

NMP*Positiv*iT

Year 7-13 Guitar Work sheet 2 Electric grade Debut-2

I am sure you are getting into a daily routine and now that we have passed Easter we need to plan how we move forward with our playing. Every person learns differently and finds the best way to achieve the results they want. It is fact that sometimes practice can be boring, this is the same for every single musician. However, if we try and make practice sessions varied and with different challenges we can lessen the dull factor and use the time to improve our playing. EVERY TIME WE SIT WITH OUR INSTRUMENT WE SHOULD SET OURSELVES A GOAL, NO MATTER HOW SMALL.

Here is a typical warm up - **The Scale**

Play the scale. How did the scale go? Was it accurate? Did you play the correct notes at an even pace? How could you vary the playing of this scale?

My guess is you'd probably play it once or twice then move on?

How about adding some musical direction. Crescendo on the way up, diminuendo on the way down, then vice versa. Accelerando on the way up, rallentando on the way down then vice versa. That's already 4 different ways to play the scale. Articulate the scale play staccato or legato. Rhythmically accent. Change the rhythm. Start on the highest note and decent first. Then combine different elements using all of these ideas. THE SCALE CAN BE PLAYED MUSICALLY!

Challenge 1 (suitable for students up to grade 2)

How did your composition go? Did you manage to write anything? I'd love to hear it.

This weeks challenge involves a scale. Both classical and electric guitarists can play this one.



You will note that the **G major Pentatonic** is divided into green and blue sections. If you are new to this scale just play the green section. Move advanced use the blue too.

Work on playing the scale accurately. This scale can be used to either improvise or write a melody.

Try finding a jam track to improvise along to, you can try using the resources here or find your own. Remember a G blues works great. Mr Tim Smiths G-C-D-G tracks work great.

<http://www.nmpat.co.uk/resources>

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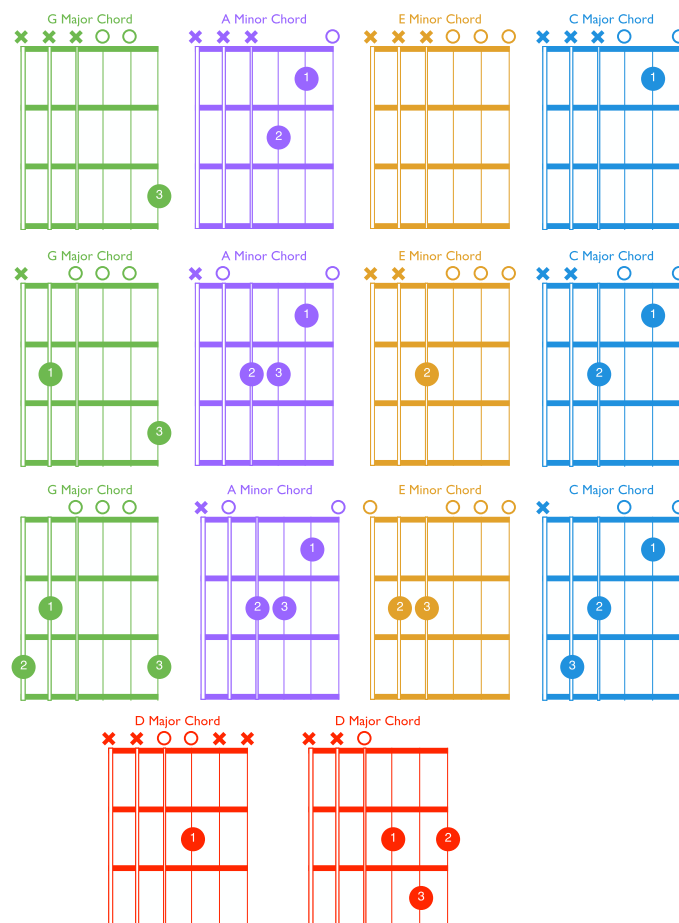
Challenge 1 part 2

Find and learn the following chords. Each chord has an easy, intermediate and advanced so chose the one you find works for you. **The scale you have just learnt will fit over these chords.**

Once learnt try to play the following chord sequences. Strum each chord 4 times.

- 1) **G / / / D / / / Em / / / C / / / repeat**
- 2) **G / / / Em / / / C / / / D / / / repeat**
- 3) **G / / / D / / / C / / / Em / / / repeat**
- 4) **G / / / C / / / D / / / Em / / / repeat**

These chords can form the basis of a song. By changing rhythms, duration of each chord etc. we can write 100's of songs. In fact example 1 is probably the most used chord sequence in popular music with 1000's of songs using it. It may sound familiar! (chords **I, V, Vi, iV**)
Could you write a song? It should have a verse and a chorus. The chord sequence should be different but compliment the verse.



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Learning from the internet

Many of you may already be doing so but the internet is a great resource for guitar playing but you have to be careful! The problem is anyone can post a video saying 'do it like this'. This doesn't mean that it is correctly played or notated. Therefore below I have listed some trusted sites for notation or video reference. There are both free and paid versions of the websites so take a look through the benefits of a subscription to decide if this is worth it for you and discuss with your parents. Ask your parents to email me with any questions you or they may have.

The following link contains some backing tracks and classical guitar lessons by myself!

<http://www.nmpat.co.uk/resources>

Notation/Tab sites

Songster - A great site with backing tracks that can also be slowed down whilst learning. I find their TABS to be mainly accurate and largely in the same key as the original songs. www.songsterr.com

app - <https://www.songsterr.com/a/wa/app?device=iphone>

Ultimate Guitar – Used by many of my students already they have a huge library and is kept up to date with many of the latest released songs. Due to the huge size of the site you cannot rely on the accuracy although I tend to go with TAB's that have had high numbers of hits. However, the TABS have no timing or notation so it's important that you know how the song goes before attempting to play it. They also have a good 'play along' app. <https://www.ultimate-guitar.com/>

IOS app - <https://apps.apple.com/us/app/ultimate-guitar-chords-tabs/id357828853>

Android app - https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.ultimateguitar.tabs&hl=en_GB

YouTube

There's possibly too many to mention but just ensure you remember all you've been taught about technique and posture regardless of how you see others playing online. If you are working on Rockschool or Trinity Rock and Pop there are plenty of examples of the pieces available for you to play along with. Some even have the notation displayed on the screen whilst the music plays.

I am in the process of recording short grade lessons. One for each of the early grades. I will send links when they are ready. Trinity college have a huge bank of videos that can be accessed here. You can search the work you'd like to play.

<https://www.youtube.com/user/TrinityVideoChannel>

If in doubt, PLAY YOUR GUITAR!

Please send your finished work to jdraper@nmpat.co.uk I'd love to see them.

Parents only feel free to email me if you have any queries.

Stay safe.

Mr. Draper (your guitar teacher!)

Find more details about NMPAT at <https://www.nmpat.co.uk>