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# BEST WAYS TO LEARN GUITAR

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AN INSIDER'S GUIDE TO  
LEARNING THE GUITAR ONLINE

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# About The Report

Hi I'm Tyler from VoicesInc.org.

I have been testing and reviewing all types of ways to learn musical instruments online.

This is my resource guide for learning the guitar with online programs. Because of my knowledge and relationship with the lessons that I recommend, my website has been called a "professional review website".



I have tested so many guitar learning websites, apps, and software, and have **one main recommendation** you will find throughout this guide.

At the end of the day, there are many ways to get better on the guitar. If you're looking for online lessons, this guide will hopefully help you out.

All the best, Tyler.

P.S:

I know many people don't read these entire guides. Therefore if you want my **#1 recommendation for online lessons**, it would be with a website called Guitar Tricks.

They have provided me with a special [Free Trial Link](#) that gives you access to their lessons for 14 days. [Click here to get your own free trial.](#)

# Beginner's Guide to Learning How to Play Guitar (3 BEST WAYS)

*This first section is **NOT** going to give you a list of specific steps to do in order to play better.*

**No article like that exists.** You can't read a list of steps and suddenly get better at the guitar. You need proper instruction and practice.

This section simply lists the different methods and resources you can use to enhance your skills.

Over the last few years I've researched so many different tools to help beginners master the guitar.

What I've discovered is that **there are really only 3 ways to learn how to play the guitar.**

Each of these categories is slightly different, and will have a few options.

I've done my best to highlight the top choices within each category, and will continue to update this site as new learning products come out.

One thing I can say for sure is that there are so many good resources available for those who want to really learn guitar. The tough part is actually choosing which one to go with.

**So all you really need to do is commit and take action.**

# 1. Real In-Person Lessons



At the end of the day, you can't fully substitute real in-person lessons.

When you have someone right next to you it's pretty darn helpful. You can easily stick to a schedule and routine with lessons on a specific day and time.

These are definitely some important factors.

**But there are also some cons** about this learning method compared to the others:

- It can be expensive
- You can't get help 24/7
- You usually need to travel to lessons
- Are there good instructors in your area?

One of the biggest downfalls with real lessons is convenience. With millions of people wanting to learn the guitar, there just aren't enough good teachers for everyone.

Many people don't have access to one, and many people can't afford them.

I would only recommend this method if you have a budget for it, and you have easy access to a really good teacher.

## 2. Games and Apps



A new way to learn how to play guitar is with games and apps.

One of the main advantages to this type of learning device is that it's fun and easy to use. If you're comfortable with downloading apps, you'll have no problem getting started.

Many of these options will have a scoring system built in which makes learning fun and keeps you coming back for more, however the overall instruction is not as detailed as you'll get with the other choices above.

There's no doubt that people really love guitar video games and learning apps. They're fun and entertaining.

They're very useful in improving your muscle memory and getting you to practice, however many of them work best as a supplement to other types of learning methods.

### 3. Online Video Lessons



When you jump into the world of online video lessons, you begin to see the huge value created by the Internet and the growth of technology.

These have really replaced any DVD or CD course. These still exist, and some are good, but I feel their days are numbered.

What often comes to mind when thinking about this section is **leverage**.

*Why pay a guitar teacher 30 or 40 dollars an hour, when you can share that cost with thousands of other people, making the cost of one online video lesson next to nothing.*

That's one of the main benefits with online guitar lessons.

Basically you pay a monthly or yearly fee, and you have access to thousands of online video lessons. There are beginner lessons, specific guitar style lessons, and you can even get lessons on playing your favourite songs.

These membership websites have millions of users. [Guitar Tricks](#) offers over **600 song lessons** and the other popular website [JamPlay](#), offers weekly live lessons.

Compare paying for a year of online lessons, versus maybe 4 or 5 in person lessons. **You simply can't beat the value here.**

The main con is that you won't get that instant feedback, and you need the motivation to login and practice on your own schedule.

There are websites which offer live lessons, chat rooms, and some offer a video exchange feature where you can upload yourself playing and get feedback, however you're not usually accountable to any teacher.

## Where Should You Go?

If you're a beginner who really wants to learn and improve your skills, I would recommend you **start with online video guitar lessons.**

In my opinion it's overall the best avenue for learning and getting value.

## Which Lessons are Recommended?

I personally use the website Guitar Tricks.

