

## 1: The Marketplace for Musicians | [www.enganchecubano.com](http://www.enganchecubano.com)

*Beginning Guitar for Adults: The Grown-Up Approach to Playing Guitar, Book & CD [Nick Vecchio] on [www.enganchecubano.com](http://www.enganchecubano.com) \*FREE\* shipping on qualifying offers. This fun, friendly, step-by-step introduction to guitar is written with the adult learner in mind.*

Need help choosing a first guitar for your child? Check out our beginner guitar for kids buying guide. Table of Contents Start strumming: A guitar overview Acoustic vs electric: Electric guitar basics Which type to choose? A guitar overview Most all guitars, both acoustic and electric, share some basic characteristics. What follows are the most important ones for beginners to know and understand. Guitars generally have six strings. All guitars have a body the bulky part , a neck the long skinny part , and a headstock located at the far of the neck from the body where the strings attach to tuners. All guitars need to be tuned to play properly and sound on pitch. This is done with the tuning pegs also referred to as tuning machines on the headstock. On the top side of of the neck is the fingerboard, also called a fretboard, over which the strings are routed. Pressed into the fingerboard are small metal ridges called frets. They help delineate individual notes along the fretboard and also make it easier play on pitch. Having trouble tuning your guitar? Browse our wide selection of tuners. At the top of the fingerboard, just below the headstock, is a slotted piece of material called the nut. The strings are routed through the slots in the nut and terminate at the bridge, located on the far end of the body. When the strings are plucked or strummed, they vibrate between the nut and the bridge. This vibration is where the sound of a guitar begins. Understanding The Basics of Acoustic Guitars How are acoustic guitars and electric guitars different? Acoustic guitars are generally larger and have a hollow sound chamber. The acoustic properties of the woods used on acoustic guitars has a major impact on their sound. The wood used for the top is especially important. Better quality acoustics are crafted with solid spruce, cedar or other tonewoods that produce crisp, articulate sound. Many inexpensive starter guitars are built with laminate tops, made from several layers of wood pressed together. While laminate is durable and can be quite attractive, it will not produce as pleasing tones as solid wood. The size of the acoustic guitar body also influences its voice. Larger instruments, with dreadnought or jumbo bodies, generally produce more volume. They also tend to have warmer, rounder tones that accentuate bass notes. Although most acoustic guitars have steel strings, classical and flamenco guitars use nylon strings. Nylon strings produce a mellower, softer sound. It is a common misconception that a new guitar player should start with nylon strings because they are easier on fingers or easier to play. What should really drive your decision is what kind of music you want to play. Acoustic guitars are self-contained and require very little preparation to play. If you are looking for simplicity, consider learning on an acoustic guitar first. Acoustic guitars are generally larger than electric guitars. They also tend to use heavier-gauge strings. Heavier-gauge strings will require a bit more finger strength than the lighter-gauge strings found on electric guitars. Getting comfortable holding the guitar and fretting notes is important on both acoustics and electrics, but may be slightly more physically challenging with acoustics versus electrics. This is then transmitted via an onboard preamplifier to an external acoustic guitar amplifier or PA system. But plugging-in is strictly optional. Unplugged, an acoustic-electric guitar typically sounds just like a fully-acoustic guitar. Acoustic-electrics make a good choice for the guitarist who wants to play both in acoustic and amplified settings. Because they eliminate the need for a microphone in louder situations, such as playing with other amplified instruments, they offer a simple plug-and-play way to get heard. We make it easy to hone in on the price range and brand s with sorting tools that will help you quickly get to a short list of models to consider. Learn much more with our expert Acoustic Guitar Buying Guide. Electric guitar basics Unlike acoustic guitars, electric guitars require a cable and amplifier to produce sound. While they have an even greater variety of shapes and styles, electrics are usually smaller and thinner. They also use lighter-gauge strings than acoustics. Electric guitars largely depend on electronic pickups to generate their sound. They usually have one, two or three pickups that are mounted in the body. Depending on their mounting location and type of electronics, pickups will produce a variety of sounds. Multi-pickup electric guitars have controls with which you can select output from each pickup or blend their output. This allows you to create a variety of

