

Parts of the GUITAR



Tuning Pegs - Twisting the tuning pegs increases or decreases the tension of the string, this changes the pitch accordingly.

Fretboard - Attached to the neck, this is where the frets lie, and where you will finger each note.

Fretbar - Strips of metal found on the fretboard. Each fretbar represents a note.

Fret - The space between each fretbar.

Strings - Metal or nylon strips of wire that produce sound through vibrations.

Neck - The long, wooden stem that connects the headstock of the guitar to the body.

Headstock - Attached to the neck where the tuner pegs are located.

Pickups - Electro-magnetic strips on the body of an electric guitar. Pickups create a magnetic field which alters the vibrations and the tone of the guitar.

Single Coil - A pickup with only one coil around the magnet.

Humbucker - A pickup with two coils of opposite polarity around the magnet, which reduces hum.

Bridge Pins - On most acoustic guitars, there are pins on the bridge that hold the strings in place.

Bridge - A metal or wooden part on the front of the body that holds the strings in place.

Toggle Switch - A lever on the front of the guitar that switches which pickup is activated.

Body - The main part of the guitar where you can find the pickups, toggle switches, bridge, and dials.

GUITAR Terms & Moves

Hammer-on - Playing a note by slamming hard on the fret with your finger. Opposite of a pull-off.

Pull-off - Playing a note without picking.

Slide - A guitar move where you play a note, and then move that note up or down on the fretboard.

Barre Chord - To play a barre chord, you need to hold down more than one note with only one finger.

Bend - Pushing your finger forward or backward while holding it down firmly on the string and fretboard, to increase the pitch.

Palm Mute - Place the palm of your strumming hand over the strings near the bridge and pick a note. This will decrease the sustain of the note.

Picking - Using your finger or a pick to sound notes on a guitar.

Action - The distance between the string and the fretboard.

Intonation - The ability of the guitar to stay in tune with itself.

Strumming - Running your finger or pick along more than one note.

Standard Tuning - Tune the strings to EADGBE (from the thickest string to the thinnest).

Drop D Tuning DADGBE - Much like standard tuning, but the lowest E is dropped to a D.

Open String - Any string on the guitar played without pressing down on a fret.

Pentatonic Scale - A series of five notes found in the major or minor scale. This has become the standard scale used in rock and blues music.

Power Chord - A chord that consists of the root, 5th, and octave.

Step - A step is equal to a tone or note.

Half Step - Moving up or down one fret.

Whole Step - Moving up or down two frets.

Alternate Picking - Alternating up and down strokes while playing individual notes.

GUITAR Accessories

Tuner - This can be attached to the guitar or plugged in (electric). It reads the frequency of each note and indicates if your guitar is in tune.

Capo - A mechanical clamp that attaches to the neck of the guitar. A capo can be placed on any fret in order to change the key and lower the action.

Pick - A plastic, triangular-shaped tool you can use to pluck your guitar strings.

Strap - A piece of material that holds the guitar around your body. Usually leather or cloth.

Strap Locks - Material that holds the strap in place.

Tremolo Bar / Whammy Bar - A removable metal bar attached to the bridge on an electric guitar. Used to change the pitch of the strings while playing.

String Winder - A tool to remove and replace the strings. It attaches to the tuning pegs and increases or decreases the tension.

Alternate Picking - Alternating up and down strokes while playing individual notes.

GUITAR & Music Slang

AX - Another name for a guitar. This term became popular in the '80s.

Bar - This is another name for a measure.

Tab - Short for Tablature, a form of notation used for guitarists.

BPM - Beats Per Minute, which refers to the tempo.

Chucking - Another term for fret hand muting (used mainly for percussive purposes).

Lead - Playing lead is the opposite of playing rhythm guitar. It refers to playing the melody.

Lick / Riff - A series of notes that create a distinguished sound. Also known as a hook.



Now that you can talk the talk, learn how to walk the walk!

Find a guitar teacher at [TakeLessons.com](http://www.TakeLessons.com)

SOURCES:

<http://www.guitarscholar.co.uk/dictionary/?l=r>

http://www.melbay.com/pages/about/glossary_of_guitar_terms.aspx

Dictionary.com