[They have a 14 day free trial you can access by clicking here.](#)



# What Do Online Guitar Lessons Teach You?

So someone recommended online guitar lessons eh?

Whether you saw an add on Facebook, or perhaps you noticed me recommending them somewhere else on my website, this section explains what they are.

I'll quickly cover this for you in 5 sections:

- 3 Quick Benefits (*Infographic*)
- What You Get
- How They're Presented
- What You Learn
- Which Lessons are Best?

## 3 Quick Benefits



### STAY AT HOME

Online lessons allow you to learn the guitar from anywhere you have access to an internet connection. If you want to jam out at 1 am, you can!



### VERY AFFORDABLE

Because of the way online lesson websites work, you share the costs with all the other members. This makes the membership prices very affordable.



### TONS OF CONTENT

You get unlimited access to HD video guitar lessons produced by professional guitar teachers. Get beginner lessons, song lessons, and even live lessons via webinars.

# What You Get

Think of online lessons as a membership.

For example, think of a gym membership. You pay a fee every month and you can use the gym whenever you want during the operating hours.

Online guitar lessons work the same way. You pay a monthly or yearly fee, and you can log into the website and have access to all the lessons. So you're paying for full access to the company website, which contains thousands of hours of video lessons.

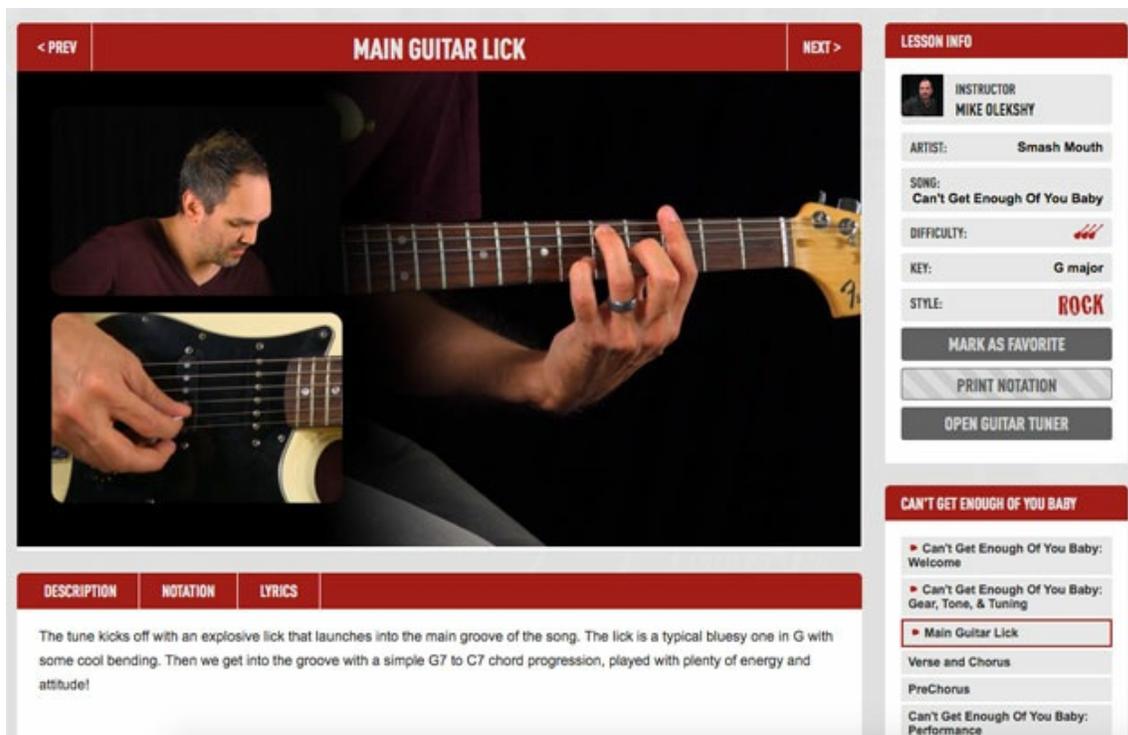
# How They're Presented

The top online guitar lessons websites will provide their lessons in HD video.

These are usually created in a professional studio by some of the top guitar teachers from around the world. The videos are extremely well structured, and contain various camera angles.