sounds, all from the same guitar. For example, giving a traditionally-styled guitar designed to produce super-clean, undistorted tone to a heavy metal fan is unlikely to be a hit. Browse the huge selection of electric guitars at Musicians Friend. As with acoustics, you can easily sort that selection to match your budget or brand preferences to get to a short list of candidates. Dig deeper with our complete Electric Guitar Buying Guide. Which type to choose? There is no right or wrong answer when choosing a guitar. Choose whichever guitar suits your style. If you are inspired by electric guitar players, you may want to follow suit. If unplugged acoustic sounds tend to be what you enjoy most, then the acoustic guitar is the right choice for you. If the list is predominantly electric, go electric. Quality materials such as a rosewood bridge and fingerboard, black and white body binding and more make FG Series acoustics sweet buys with a great reputation. Martin guitars have been around for over years, and are widely considered to be some of the best guitars currently in production. Featuring professional-grade construction and hardware, the Little Martin has a big sound in a small package. Also great for travel, the compact body stows easily. Featuring a comfortable neck and solid spruce top, the Epiphone Dove Pro Acoustic-Electric Guitar rings out with full, rich sound. Based on a design going back to , the Dove Pro is equipped with a Fishman Sonicore pickup system that accurately reproduces its acoustic tone when you plug the guitar into an amplifier or PA system to play with amplified instruments. Epiphone gives all the details on their Epiphone Dove Pro acoustic guitar. The fixed bridge and quality tuning machines ensure simple and reliable tuning stability—a potential frustration for new players trying to learn on poor quality guitars. Single volume and tone controls along with two bright-sounding single-coil pickups give the beginning player a wide range of tones that are easy to control. The Telecaster has been a mainstay in music for decades and is especially associated with great country, pop, surf and rock sounds. With two single-coil ceramic pickups and a lightweight body, this model should be able to cover a variety of musical styles and genres while coming in at a very attractive price point. Constructed with an arched maple top, chambered basswood bodies and bolt-on maple neck the Electromatic Jet Club G offers plenty of classic vibes at a great price. Featuring Yamaha quality construction, the dreadnought guitar has a solid spruce top for excellent resonance and sustain. The package includes picks, strap, electronic tuner, gig bag, extra strings, and an instructional DVD to get you learning guitar fast. The guitar features a dual humbucker pickup configuration. A cable, strap and gig bag complete the package. A versatile Les Paul with all the essentials at a great price. They will happily help you figure out the best beginner guitar for you and get you playing in no time.

## 2: 10 Best Electric Guitars For Beginners ( Guitarist's Favorites)

*This fun, friendly, step-by-step introduction to guitar is written with the adult learner in mind. It is both a great self-help book and a great method for use with a teacher.*

