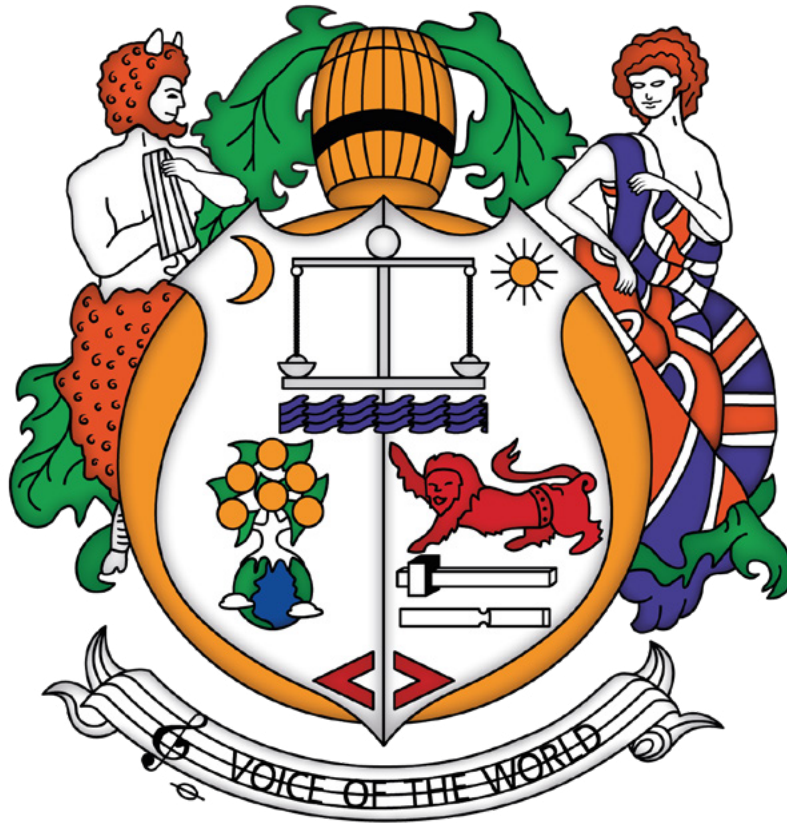


# **ORANGE** LEARN



## **ORANGE ROCK GUITAR**

**COMPLETE SYLLABUS**

Foundation, Intermediate, Advanced

# Orange Rock Guitar - Complete Syllabus

## Foundation, Intermediate, Advanced

### ROCK GUITAR - COMPLETE SYLLABUS FOUNDATION, INTERMEDIATE, ADVANCED

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# **Orange Rock Guitar Complete Syllabus**

Foundation, Intermediate, Advanced

Version 1.2.2 June 2020



# Introduction

Welcome to the Orange Rock Guitar complete syllabus, which has been created by a specialist team of dedicated guitarists, teachers and examiners.

This syllabus is free to download and is a valuable accompaniment for Orange learners, offering an insightful breakdown of all of the components needed to successfully get the most out of the courses and pass the online exams.

As times change, so does the music we listen to. With this inevitability in mind, we will publish updated versions of our syllabus and course materials for our learners to enjoy. Notifications will be announced via the [Orange Learn website](#).

Our aim is for learners to enjoy every step of their learning experience with Orange, from starting their courses, to finishing their exams with an abundance of knowledge, self-confidence and a valuable accreditation.

## Why take the Orange Music Exams?

Orange Amps has long been a respected brand in the music industry, with their products used by many legendary artists across the globe.

Our vision with Orange Learn is to offer innovative educational tools that support and inspire a lifelong passion for learning and performing music. Our aim is for students to enjoy their learning experience from start to finish and build a strong foundation of focused, instrument-led knowledge, self-confidence, musical ability and further harness these valuable skills with recognised accreditations.

We want our courses to help shape and encourage the voices of the world within our present and future generations, by supporting aspiring musicians to fulfil their potential and nurture learners by providing the best tools from the start to the finish of each individual's music education journey.

- ▷ We are recognised around the world for our quality.
- ▷ Our exams are accredited.
- ▷ No need to travel to a venue - our partnership with Online Music Exams means our exams can be taken anytime and anywhere!
- ▷ Taking our online exams maximises your performance by reducing anxiety.
- ▷ Candidates can get their results much quicker than the traditional method - with results as early as 24 hours later!
- ▷ If candidates do not get the mark they need, they can take the exam again as early as the next day!
- ▷ Our examiners are instrument specific.

## Officially recognised qualifications

Our Music exams are officially recognised on the National Qualifications Framework and the European Qualifications Framework and are registered with OFQUAL.

Other equivalent qualifications	RQF* credits	EQF** credits	Orange Rock Guitar	Course level
A/AS level	3	4	Grade 8 Grade 7 Grade 6	Advanced
G.C.S.E. A* - C	2	3	Grade 5 Grade 4 Grade 3	Intermediate
G.C.S.E. D - G	1	2	Grade 2 Grade 1 Grade 0	Foundation

\* Regulated Qualifications Framework in England, Wales and Northern Ireland

\*\* European Qualifications Framework

### About this syllabus

This syllabus has been designed to give the student freedom to explore and to give teachers freedom to apply their own successful methods of teaching.

We have considered carefully what needs to be added in order for a student to know that they are on the correct path and that our learning materials are relevant to the modern day world.

We really hope that you enjoy your new course and exam experience.

### About the exam

Our partnership with Online Music Exams enables candidates to take their exams at anytime and from anywhere. No booking required!

As the exam is recorded online, there is a noticeable reduction in exam nerves and stage fright.

To purchase and take an Orange exam, go to [onlinemusicexams.org/shop](https://onlinemusicexams.org/shop)

### Exam Durations

Candidates can sit their exam in one setting or take a more “modular” approach, taking one section at a time when they are ready. The time in which a student has to complete an exam once purchased can be found on the Online Music Exams website:

[www.onlinemusicexams.org/shop/category/exams](https://www.onlinemusicexams.org/shop/category/exams)

### Types of guitar

Candidates can use either an electric, electro-acoustic or an acoustic/classical guitar in the Foundation exam. In the Intermediate exam and Advanced exam you can only use an electric guitar.

Please note that some songs aren't suited to an electro-acoustic or acoustic guitar and candidates should take care in choosing their songs accordingly.

