #30 - Movable Scale Patterns
Lesson #31 - Scale Manipulation
Lesson #33 - Thirds Within the Scale
Lesson #41 - The Minor Scale
Lesson #43 - Arpeggios From Scales
Lesson #44 - Arpeggios in Progressions
Lesson #45 - Scale Pattern #2
Lesson #47 - Patterns Within Patterns
Lesson #48 - Melodic Soloing
Lesson #51 - Double Stops: 3rds, 6ths
Lesson #52 - Octaves

Theory

Lesson #15 - Time Signatures
Lesson #18 - Writing a Chart
Lesson #21 - The Major Scale
Lesson #22 - The Pentatonic Scale
Lesson #23 - The Circle of Fifths
Lesson #25 - The Capo
Lesson #26 - Barre Chords
Lesson #30 - Movable Scale Patterns
Lesson #35 - How to Transpose
Lesson #37 - Writing it Down
Lesson #40 - Understanding Chords
Lesson #41 - The Minor Scale
Lesson #42 - Melodic Rhythm
Lesson #43 - Arpeggios From Scales
Lesson #44 - Arpeggios in Progressions
Lesson #45 - Scale Pattern #2

Technique

Lesson #1 - Sustain
Lesson #2 - The Chromatic Scale
Lesson #4 - Pick Direction
Lesson #5 - Pick Technique
Lesson #6 - Strumming
Lesson #11 - Hammer-On, Pull-Off
Lesson #13 - Fingerstyle Technique
Lesson #14 - Pick control
Lesson #19 - Dynamics
Lesson #20 - Fingerstyle: Bass-Grab

Ear Training

Lesson #3 - Rhythm/Metronome
Lesson #7 - Listening/Pitch Sense
Lesson #9 - Sing!
Lesson #42 - Melodic Rhythm
Lesson #46 - Developing Your Ear: Chords
Lesson #49 - Listening: Major Chords
Lesson #50 - Listening: Minor Chords

General Skills

Lesson #3 - Rhythm/Metronome
Lesson #9 - Sing!
Lesson #10 - Memorizing Music
Lesson #12 - 12-Bar Blues
Lesson #16 - Playing With Time
Lesson #24 - Open Tuning
Lesson #25 - The Capo
Lesson #27 - Analyzing the Melodic Line
Lesson #28 - Recording Yourself
Lesson #29 - Bass Lines
Lesson #32 - Three-String Chords
Lesson #34 - Barre Chords
Lesson #39 - Playing the Melody
Lesson #42 - Melodic Rhythm

Introduction

On January 1, 2012, I launched a weekly guitar lesson newsletter on my website and invited readers to subscribe. I hoped that the lessons would inform, motivate and inspire my followers and I suspected that by the end of the year I would either run out of energy for the project or experience a decline in the commitment of my audience. Instead, the value of the lessons became more evident to all of us with each new year and the Guitar Instruction Newsletter is still alive and growing!

From that collection came these 52 lessons that I selected and edited with the intention of providing a diversion from or expansion of conventional guitar methods or repertoire-based study. It is a book for both teachers and students to use whenever they want to enliven, expand or augment a curriculum or practice.

If you are a guitar teacher, The Non-Method Guitar Book can help you regain forward motion with an unprepared or uninspired student – and with 52 Lessons, you have help every week of the year! Just choose a topic from the index that you feel would benefit, excite or inspire your student. Be sure to introduce each lesson with an explanation of the relevance to their long-term goals or short-term enjoyment. You may want to mix up topics as I have done with the order of the lessons in this book. Or, if you have been heavily focusing on one aspect of playing, such as technique, you might see an opportunity to introduce a fresh topic, such as analyzing rhythms or melodies or hearing chord progressions. Some of the lessons are theory oriented, some provide instruction regarding common chord progressions or right hand techniques and others, such as working with the metronome, playing melodies or developing pitch sense, present foundation skills that can and should be taught repeatedly over a period of time – but they all present essential skills for guitar players.

If you are a student of the guitar (as all guitar players are!), you probably treasure the endless opportunities the instrument provides to discover, learn and create. But that doesn't mean there won't be periods of boredom or frustration! This book provides you with material that can propel you through times when you are reaching for the next discovery or trying to climb out of the inevitable rut. I hope you enjoy it!