The 8 best beginner guitar recommendations and how to avoid the 3 most common mistakes Last updated: Keep in mind, these recommendations are based on not only my own research, but on the consistent recommendations from the guitar playing community. That said, the guitar is definitely one of the best instruments to learn. What are the best beginner guitars available? If you want to cut straight to the chase, here are my picks for the best beginner guitars – one for each of the common styles. It simplifies things a lot. Instead of thinking about the different woods mahogany, maple, rosewood, etc , all the different pickups, necks, scale lengths, bridges, body types all you have to worry about is getting the STYLE right. Of course, that being said, get the highest quality wood you can. Here are my recommendations for each of the most common styles. A great all around choice at an extremely low price. Save yourself the trouble. Remember, choose based on the style you will play most. Take your pick from the choices below. Really playable, good tone, and very affordable. Very common in rock, blues, country, and pop. Those of you who just wanna get a guitar and start, this is your choice. Squier also makes similar package, but I recommend this over the Squier because the parts electronics are higher quality, although the Yamaha costs a little bit extra. Which means you get that traditional Stratocaster sound and feel but at literally half the price! Keep that in mind. But they make do. The REAL strength of this package lies solely with the guitar. The guitar is fantastic. Super easy to play and thus play fast , and to learn on. But bottom line, this is a great choice if you want a quick all-in-one package that includes a great guitar. Does it matter what guitar you learn on? Years ago, when I first got started learning guitar, I went out and picked the first guitar I could find that was in the color I wanted blue. It was the biggest mistake I could make. You see, the guitar you learn on matters A LOT. It could make or break you. How could a simple thing like what guitar you learn on have that much of an impact you say? The guitar that gets produced can at best be described as a piece of garbage. Junk guitars like these are made for the sole purpose of selling to unsuspecting beginners. They look very nice on the outside, but sound and feel like hell when you play it. No serious guitarist would ever spend money on such awful instruments. Unfortunately, I was one of those unsuspecting newbies who fell for this trap. Things to avoid when buying a beginner guitar: The guitar I got was exactly that. The action was unbearably high strings too far from guitar fretboard. My junk guitar had a body that was made of cheap reconstituted wood shavings instead of actual solid wood. Junk material like that means your sound will also be junk. Those strings would still buzz, because the guitar was made haphazardly on an assembly line and was built with flaws from day one. A guitar that goes out of tune after 5 minutes of playing will also become a nightmare. So after having all these problems I wondered: Is it just me? Or was all this just normal? Maybe all guitars are just as difficult to play. It was EASY to play. Not only that, the sound was boomy, crisp, clean, and projected across the entire room. Needless to say, I felt incredibly ripped off. So I went ahead and used the piece of junk anyway. This one mistake caused me years of frustration with guitar. Avoid at your own risk. You see, learning on a difficult to play guitar is almost like trying to bench lbs your first time in the gym. One half of the guitar-learning equation is about the physical ability to play it. When tuned properly, those strings have a combined tension of over lbs, believe it or not. NEVER practice guitar without accuracy. I cannot emphasize this enough. You see, practicing day in day out with tight, stiff, inaccurate, and exhausted hands caused quite a few bad habits to develop for me. It severely limited my progress. Whereas my friend was learning a new song every month and playing it perfectly, I had trouble learning even ONE song properly. It was all because of not knowing the choice of guitar even mattered. But boy does it matter. I know what always happens to people who practice fast and sloppy years of struggle. So to sum it up: Get an easy to play guitar low action so that you make learning as painless as possible. Never practice guitar without accuracy. If your fingers feel stiff, STOP. How to get started once you own a guitar Here is the best way to learn guitar starting out: Learn actual music, not techniques. Should you get a teacher? Some of the best guitarists who ever lived were self taught: Because the hardest part is learning

how to practice. But once you figure out how to train your hands, guitar becomes easy. Songs themselves have everything you need to master the guitar: This speeds up your learning dramatically faster than learning techniques and theory out of context. To shorten your learning curve, lay a solid foundation for mastering various guitar styles, and make long-term progress with your new guitar, take a look at this guitar learning system. You can still learn without practicing daily, but the progress is dramatically slower. That's the honest truth.

## 3: The 6 Best Beginner Acoustic Guitars and Electric Guitars | The HUB

*The best beginner guitar(s) I've found (electric and acoustic) Why learning on the right guitar is one of the most important decisions you can make Things to avoid when buying a beginner guitar (must read).*