# Exam Structure and Marking Guide

## Exam Structure

Each exam consists of 5 main disciplines: Performance Piece, Technical, Aural, Sight-Reading/Improvisation and Theory.

### 1 Performance piece

Students will play a piece which they have selected themselves, which gives the student freedom to perform a piece from a genre or particular band or musician that they are inspired by. The performance piece requirements for each exam are stated in the syllabus. The piece must contain elements learnt from the course. The piece must have a published score and be available to the examiner, and they will need to give the following details of the piece during the exam - the name of the piece, the writer(s) and the publisher. Online Music Examinations expects from the student that the piece has been obtained legally and has not infringed any copyright laws in obtaining the music. The piece can be accompanied (by backing track) or unaccompanied. With the accompanied pieces, the student will need to start the backing track and perform over the top with both the guitar and backing track clearly audible.

### 2 Technical Studies

The technical studies showcase the technical abilities the student has learnt from the course. Students will gradually learn technical pieces as they progress through each lesson. Some of these technical pieces will be played over backing tracks, and others to a metronome at a specified tempo. You will not need to prepare backing tracks or a metronome for your exam, as they will become available to you in the exam arena. Please note that you will not be expected to play from memory and may use course materials/sheet music for each piece.

### 3 Technical Exercises

The technical exercises represent the student's technical ability. In the online exam arena you will find a metronome which will be set to the speed required. The student must play to this metronome. Please note that you will not be expected to play from memory and may use course materials/sheet music for each exercise.

### 4 Aural tests

The aural exam is split into sections (which differ with each course level) - harmonic recognition, interval recognition, melodic recall, harmonic recall, and rhythmic recall. The details of each of these can be found in this syllabus' 'Learning requirements' section, or in the 'Aural development' pages of each course. For each section, the student will hear a musical element and must respond with either a spoken answer, or by playing, usually mimicking what they have just heard.

### 5 Sight-reading

The student will have to sight-read a melody and a chord progression of either 4 or 8 bars long (for Foundation and Intermediate/Advanced respectively). A sight-reading score will appear on your screen in the sight-reading part of the exam, and a countdown will begin. It will give you between 30 and 90 seconds (depending on the course level) to look over the score, and then another countdown will appear in which you must play. You will only have one attempt. Examples of these scores can be found in the syllabus for each level.

### 6 Improvisation

The student must improvise over a 16-bar backing track. (Note: improvisation is part of the Intermediate and Advanced exams only.) In the exam, the student will hear a backing track using chord progressions introduced in the corresponding course, and they must play over the track. There are no requirements for improvisation, but we do expect that the student demonstrate basic chord-tone soloing knowledge.

### 7 Theory

Students must also take a multiple choice theory quiz. All questions that arise are based on the theory introduced throughout each course. Please note that exams from the later courses will also feature theory questions from earlier courses (e.g. the Advanced exam will feature theory questions based on the Foundation and Intermediate courses). A summary of the theory in each course can be found in this syllabus' 'Learning requirements' section and in the 'Exam specification' lesson of each course.

Foundation	Max mark	Intermediate	Max mark	Advanced	Max mark
Performance Piece	20	Performance Piece	20	Performance Piece	20
Technical Studies	20	Technical Studies	60	Technical Studies	60
Technical Exercises	40	Technical exercises	80	Technical exercises	100
Aural	20	Aural	80	Aural	80
Sight-reading	20	Sight-reading	40	Sight-reading	40
Theory	20	Improvisation	20	Improvisation	20
N/A	N/A	Theory	35	Theory	50
Total	140	Total	335	Total	370

### Percentage boundaries for each certification of Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced exams

Mark percentage %	Certification
85 - 100	Distinction
71 - 84	Merit
50 - 70	Pass
Less than 50	Fail

## Foundation level certificate marks

Below is the table that identifies the marking boundaries for the Foundation level exam. The course material performed in the exam is at a Grade 2 level. How you perform this material distinguishes whether you receive a Distinction, Merit or Pass.

Mark percentage %	Foundation Grade 0 - 2	RQF credits	EQF credits
85 - 100	Grade 2 Distinction	1	2
71 - 84	Grade 2 Merit	1	2
50 - 70	Grade 2 Pass	1	2
Less than 50	Fail	0	0

## Intermediate level certificate marks

Below is the table that identifies the marking boundaries for the Intermediate level exam. All course material performed in the exam is at a Grade 5 level. How you perform this material distinguishes whether you receive a Distinction, Merit or Pass. If you receive Distinction, it means you have played to a Distinction level at Grade 5. If you receive a Merit, it means you have played the Grade 5 material to a Grade 4 standard. If you receive a Pass, it means you have played the Grade 5 material to a Grade 3 standard.

Mark percentage %	Intermediate Grade 3 - 5	RQF credits	EQF credits
85 - 100	Grade 5 Distinction	2	3
71 - 84	Grade 4 Merit	2	3
50 - 70	Grade 3 Pass	2	3
Less than 50	Fail	0	0

## Advanced level certificate marks

The following table identifies the marking boundaries for the Advanced level exam. All course material performed in the exam is at a Grade 8 level. How you perform this material distinguishes whether you receive a Distinction, Merit or Pass. If you receive a Distinction, it means you have played to a Distinction level at Grade 8. If you receive a Merit, it means you have played the Grade 8 material to a Grade 7 standard. If you receive a Pass, it means you have played the Grade 8 material to a Grade 6 standard.

Mark percentage %	Advanced Grade 6 - 8	RQF credits	EQF credits
85 - 100	Grade 8 Distinction	3	4
71 - 84	Grade 7 Merit	3	4
50 - 70	Grade 6 Pass	3	4
Less than 50	Fail	0	0

## Marking Guide

Our online recorded exams enable our examiners to use 5 components to mark each discipline allowing for greater accuracy in our marking. Each component has a maximum of 4 points, 0/1 = Fail, 2 = Pass, 3 = Merit, 4 = Distinction.

Each discipline is marked in the following 5 components:

- Tempo
- Rhythm
- Note accuracy
- Touch/Engagement
- Technicality

Each component has a maximum of 4 points:

0	Not attempted
1	Fail
2	Pass
3	Merit
4	Distinction

	Technical Exercises	Performance Piece
Tempo	4	4
Rhythm	3	3
Note accuracy	4	4
Touch	2	4
Technicality	3	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>14.25</b>

Our examiners use each total of each particular section of the exam to convert into a percentage. For example the candidate in the above example would have received a Merit for their Technical Exercises and and a Distinction for their Performance Piece.