Full Review On a strict budget? Not even sure if the guitar is the right instrument for you? Then the RA from Rogue, with its very inexpensive price tag, will suit you perfectly. The body is made from whitewood, while the nato neck is home to a painted maple fretboard with 20 frets. Nothing premium about this guitar, but together the woods and build quality provide a decent sound with good projection and clarity, that allows any beginner to start playing with confidence. Make sure to read our full review of the Rogue RA As a beginner, you will want something that first and foremost feels comfortable and fun to play, sounds good and will hold its tuning reasonably well. After all, you may not know how long it will take to learn guitar , so you want something well-built to last you a while. Solid or Laminate Top? However, even lesser tonewoods or laminated tops, when combined with good craftsmanship, can still provide excellent sound quality. Go with the guitar that suits your needs and fits your budget. Steel or Nylon Strings? Nylon strings are essential for any classical instrument, and if you are planning to play classical music or Latin styles such as flamenco, a nylon string guitar is the way to go. You can check out our article on the best classical guitars for beginners. A word of general advice â€” never use steel strings on a classical guitar, as the high-tension strings will damage the instrument. You have been warned! There are several different popular acoustic guitar shapes, most of which will be pretty easy for a beginner to get to grips with. Most of the respectable acoustic guitar brands have a plethora of beginner friendly solutions. However, we suggest avoiding a Jumbo acoustic, which is a popular style with country players. For somebody just starting out, it would be easier to learn on a dreadnought or an orchestra model, or â€” if you are particularly small â€” a parlor guitar. Whichever acoustic you end up purchasing, the setup and strings play as big a part in the overall playability of the guitar. The solution is to get your guitar properly set up after purchasing. This is easy to do yourself if you have a spare 30 minutes and can follow simple YouTube videos such as this one: The best advice we can give you is to look at your aspirations and enthusiasm. Do you really have your heart set on learning how to play the guitar? Buying the highest quality guitar you can afford will encourage you to practice and will feel more comfortable to hold and play. If you are on a very strict budget and need something low cost to get started, check out the Jasmine S35 review , which proves a magnificent pick for beginners. However, there are hundreds of online videos that offer good advice on choosing and buying an electric guitar, including this one Elsewhere, The Acoustic Letter is a very helpful YouTube channel run by professionals that enjoy what they are doing. The good news is that you do not need an amplifier to hear the guitar. Without being plugged in, an electro-acoustic works just like a regular acoustic guitar. However, manufacturers charge extra for adding electronics in the form of pickups and preamps to their acoustics, so to buy one and never plug it in would be a waste of money. A small acoustic amplifier would work well if you just want to practice with others, although you would need something bigger for performances. If you are still deciding whether or not to purchase an electro-acoustic, we recommend you stick with a regular acoustic if you are a complete beginner. Are You Buying an Acoustic for a Child? Bear in mind that a full-sized acoustic will not be the best guitar for children â€” unless they do some quick growing! Thankfully there are different sized guitars that suit all ages. The Final Word Buying an acoustic guitar is a great experience and one that could prove to be life changing! So when looking to purchase your first one, take your time. Watch plenty of videos, read our articles, and speak with experienced guitarists, before making your final selection. Passion is a vital factor, especially for beginners, and hating your musical instrument from day one will not get you very far in the long, occasionally frustrating journey you are about to begin. If you feel unsure about a model, just skip it and move on to the next one. When you have your guitar, the fun of learning the instrument can start. Make sure to check out our page for how to start learning guitar online for lesson reviews and tips. Good luck and happy shopping!

### 4: The 8 best beginner guitar recommendations (September )

*Martin guitars have been around for over years, and are widely considered to be some of the best guitars currently in production. The Little Martin is a  $\frac{3}{4}$  scale guitar perfect for kids and beginners with a smaller stature.*

Did I miss my chance? My youngest child just started school, and I want to do something for myself. Am I too old for music lessons? I just retired and finally have time for a hobby. I really love flamenco and Spanish guitar, but it seems so difficult. Can an old dog learn new tricks? I have been teaching guitar for almost ten years and have plenty of success with adult beginners thirties through retirement. Contrary to popular myth, you do not have to start playing as a child to become an excellent musician and to really enjoy your instrument. If you are starting later in life, some things – learning new patterns of thought and movement – may be more challenging. But other things, especially the discipline and self-awareness that comes with being older, will work to your advantage. Patience Be patient with yourself. Children are used to starting from zero in learning a new skill. Many adults have forgotten what it is like to be new to something. Playing the guitar requires your hands to learn a very specific set of skills - and even develop new muscles! Watch a young child handling a pencil and writing in big, awkward letters. While we may not remember learning to write, our hands needed years of training to become proficient at a repetitive motion that is now second nature. Playing guitar is no different. Regardless of your starting age, good technique comes only with years of patient, focused practice. Your guitar should be easy to play and should stay in tune. The action space between the strings and the fretboard should be fairly low. If you want a really nice guitar, either wait a few years until you have developed preferences for sound and feel, or ask your teacher to help you select one. These are not beginner guitar pieces! These songs have passages that challenge even advanced players. Attempting repertoire that is way above your level leads only to frustration and poor musicianship. There is a whole world of gorgeous classical guitar music suitable for beginner and intermediate players. When you are technically and musically ready to try one of the more advanced classics, go over the fingerings with your teacher and learn the score very slowly and carefully for example, a few measures per week over the course of a year. While you are patiently tackling the classical guitar masterpiece of your dreams, continue learning easier pieces and reviewing old repertoire. This will help balance out your technique and will keep you fresh and interested. Check out this full length guitar course Start on guitar with this self-paced course. You probably work a full time job, may be raising a family, and have countless other daily obligations. However, many adults make the mistake of setting overly-ambitious goals for practice time. They plan to practice an hour every day, and when they have to work late one week or a kid is sick, or the car breaks down, etc. Fifteen minutes of practice is infinitely better than no practice at all. In fact, fifteen minutes a day for a beginning guitar student can go a long way. Be up front with your teacher about your time constraints so that she can set attainable weekly objectives for you. Just get back on track as soon as you can. Moreover, it is encouraging for the student to see the progress that is possible in a single, focused hour. Find a Teacher You Like and Take Weekly Lessons Lessons are important not just for the guidance and information that you receive, but for motivation. For many adults, knowing that they have a lesson coming up gives them the bit of pressure they need to carve out a few practice sessions in their busy week. In fact, quitting lessons due to time constraints often leads to the guitar ending up in the closet. This way, once you have time to devote to music again, you have at least maintained your level, and are ready to take off again full speed ahead. Get a Fresh Perspective Attending a guitar workshop, festival, or master class is a great way to get perspective on your playing from professional concert artists and renowned pedagogues. Festivals are usually a mix of concerts and classes, so you will be inspired and motivated by world-class performances, expert advice, and meeting music peers with similar interests. If you study for several years with the same teacher and arrive at a plateau in your musical development, consider changing teachers. We teachers each have our own special way of understanding music, habitual ways of explaining, and techniques for helping students advance. When a student values my input, loves playing, and progresses rapidly, I feel honored when the time comes for them to move on. It means that both of us, student and teacher, have done our jobs well. My hometown has an ensemble the VCU

Community Guitar Ensemble of around thirty adult classical guitarists that rehearse and perform concerts together in the spring, summer, and winter holidays. Many beginning adult guitarists join the ensemble with minimal sight-reading and rhythmic skills, and improve immensely after just a couple seasons. They also have a lot of fun, sound great, and are some of the warmest, friendliest people I have ever met. If you are learning flamenco guitar and are lucky enough to have flamenco dance in your area, try accompanying some classes. If you are a folk or fingerstyle guitarist, find other instrumentalists and start playing together. Playing with other instruments helps your rhythm, musicality, and communication. Above all, playing in a group is really, really fun. Finding a fun social outlet for your musical passions is the surest guarantee that you continue playing, learning, and enjoying music all your life.

## 5: Best Guitar Books For Beginners To Advanced Players

*of results for "beginning guitar for adults" Hal Leonard Guitar Method, Complete Edition: Books 1, 2 and 3 May 1, by Will Schmid and Greg Koch. Plastic.*

Leave a reply This is a list of the best guitar books currently available. Many of these books are considered to be classics in their field. Starting with the very basics, such as how to hold a guitar and the parts of a guitar, this book will soon have you playing simple melodies and chords. The book also shows you the basics of reading music. The example melodies are traditional rather than modern, but this is by no means a bad thing. If you work through this book, either with a tutor or by yourself, then you will have gained a thorough grounding in the basics of guitar playing. A very good place to start. There are two more books in the series, each containing progressively more complex material. This is a cheaper option if you plan on working through the whole series. View price and reviews on Amazon. It is extremely good value, being only slightly more expensive than just one of the single volumes. The complete edition will take keen beginners through the basics and beyond. If you are serious about progressing as a guitarist, then at some point you will need to master the skill. However, if you want to further your skills, then a book dedicated to the subject will take you to the next level. One shortcoming of this book is that it concentrates on single-note playing. This means that fingerstyle and classical guitarists may want to look elsewhere. Reading music and sight reading are an integral part of learning classical guitar. The kind of music that you will be reading will also be different to that played by rock and pop guitarists. Most classical guitar method books see below cover music reading. This book also highlights the importance of writing, as well as reading, music. Best Jazz Guitar Books. One of our favorites from the previous article is included below. Jazz Guitar Complete Edition provides a complete jazz guitar course, starting from the basics and progressing to complex concepts. As with other Ted Greene books, this is not for the faint-hearted: Best Classical Guitar Lessons Books Classical guitar technique differs significantly from that of other styles. If you wish to learn classical guitar, then there is no substitute for getting one-to-one lessons from a qualified tutor. However, if you want the flexibility of self-tuition, then there are several great books that will provide an excellent introduction to classical technique. Progressive Classical Guitar Method: Contains exercises and tuition that will enable you to play many famous classical guitar favorites. It combines exercises including those by Tarrega and Giuliani and famous pieces to provide a complete classical guitar method. Best Music Theory Books For Guitar Even guitarists who have been playing for a number of years can find themselves at a loss when trying to explain how music works. There are many great music theory books available, below we give our recommendations. Music Theory for Guitarists: It explains intervals, chord construction and diatonic harmony and other valuable concepts. A standard text for many music university courses, it is also suitable, albeit with a bit of hard work, for self-study. Tonal Harmony is more suited to those wishing to learn classical music theory, but rock and jazz musicians will also find plenty of useable information. There are hundreds, if not thousands, of books about the guitar. Compiling a list of the best guitar books is never going to be easy, and these suggestions are our personal opinions only! We have included method books for beginners and for more advanced players in a number of styles. Although taking lessons with a guitar teacher is often considered the best way to progress, with focus and determination self-study is an equally valid method. Learning with books offers flexibility and is less expensive. Conclusion We hope that you have enjoyed reading about our favorite guitar books.