0%	Void
Less than 50%	Fail
50% - 70%	Pass
71% - 84%	Merit
85% - 100%	Distinction

- Our 4 - point system allows for greater accuracy in our marking.
- A candidate doesn't need to pass all sections in order to pass their exam overall.
- If no attempt is made, no marks are awarded for this section.

## Marking Scheme

How the Performance Pieces, Technical Exercises/Studies, Sight-Reading and Improvisation disciplines are marked.

Discipline	0 Marks Black = Void	1 Mark Red = Fail	2 Marks Orange = Pass level	3 Marks Yellow = Merit level	4 Marks Green = Distinction level
<b>Tempo</b>	Not attempted/ void	You were unable to correctly identify tempos throughout the exam.	You correctly identified the tempos, but you may be having trouble syncing up your hands with your ears, which makes playing in time very difficult and leads to inaccuracies in tempo.	You have clearly identified the tempos and played to them mostly accurately, but there were some inconsistencies in tempo where you may have struggled with other aspects of your playing.	You have demonstrated an excellent understanding of tempo in all aspects of your playing throughout your exam.
<b>Rhythm</b>	Not attempted/ void	You were unable to correctly identify rhythms throughout the exam.	You have correctly identified the rhythms, but you may be having trouble replicating the rhythms in your head with your hands, or fully understanding the rhythms that you are playing.	You have demonstrated a good understanding of all rhythmic concepts presented, and a good execution of rhythm, but you may have made some common yet condemning mistakes, such as not fulfilling note values, or rhythmic inconsistencies in some aspects of your playing.	You have demonstrated a comprehensive understanding and excellent execution of rhythm throughout your exam.
<b>Note Accuracy</b>	Not attempted/ void	You were unable to accurately identify the notes/pitches throughout your exam.	You have accurately identified the notes/pitches, but are most likely finding problems in execution - usually inaccurate representations of scales, chords, or exercises caused by either technical error or incorrectly learned material.	Your note accuracy was mostly correct, but there may have been some small issues causing you to occasionally slip up - these are usually technical errors or small recoverable mistakes, such as the occasional wrong note or chord in more complex passages.	Your note accuracy was consistently excellent throughout the exam.
<b>Touch/ Engagement</b>	Not attempted/ void	Indicates an approach to playing that lacked a sense of musicality, phrasing, articulation, and had little thought to sound/tone.	Indicates an approach to playing that showed some sense of musicality, phrasing, articulation, and had some thought to sound/tone. There were some issues with confidence that affected your playing, be that from nerves, or from a lack of familiarity with the guitar.	You demonstrated a good engagement with your playing and a developed sense of musicality throughout the exam, which may have occasionally been affected by minor confidence issues, or an uninformed approach to certain stylistic colloquialisms.	You have shown remarkable engagement with your playing throughout your exam.
<b>Technicality</b>	Not attempted/ void	Your technique was a detriment to your technical progress, and had an adverse effect on your overall sound throughout the exam.	You demonstrated an effective technique that may still hinder your technical progress. You performed to a satisfactory technical level, struggling with the technically more difficult parts of the exams, and were prone to making mistakes in these situations.	You showed good technique, which was in no way a hindrance to your technical progress. However, inconsistencies in technical proficiency arose at the more challenging parts of the exam.	You showed consistently excellent technique throughout your exam.

## How Aural tests are marked

The examiner uses the 4 - point system to mark the Aural section of the exam as follows:

### Melodic Recall

0 Marks Black = Void	1 Mark Red = Fail	2 Marks Orange = Pass level	3 Marks Yellow = Merit level	4 Marks Green = Distinction level
Not attempted/ void	You were unable to correctly recall the melody.	You were able to recall part of the melody, and effectively played the melody back OR you were able to recall most of the melody, but you were unable to effectively play the melody back.	You were able to recall most of the melody, and effectively played the melody back OR you were able to recall all of the melody, but there were some issues with playing the melody back.	You recalled the entire melody, and played it back correctly.

### Rhythmic Recall

0 Marks Black = Void	1 Mark Red = Fail	2 Marks Orange = Pass level	3 Marks Yellow = Merit level	4 Marks Green = Distinction level
Not attempted/ void	You were unable to correctly recall the rhythm.	You were able to recall part of the rhythm, and effectively played the rhythm back OR you were able to recall most of the rhythm, but you were unable to effectively play the rhythm back.	You were able to recall most of the chord progression, and effectively played the chord progression back OR you were able to recall all of the chord progression, but there were some issues with playing the chord progression back.	You recalled the entire chord progression, and played it back correctly.

### Harmonic Recall

0 Marks Black = Void	1 Mark Red = Fail	2 Marks Orange = Pass level	3 Marks Yellow = Merit level	4 Marks Green = Distinction level
Not attempted/ void	You were unable to correctly recall the chord progression.	You were able to recall part of the chord progression, and effectively play it back OR you were able to recall most of the chord progression, but you were unable to effectively play it back.	You were able to recall most of the chord progression and effectively play it back OR you were able to recall all of the chord progression, but there were some issues with playing it back.	You recalled the entire chord progression and played it back correctly.

### Harmonic Recognition

0 Marks Black = Void	1 Mark Red = Fail	4 Marks Green = Pass
Not attempted/void	Recognition attempt is incorrect	Recognition attempt is correct

## How the Theory test is marked

You will be given a multiple choice theory quiz. You will be asked 10 questions which will draw from a variety of subjects as shown in the grade specifications. Each question is worth one mark.

# Learning requirements for the exams

## Debut - Grade 2: Orange Foundation Level Rock Guitar



## Technical: Technical Exercises

### Scales

All scales must be played using alternate picking at the indicated tempo, and using the indicated note values. Scales must be played ascending followed by descending. Any fingering that is economical and sounds good will be accepted.

In your exam, you will be asked to play a selection from the following:

#### 1 Octave scales

100 BPM, crotchets (1-note-per-click)

C Major, A minor, G Major, E minor, A minor Pentatonic, C Major Pentatonic, G Chromatic.

Sample:

### Arpeggios

All arpeggios must be played individually, using either sweep picking or alternate picking, and as part of the progressions included in the course materials, at the indicated tempo and using the indicated note values. Arpeggios must be played ascending followed by descending. Any fingering that is economical and sounds good will be accepted.