### 6: Advice for Adult Beginners of Guitar | Lessonface

*Roy Rogers Biography. Happy Trails: The Life of Roy Rogers By Laurence Zwisohn. Roy Rogers was everyone's image of what a cowboy should be, from his white Stetson with its silver hatband.*

Full Review The Jackson Dinky is a modern classic, but their newer JS1X Dinky Minion is an even smaller, cooler playing experience – one which is perfect for beginners especially if you have smaller hands. As you may expect from Jackson, it comes in a range of eye-catching colors, such as Ferrari Red and Neon Orange. The playability is great, with a fast-playing bolt-on slim maple neck, featuring a rosewood fretboard and 24 jumbo frets. As we mention in the full JS1X review , this cool electric guitar is voiced by two Jackson-designed humbuckers, with simple controls, to offer a decent rock tone. In the days before the internet, you had to rely on the wisdom of your local guitar store, a couple of magazines, and your gut instinct. These days things are different. Thousands of guitars are available to you at the click of a button. You can find everything you need online, from any kind of guitar you could imagine, to amps, strings and even some top-rated guitar lessons for beginners. Is it just something to learn on? Will you be upgrading in a year or two when you start thinking about forming a band, gigging, and recording? If so, you may be better off trying one of these affordable electric guitars , which all offer a solid platform on which to learn. However, in that super-budget market there is a lot of garbage, so be careful. For additional inspiration, make sure to check out this electric guitar list. Always factor in the size of your instrument. If you are a young player – or are buying a guitar for a child – consider that small hands playing on a full-size guitar may be more difficult than if you had an electric guitar made for kids. The Anatomy Of An Electric Guitar If you are serious about buying a guitar and learning how to play on it, you should be familiar with everything one can offer, from woods to pickups. The main difference between them is the way the bodies are constructed, and the amount of resonance they produce. It allows for louder sounds and more sustain, while avoiding the feedback issues that affect some hollow bodied instruments at higher volumes. The hollow and semi-hollow bodied guitars on the market will appeal to players who prefer softer styles, such as jazz, country and blues, as well as soft rock and pop, as they offer a full, rich and more resonant sound with lots of bass. Beginners will be best off sticking to a solid bodied guitar, as they are easier to handle in most scenarios. Body Shape Solid body guitars offer a fantastic platform for builders, allowing them to craft the wood into literally any shape. However, the more extroverted beginner can check out some cool styles that always catch the attention, such as V or Z shaped guitars, or anything from Dean Guitars – especially if you want an eye-catching paint job! The most used tonewoods in the budget range are basswood, poplar, alder, and paulownia, while more expensive guitars can be made from pine, mahogany, and swamp ash. This is just a rough rule though – these days you will find mahogany in budget guitars and basswood in premium models. They all have different tonal qualities – for example, mahogany typically offers a warmer sound, swamp ash is brighter, while basswood and alder are well-balanced. Necks As for necks, the majority of guitars will have either a maple or mahogany neck, with a rosewood, maple or ebony fretboard. But you should choose something that feels smooth and comfortable to play. There are a variety of shapes and profiles, and what you go for will depend on personal preference and playing style. For example, a modern C-shaped neck is always a safe choice as the majority of guitarists will feel comfortable using it, while a thin U-shape is great for faster players think punk rock and metal. Without bogging you down in the details of how they work, the single-coil is the classic original pickup, which typically offers a bright and sparkly sound. As they cut through the mix, single-coils are excellent pickups for lead players. Humbuckers produce full, meaty sounds found across the world of rock and metal, and are great for lead and rhythm guitar. However you can still play fast punk rock powerchords with a single-coil, just like you can play an upbeat country number with a humbucker! Guitars with two or more pickups will come fitted with a pickup selector switch to quickly change between them. Frets The frets are those thin metal bars running down the neck, which act as note separators, allowing you to play individual notes and chords. Most guitars will feature 22 frets, although those more rock and metal-inclined will sometimes offer 24, allowing you to reach higher notes. Both have their pros and cons. A tremolo bridge will allow you to experiment with