In your exam, you will be asked to play one progression from the following:

#### 1 Octave arpeggios

126 BPM, quavers (2-notes-per-click)

Progressions 1 - 2

Sample:

#### Progression 1

## Chromatic Alternate Picking Routine

Please refer to the Foundation course materials for the exercises specified below.  
Any fingering that is economical and sounds good will be accepted.

In your exam, you will be asked to play either Progression 1 or 2:

BPM = 60  
Progressions 1-2

Sample:

Progression 1

♩ = 60

*mf*

TAB

12-13-14-15 12-13-14-15 12-13-14-15 12-13-14-15 12-13-14-15-11-12-13-14 11-12-13-14 11-12-13-14

## Technical: Technical Studies

### Chords

All chords must be played as part of the chord progressions included in the course materials. All chords are in root position.  
Any fingering that is economical and sounds good will be accepted.

In your exam, you will be asked to play a selection from the following:

#### Open chords

60BPM - Progressions 1 - 5.

These progression must be played with their corresponding backing tracks.

Sample:

Sample musical notation for open chords (E, Am, D, G) in 4/4 time, showing the treble clef, key signature (one sharp), and guitar tablature (TAB) with fingerings.

#### Power chords

60 BPM - Progression 1 - 2.

These progressions must be played with their corresponding backing tracks.

Sample:

Sample musical notation for power chords in 4/4 time, showing the treble clef, key signature (one sharp), and guitar tablature (TAB) with fingerings.

## Performance piece

You must perform 1 piece of music for your exam, using a backing track or unaccompanied. You may perform any piece of electric guitar music from any artist, as long as it adheres to the parameters outlined below. Performance pieces may be played using an alternative tuning. Students may read from notation/tablature during the exam.

Performance pieces MUST:

1. Be between approximately 2 and 5 minutes long.
2. Contain 4 different open or power chords learned from the beginner's section.
3. Contain a melody solo element that consists of at least 3 notes.
4. Show any articulation learnt in the Foundation course.

## Sight-reading

Sight-reading means that you have to play a piece of written music straight away without learning it, without TAB.

During your practical exam, you will be required to sight-read a 4-bar chord progression and a 4-bar melody, both at 60 BPM.

You will be given 30 seconds to look at the melody/chord progression before you are expected to play it. During the 30-second countdown, you can use your guitar to help you figure out how to play melody/progression. After the 30-second countdown, you must attempt to play the melody/progression on screen in time to the metronome. When you are asked to give your answer, you must **play** the melody back on your guitar, **NOT** sing it.

Note that you will only be expected to sight-read from scales and chords within the Orange Rock Guitar Foundation course. Rhythms will consist of combinations of crotchets, quavers, minims, semibreves, dotted minims, and their corresponding rests.

Any of the following chords may appear:	Any of the following scales may appear:	Any of the following time signatures may appear:	Any of the following key signatures may appear:	Any of the following dynamics may appear:
Open chords: <b>G Major</b> , <b>D Major</b> , <b>C Major</b> , <b>A Major</b> , <b>E Major</b> , <b>A minor</b> , <b>E minor</b> , <b>D minor</b>  Power chords: <b>A5</b> , <b>G5</b> , <b>F5</b> , <b>C5</b>	1 Octave scales: <b>C Major</b> , <b>A Minor</b> , <b>G Major</b> , <b>E minor</b> , <b>A minor Pentatonic</b> , <b>C Major Pentatonic</b>	<b>3/4</b> <b>4/4</b>	No sharps/flat = <b>C Major</b> 1 sharp = <b>G Major</b>	forte (f), mezzo-forte (mf), mezzo-piano (mp), piano (p)

Example:

The example shows two staves of music. The top staff is a melody in 3/4 time, starting with a mezzo-piano (mp) dynamic. The bottom staff is a chord progression in 4/4 time, starting with a forte (f) dynamic. The chords are D, G, C, and Em, each held for two bars.

## Aural

### Harmonic recognition

This part of the exam tests your ability to differentiate between types of chords.

**NB** You are **NOT** permitted to use your guitar at any point during this part of the exam. If you attempt to use your guitar or any other instrument to figure out the chords, ***you will be disqualified!***

In your exam you will be played a chord 2 times. There will then be a 10-second gap in which you must specify the chord quality, i.e. whether it is a Major chord or a minor chord.

You must **say** your answer, **NOT** play it.

### Melodic recall

In this part of the exam, you will be tested on your ability to memorise and reproduce melodies. You will be played a 2-bar melody, and you must play this melody back. The melody will be in the key of C Major, using the C Major 1 Octave scale position that you learned in the '1 Octave scales' lesson, and it will be played using crotchets at 60 BPM. The time signature will be 4/4. The first note of the melody will always be C.

In your exam, you will hear the melody 2 times. There will be a 10-second gap between each repetition, and after the final repetition, you will have 10 seconds before you have to play the melody back. During this part of the exam, you may use your guitar to help you figure out the melody. When you are asked to give your answer, you must **play** the melody back on your guitar, **NOT** sing it.

Example:

The example shows a 2-bar melody in C Major, 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef staff and a guitar tablature staff. The melody consists of the notes C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, and C5. The tablature shows the fret numbers for each note: 3, 2, 0, 2, 3, 2, 3, 3.

## Rhythmic recall

In this part of the exam, you will be tested on your ability to memorise and reproduce rhythms. You will be played a 2-bar rhythm, and you must play this rhythm back during your exam. The rhythm will be played on an open A string using minims, crotchets, quavers, and their respective rests, at 60 BPM. The time signature will be 4/4.

In your exam, you will hear the rhythm 2 times. There will be a 10-second gap between each repetition, and after the final repetition, you will have 10 seconds before you have to play the rhythm back. During this part of the exam, you may use your guitar to help you figure out the rhythm. When you are asked to give your answer, you must **play** the rhythm back on your guitar, **NOT** sing it.

Example:

## Theory

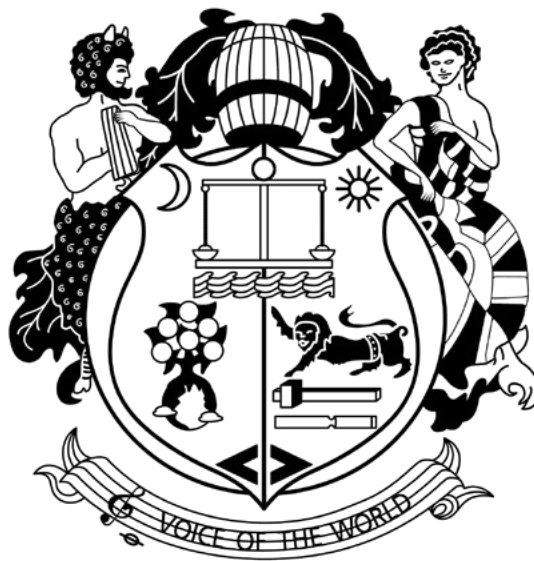
You will take a multiple choice theory quiz. The contents of the exam will consist of all of the theory introduced in the lessons of the Foundation course.

You will be asked 20 questions and any of the following subjects may appear:

- Notation & tablature - staves, clefs, note names, enharmonic notes
- Note names and note values - semibreve, minim, crotchet, quaver, semiquaver, dotted notes
- Rest names and rest values
- Bars and barlines
- Accidentals - sharps, flats, and naturals
- Time signatures - 4/4, 3/4
- Up and down picking symbols

- Tones and semitones
- Scale formulae - Major, Natural minor, Major Pentatonic, minor Pentatonic, Blues scale
- Chord formulae - Major, minor, power chords
- Arpeggio formulae - Major, minor
- Key signatures - C Major, G Major
- Repeat lines
- Legato symbols - slurs
- Intervals of the Major scale

# **Grade 3 - Grade 5: Orange Intermediate Level Rock Guitar**



## Technical: Technical Exercises

### Scales

All scales must be played using alternate picking at the indicated tempo, and using the indicated note values. Scales must be played ascending followed by descending. Any fingering that is economical and sounds good will be accepted.

In your exam, you will be asked to play 1 major and 1 minor 3-note-per-string scale from the following:

#### 3-note-per-string Major and minor scales

72 BPM, semiquavers (4-notes-per-click)

G Major, E minor, A Major, F# minor

Sample:

In your exam, you will be asked to play an A minor Pentatonic scale in one of the following positions:

#### The 5 positions of the A minor Pentatonic scale

112 BPM, quavers (2-notes-per-click)

Sample:

## Tapping

In your exam, you will be asked to play one progression.  
Please refer to the Intermediate course materials for the exercises specified below.  
Any fingering that is economical and sounds good will be accepted.

BPM = 130  
Progressions 1-3

Sample:

**J. = 130**  
Progression 1

*mf*

T A B

## Bending

In your exam, you will be asked to play one exercise.  
Please refer to the Intermediate course materials for the exercises specified below.  
Any fingering that is economical and sounds good will be accepted.

BPM = 120  
Exercises 1-3

Sample:

**J. = 120**  
Ex. 1

*mf*

T A B

## Technical: Technical Studies

### Chords

All chords must be played as part of the chord progressions included in the course materials. All chords are in root position. Any fingering that is economical and sounds good will be accepted.

#### Bar chords

In your exam, you will be asked to play one progression.  
Progressions 1 - 3

Sample:

The sample progression consists of five chords: Am, G, F, G, and Am. The notation shows the treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The chords are represented by vertical lines with circles indicating the notes. Below the treble clef, a 'TAB' section shows the corresponding fret numbers for each chord: Am (5, 5, 5, 5), G (3, 3, 3, 3), F (1, 1, 2, 3), G (3, 3, 3, 3), and Am (5, 5, 5, 5).

## Performance piece

You must perform 1 piece of music for your exam, using a backing track or unaccompanied. You may perform any piece of electric guitar music from any artist, as long as it adheres to the parameters outlined below. Performance pieces may be played using an alternative tuning. Students may read from notation/tablature during the exam.

Performance pieces **MUST**:

1. Be between approximately 2 and 5 minutes long.
2. Contain a variety of open, power, and bar chords learnt from the Intermediate section, including at least one chord extension.
3. Contain a solo element that consists of at least one technique learned in the intermediate course, such as tapping or bending.
4. Include articulation learned in the Foundation and Intermediate courses, e.g. staccato, legato, palm muting, left-hand muting, vibrato etc.

## Sight-reading

During your exam, you will be required to sight-read a 4-bar chord progression and a 4-bar melody, both at 80 BPM. You will be given 30 seconds to look at the melody/chord progression before you are expected to play it. During the 30-second countdown, you can use your guitar to help you figure out how to play melody/progression. After the 30 second countdown, you must attempt to play the melody/progression on screen in time to the metronome. When you are asked to give your answer, you must **play** the melody back on your guitar, **NOT** sing it.

Note that you will only be expected to sight-read from scales and chords within the Rock Guitar Foundation and Intermediate courses. You may also encounter any of the key signatures or time signatures that appear in the Foundation course. Rhythms will consist of combinations of crotchets, quavers, minims, semibreves, dotted minims, and their corresponding rests. Dynamics will range from piano through to forte. The following articulation may also appear: accents, staccato, legato (hammer-ons and pull-offs), crescendos and diminuendos.

Any of the following chords may appear:	Any of the following scales may appear:	Any of the following time signatures may appear:	Any of the following key signatures may appear:
<p>Open chords: <b>G Major</b>, <b>D Major</b>, <b>C Major</b>, <b>A Major</b>, <b>E Major</b>, <b>A minor</b>, <b>E minor</b>, <b>D minor</b>, <b>Cadd9</b>, <b>A7</b>, <b>D Major 7</b>, <b>D7</b>, <b>Dsus4</b>, <b>F#half-diminished</b>, <b>Asus2</b></p> <p>Power chords: <b>A5</b>, <b>G5</b>, <b>F5</b>, <b>C5</b>, <b>E5</b>, <b>C#5(b5)</b>, <b>D#5(b5)</b></p> <p>Bar chords: <b>G</b>, <b>Am</b>, <b>F</b>, <b>Dm</b>, <b>C</b>, <b>Bb</b></p>	<p>1 Octave scales: <b>C Major</b>, <b>A minor</b>, <b>G Major</b>, <b>E minor</b>, <b>A minor Pentatonic</b>, <b>C Major Pentatonic</b></p> <p>3-note-per-string scales: <b>G Major</b>, <b>A Major</b>, <b>E minor</b>, <b>F# minor</b></p> <p>A minor Pentatonic scales: <b>any of the 5 positions</b></p>	<p><b>3/4</b> <b>4/4</b> <b>5/4</b> <b>6/8</b></p>	<p>No sharps/flat = <b>C Major/A minor</b></p> <p>1 sharp = <b>G Major/E minor</b></p> <p>2 sharps = <b>D Major/B minor</b></p> <p>3 sharps = <b>A Major/F# minor</b></p> <p>1 flat = <b>F Major/D minor</b></p>

## Sight-reading example

8 bar melody example:



8 bar chord example:



## Aural

### Harmonic recognition

This part of the exam tests your ability to differentiate between types of chords.