everything from vibrato effects right up to full-on divebombs, and can sound amazing when playing high lead solos. However, tremolo bridges can affect tuning, unless the bridge and nut locks. When buying an electric guitar for the very first time, you may be confused over what is better for you as a beginner – a solid body, a hollow-body or a semi-hollow body. While you can learn on any of these, we recommend a solid-body guitar, which includes all the models featured on this page. The main advantage of a solid body guitar for beginners is that they are easier to control in front of an amplifier. By this we mean you are unlikely to experience squealing feedback from the amp, which can be a big annoyance when it happens all the time. Solid body guitars are often simpler to hold as well, as hollow models tend to be a bit bigger in size. As we have mentioned above, the more you spend on an electric guitar, the better it should be in terms of playability. If you can aim higher than a super-low budget model, you will be rewarded with upgrades such as a smoother, flatter neck and an easier playing experience all-round. Technically there is no limit to how much you should pay when buying your first electric guitar. If you have the budget you could learn on something very expensive – similar to learning how to drive in a Ferrari! With so many guitar brands and models on the market, manufacturers have had to up their game to ensure their guitars meet a better standard at a lower price. However, if you have aspirations of the stage or recording, you may want to invest a few hundred dollars in something that looks, feels, plays and sounds higher quality. It may sound like you are asking an obvious question, but it is a very valid question indeed! First off, no law says you must have an amplifier to play an electric guitar. You will still be able to hear yourself playing, although very quietly. Despite this being acceptable, we do advise buying an amplifier at the same time as your first electric guitar, because dry practicing for too long can encourage some bad habits. For example, with no amp, you may be playing too aggressively to make yourself heard, which is not a good technique to pick up. Also, by not having an amp, you are also missing the important response and feedback that an amp can offer you on your playing techniques. Besides – playing with an amp sounds so much cooler! We suggest factoring the price of a small practice amp into your overall guitar budget. While it may mean you need to settle for a slightly cheaper guitar, the benefits of having an amp from your first day of playing are too good to pass up. Wherever you purchase your first guitar from, make sure to take it to a local professional or friend with some experience and ask them to set it up for you. If possible, ask them if you can watch how they set it up, so next time you can try it yourself. Yes, most of them are very useful! These days there are hundreds of online tutors offering great guitar lessons. Generally, paid courses tend to be better because they are tested and are well-structured, and – in theory – you should be able to progress faster. But it all depends on your budget and on your will to learn on your own. Learning your first chords can take a few hours, but the instrument can take a lifetime to master. Good luck with your guitar shopping and first lessons, and keep returning to GuitarFella for all the latest news, reviews and advice!

### 7: Beginning Guitar for Adults | Ann Arbor YMCA

*Generally, adults are comfortable with full size guitars (40" Concert size and 41" Dreadnought in acoustic guitars). If you are small in stature consider a 40" Concert size guitar or smaller. If you are very tall consider a 41" Dreadnought size guitar.*

### 8: Beginning Guitar for Adults:

*Learn to play the guitar in a stimulating and casual environment. Instructor David Swain draws on over four decades of teaching experience to introduce students to a variety of guitar styles, including blues, rock and folk.*

### 9: Beginning Guitar for Adults The Grown-Up

*It's never too late to learn guitar! In the past few years, I've had a lot of new students sign up who are over 50 and are either retired or semi-retired.*

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