**NB** You are **NOT** permitted to use your guitar at any point during this part of the exam. If you attempt to use your guitar or any other instrument to figure out the chords, **you will be disqualified!**

In your exam you will be played a chord 2 times. There will then be a 10-second gap in which you must specify the chord quality, i.e. whether it is a Major chord, minor chord, Major 7th chord, Dominant 7th chord, or a suspended 4th chord.

You must **say** your answer, **NOT** play it.

### Interval recognition

This part of the exam tests your ability to differentiate between types of intervals.

**NB** You are **NOT** permitted to use your guitar at any point during this part of the exam. If you attempt to use your guitar or any other instrument to figure out the chords, **you will be disqualified!**

In your exam you will be played an interval 2 times. Only intervals from the C Major and A minor scales will appear. All intervals will be ascending from the root note of the scale. There will then be a 10-second gap in which you must specify the chord quality, i.e. whether it is a Major chord, minor chord, Major 7th chord, Dominant 7th chord, or a suspended 4th chord.

You must **say** your answer, **NOT** play it.

## Melodic recall

You will be played a 4-bar melody, and you must play this melody back. The melody will be in the key of G Major, E minor, A Major, or F# minor (using 3-note-per-string scale positions introduced in the Intermediate course), and it will be played using minims, crotchets, quavers, dotted notes, tied notes, and their respective rests, at 80 BPM. The time signature will be 4/4 or 3/4. Dynamics will range from piano through to forte. The first note of the melody will always be the root note of the scale. The following melodic articulation may also appear and should be recalled: staccato, legato (hammer-ons/pull-offs).

In your exam, you will hear the melody 2 times. There will be a 10-second gap between each repetition, and after the final repetition, you will have 10 seconds before you have to play the melody back. During this part of the exam, you may use your guitar to help you figure out the melody. When you are asked to give your answer, you must **play** the melody back on your guitar, **NOT** sing it.

Example:

♩ = 80

*p*

TAB

5 5 5 4 5 7 5 4 7 5 4 4 4 7 4 5 7 8

## Harmonic recall

You will be played a 4-bar chord progression, and you must play this progression back. The progression will be in the key of C Major or A minor, using a combination of open chords and bar chords learned in the Foundation and Intermediate courses. It will be played using minims, crotchets, quavers, dotted notes, tied notes, and their respective rests, at 80 BPM. The time signature will be 4/4 or 3/4. Dynamics will range from piano through to forte. The first chord of the progression will always be the root chord of the key. The following articulation may also appear and should be recalled: staccato, left-hand muting.

In your exam, you will hear the chord progression 2 times. There will be a 10-second gap between each repetition, and after the final repetition, you will have 10 seconds before you have to play the progression back. During this part of the exam, you may use your guitar to help you figure out the progression. When you are asked to give your answer, you must **play** the progression back on your guitar, **NOT** sing it.

Example:

♩ = 80

*mp*

Am F Am Dm E

TAB

0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 3 2 0 2 0

## Improvisation

In your exam, you must improvise over a 16-bar backing track. You will be given the chord progression of the backing track in lead sheet format. You will hear the backing track 2 times before being expected to improvise.

The backing track will be in the key of A minor.

Any of the following time signatures may appear: 3/4, 4/4, 6/8

Example:

The example shows a 16-bar backing track in A minor. The first line contains 8 bars with chords Am, G, Dm, Am. The second line contains 8 bars with chords Dm, F, G, Am. Each bar contains a single eighth note on a staff.

## Theory

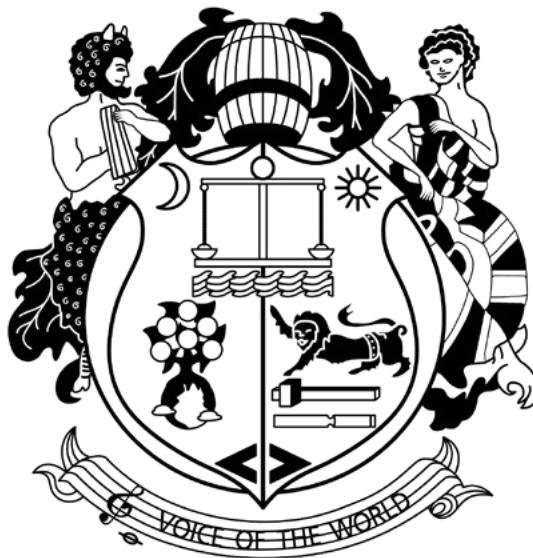
You will take a multiple choice theory exam. The contents of the exam will consist of all of the theory introduced in the lessons of the Foundation and Intermediate courses.

You will be asked 20 questions and any of the following subjects may appear:

- Notation & tablature - staves, clefs, note names, enharmonic notes
- Note names and note values - semibreve, minim, crotchet, quaver, semiquaver, dotted notes, tied notes
- Rest names and rest values
- Bars and bar lines
- Accidentals - sharps, flats, and naturals
- Time signatures - 4/4, 3/4, 6/8
- Up and down picking symbols
- Tones and semitones
- Legato symbols - slurs, tapping
- Scale formulae - Major, Natural minor, Harmonic minor, Melodic minor, Major Pentatonic, minor Pentatonic, Blues scale,
- Chord formulae - Major, minor, added 9, Major 7th, Dominant 7th, suspended 2nd, suspended 4th, half-diminished/minor 7-b5, power chords, b5 power chords

- Arpeggio formulae - Major, minor
- Bar chord shiftable positions - Major, minor
- Key signatures - C Major/A minor, G Major/E minor, D Major/B minor, A Major/F# minor, F Major/D minor
- Relative keys
- Repeat lines and volta brackets
- Palm muting symbols
- Intervals of the Major and Natural minor scales
- Compound intervals
- Keys and chords - Major key chords, Natural minor chords, Harmonic minor chords, Melodic minor chords
- Modes - Ionian and Aeolian

**Grade 6 - Grade 8:**  
**Orange Advanced Level**  
Electric Rock Guitar



## Technical: Technical Exercises

### Scales

All scales must be played using alternate picking at the indicated Tempo, and using the indicated note values. Scales must be played ascending followed by descending. Any fingering that is economical and sounds good will be accepted.

#### Other useful scales

80 BPM, semiquavers (4-notes-per-click)

E Harmonic minor, A Blues scale, G 8-note diminished scale

Sample:

#### Introduction to modes

116 BPM, quavers (2-notes-per-click)

In your exam, you will be asked to play 3 scales from the following:

G Ionian, A Dorian, B Phrygian, C Lydian, D Mixolydian, E Aeolian, F# Locrian

Sample:

♩ = 116 G Ionian



## Modal workouts

Please refer to the Advanced course materials for the exercises specified below.  
Any fingering that is economical and sounds good will be accepted.

### Modal workout - part I

BPM = 132

Exercise 3

Sample:

Ex. 3

### Modal workout - part II

BPM = 184

Exercise 1

Sample:

Ex. 1  
♩ = 184

## Technical: Technical Studies

### Chords

All chords must be played as part of the chord progressions included in the course materials.  
All chords are in root position. Any fingering that is economical and sounds good will be accepted.  
In your exam, you will be asked to play 1 progression from the following:

#### Bar chords - part II Progressions 1 - 3

Sample:

Am7                      Dm7                      G

TAB

#### Drop D Power chords Progression 1

Sample:

TAB

## Legato Study

Please refer to the Advanced course materials for the study specified below.  
Any fingering that is economical and sounds good will be accepted.

In your exam, you will be asked to play 1 exercise from the following:

BPM = 120  
Exercise 1-2

Sample:

Ex. 1  
♩ = 120

*mf*

T  
A  
B

3 5 7 3 5 7    3 5 7 3 5 7    4 5 7 4 5 7    4 5 7 4 5 7

## Performance piece

You must perform 1 piece of music for your exam, using a backing track or unaccompanied. You may perform any piece of electric guitar music from any artist, as long as it adheres to the parameters outlined below. Performance pieces may be played using an alternative tuning. Students may read from notation/tablature during the exam.

Performance pieces MUST:

1. Be between approximately 2 and 5 minutes long.
2. Contain a variety of open chords, power chords, bar chords, chord extensions, and at least one altered chord (augmented or diminished).
3. Contain a solo element that consists of at least 1 technique learned in the Advanced course.
4. Include articulation learned in the Foundation, Intermediate, and Advanced courses, e.g. staccato, legato, palm muting, left-hand muting, vibrato etc.

## Sight-reading

During your exam, you will be required to sight-read an 8-bar chord progression and an 8-bar melody, both at 80 BPM. You will be given 60 seconds to look at the melody/chord progression before you are expected to play it. During the 60 second countdown, you can use your guitar to help you figure out how to play melody/progression. After the 60-second countdown, you must attempt to play the melody/progression on screen in time to the metronome. When you are asked to give your answer, you must **play** the melody back on your guitar, **NOT** sing it.

Note that you will be expected to sight-read from scales and chords from the Orange Rock Guitar Foundation, Intermediate, and Advanced courses. You may also encounter any of the key signatures or time signatures that appear in the beginner and intermediate courses. Rhythms will consist of combinations of crotchets, quavers, semiquavers, minims, semibreves, dotted notes, and their corresponding rests. Dynamics will range from pianissimo through to fortissimo. The following articulation may also appear: accents, palm-muting, left-hand muting, staccato, legato (hammer-ons, pull-offs, slides), bending, crescendos and diminuendos.

Any of the following chords may appear:	Any of the following scales may appear:	Any of the following time signatures may appear:	Any of the following key signatures may appear:
<p>Open Chords: <b>G Major, D Major, C Major, A Major, E Major, A minor, E minor, D minor, Cadd9, A7, D Major 7, D7, Dsus4, F#half-diminished, Asus2</b></p> <p>Power chords: <b>any 5/b5 chords</b></p> <p>Bar chords: <b>any Major, minor, sus4, or minor 7th bar chords</b></p>	<p>1 Octave scales: <b>C Major, A minor, G Major, E minor, A minor Pentatonic, C Major Pentatonic</b></p> <p>Any of the 5 positions of the A minor Pentatonic scale</p> <p>Any of the '3-note-per-string' Positions of the G Major scale</p> <p>Any of the 7 modes of the G Major scale - <b>G Ionian, A Dorian, B Phrygian, C Lydian, D Mixolydian, E Aeolian, F# Locrian</b></p> <p>Other useful scales: <b>E Harmonic minor, A Blues scale, G 8-note diminished scale</b></p>	<p><b>3/4</b> <b>4/4</b> <b>5/4</b> <b>6/8</b></p>	<p>No sharps/flat = <b>C Major/A minor</b></p> <p>1 sharp = <b>G Major/E minor</b></p> <p>2 sharps = <b>D Major/B minor</b></p> <p>3 sharps = <b>A Major/F# minor</b></p> <p>1 flat = <b>F Major/D minor</b></p>

8 bar melody example:



8 bar chord example:

The chord progression is written on a single staff in 4/4 time. It begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The chords are indicated by labels above the staff: Bar 1: A7; Bar 2: Dmaj7; Bar 3: Bm7; Bar 4: Em7; Bar 5: Asus2; Bar 6: A7; Bar 7: Bm; Bar 8: F#m7. The final bar (Bar 8) ends with a G chord, which is shown as a whole note chord. The dynamic marking *mp* is placed below the first bar.

## Aural

### Harmonic recognition

**NB** You are **NOT** permitted to use your guitar at any point during this part of the exam. If you attempt to use your guitar or any other instrument to figure out the chords, ***you will be disqualified!***

In your exam, you will hear 1 chord played 2 times. There will then be a 10-second gap in which you must specify the chord quality from one of the following:

Major chord, minor chord, augmented chord, diminished chord, 7th chord (Major, minor, Dominant), suspended 4th, suspended 2nd.

You must **say** your answer, **NOT** play it.

### Interval recognition

**NB** You are **NOT** permitted to use your guitar at any point during this part of the exam. If you attempt to use your guitar to figure out the intervals, ***you will be disqualified!***

In your exam, you will be played an interval 2 times. There will be a 10-second gap between each repetition, and after the final repetition, you will have a 10 seconds before you have to name the interval. Any chromatic intervals may appear.

Intervals maybe ascending or descending from the root note.

You must **say** your answer, **NOT** play it.

## Melodic recall

In this part of the exam, you will be tested on your ability to memorise and reproduce melodies. You will be played an 8-bar melody, and you must play this melody back. The melody may use any of the following scales:

G Ionian, A Dorian, B Phrygian, C Lydian, D Mixolydian, E Aeolian

The melody will be played using minims, crotchets, quavers, semiquavers, dotted notes, tied notes, and their respective rests, at 80 BPM. The time signature will be 4/4 or 3/4. Dynamics will range from piano through to forte. The first note of the melody will always be the root note of the scale. The following melodic articulation may also appear and should be recalled: staccato, legato (hammer-ons/pull-offs, slides), crescendos and diminuendos.

In your exam, you will hear the melody 2 times. There will be a 10 second gap between each repetition, and after the final repetition, you will have 10 seconds before you have to play the melody back. During this part of the exam, you may use your guitar to help you figure out the melody. When you are asked to give your answer, you must **play** the melody back on your guitar, **NOT** sing it.

Example:

♩ = 80

The example shows two systems of musical notation. The first system is in 4/4 time, starting with a forte (f) dynamic. The melody is written on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The first four bars of the melody are: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), G3 (quarter), F#3 (quarter). The guitar tablature below shows the fret numbers: 5, 8, 7, 5, 9, 5, 9, 5, 5, 7, 5, 8, 7, 5, 9, 7. The second system is also in 4/4 time, with a melody starting on G4: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), D5 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter), B3 (quarter), A3 (quarter), G3 (quarter), F#3 (quarter). The guitar tablature below shows the fret numbers: 5, 9, 7, 7, 5, 7, 5, 7, 5, 7, 5, 9, 7, 7, 5, 7.

## Harmonic recall

In this part of the exam, you will be tested on your ability to memorise and reproduce chord progressions. You will be played an 8 bar chord progression, and you must play this progression back. The progression will be in the key of C Major, A minor, G Major, or E minor, and may include some modal harmony, using a combination of open chords, power chords, and bar chords learned in the Foundation, Intermediate, and Advanced courses. It will be played using minims, crotchets, quavers, semiquavers, dotted notes, tied notes, and their respective rests, at 80 BPM. The time signature will be 4/4 or 3/4. The first chord of the progression will always be the root chord of the key. Dynamics will range from pianissimo through to fortissimo.

The first chord of the progression will always be the root chord of the key. The following articulation may also appear and should be recalled: staccato, left-hand muting, crescendos and diminuendos.

In your exam, you will hear the chord progression 2 times. There will be a 10-second gap between each repetition, and after the final repetition, you will have 10 seconds before you have to play the progression back. During this part of the exam, you may use your guitar to help you figure out the progression. When you are asked to give your answer, you must **play** the progression back on your guitar, **NOT** sing it.

Example:

Example chord progression in C Major, 80 BPM, 4/4 time signature.

Chords: G, F, G, B $\flat$ , G, F, G, E, F, F $\sharp$ , G

Tablature (TAB) for the first system:

```

3 3 1 1 3 3 6 6 6 6 3 3 1 1 3 3 0 1 2 3
4 4 2 2 4 4 6 6 6 6 4 4 2 2 4 4 0 2 3 4
5 5 3 3 5 5 7 7 7 7 5 5 3 3 5 5 2 3 4 5
6 6 1 1 6 6 8 8 8 8 6 6 1 1 6 6 1 2 3 4

```

Chords: G, F, G, Cmaj7, C $\sharp$ 7, D7, G

Tablature (TAB) for the second system:

```

3 3 1 1 3 3 3 3 4 4 4 4 5 3 3 3
4 4 2 2 4 4 5 5 6 6 6 6 7 3 3 3
5 5 3 3 5 5 6 6 6 6 6 6 7 4 4 4
6 6 1 1 6 6 7 7 7 7 7 7 7 5 5 5

```

## Improvisation

In your exam, you must improvise over a 16-bar backing track. You will be given the chord progression of the backing track in lead sheet format. You will hear the backing track 2 times before being expected to improvise.

The backing track will use any of the following keys/modes:

G Major  
A Dorian  
B Phrygian  
C Lydian  
D Mixolydian  
A minor

Any of the following time signatures may appear: 3/4, 4/4, 6/8

Example:

The example shows a 16-bar chord progression in G major (one sharp). The first line contains the first 8 bars, and the second line contains the next 8 bars. Each bar is represented by a single slash on a five-line staff. The chords are: G, Cmaj7, D, Bm7, Em7, Am7, D7, D9, and G. The progression ends with a double bar line.

## Theory

You will take a multiple choice theory exam. The contents of the exam will consist of all of the theory introduced in the lessons of the Foundation, Intermediate, and Advanced courses.

You will be asked 20 questions and any of the following subjects may appear:

- Notation & tablature - staves, clefs, note names, enharmonic notes
- Note names and note values - semibreve, minim, crotchet, quaver, semiquaver, dotted notes, tied notes
- Rest names and rest values
- Bars and bar lines
- Accidentals - sharps, flats, and naturals
- Time signatures - 4/4, 3/4, 5/4, 6/8
- Up and down picking symbols
- Tones and semitones
- Legato symbols - slurs, tapping, sliding
- Scale formulae - Major, Natural minor, Harmonic minor, Melodic minor, Major Pentatonic, minor Pentatonic, Blues scale, Diminished scale
- Mode formulae - Ionian, Dorian, Phrygian, Lydian, Mixolydian, Aeolian, Locrian
- Chord formulae - Major, minor, added 9, Major 7th, Dominant 7th, suspended 2nd, suspended 4th, half-diminished/minor 7-b5, power chords, b5 power chords
- Arpeggio formulae - Major, minor

- 2 Octave arpeggio shiftable positions - Major and minor
- Bar chord shiftable positions - Major, minor, suspended 4th, minor 7th
- Key signatures - C Major/A minor, G Major/E minor, D Major/B minor, A Major/F# minor, F Major/D minor
- Relative keys
- Repeat lines and volta brackets
- Palm muting symbols
- Intervals of the Major and Natural minor scales
- Chromatic intervals (Augmented and diminished)
- Compound intervals
- Triplets
- Keys and chords - Major key chords, Natural minor chords, Harmonic minor chords, Melodic minor chords
- Modal chord progressions



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