The dashboard where you watch the videos on your computer, iPad, or smartphone will contain various features like a table of contents, notes, and additional resources.

Here are some sample screenshots:



## What You Learn

Lessons cover almost every single aspect of the guitar.

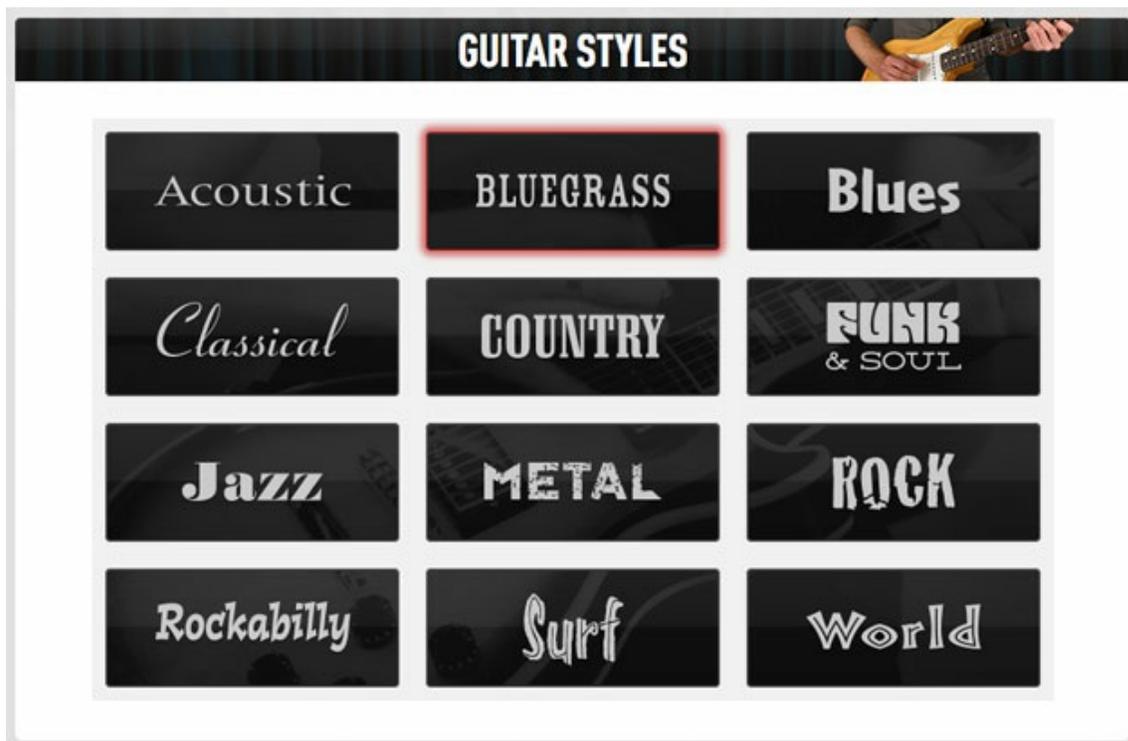
You can learn specific songs, specific genres and styles, and even the basics like how to hold a guitar, or how to tune a guitar.

The lessons will cover things like beginner chords all the way up to fingerpicking techniques.

Essentially all the lessons are broken down into specific categories. So if you want to learn some beginner chords, you head over to the beginner section.

If you want to learn Country guitar, or Jazz guitar, you head over to that section.

Here are some screenshots of some of the lessons which are provided at the website which I am a member of:



Just to show you how much you get with these lessons, here is a breakdown of the topics covered in just 1 section!

## Guitar Fundamentals 1

Beginner Course at [GuitarTricks.com](http://GuitarTricks.com)



### Chapter 1: Get to Know Your Guitar

- Welcome to the Guitar
- The Strings and Tuning
- How Does the Guitar Work

**17 Videos**

### Chapter 2: Let's Learn to Play

- Look Mom, Two Hands!
- Your First Simple Chords: C and G
- Simple Chords, A Minor and E Major
- More Simple Chords and Easy Songs

**41 Videos**

### Chapter 3: How to Play Simple Melodies

- Simple Melodies on the First 2 Strings
- Add the Middle 2 Strings
- Melodies on All 6 Strings
- Melodies to Read, Learn, and Play

**26 Videos**

## Chapter 4: Your 5 Chord Power Pack

- Learn the Chords E Minor, and D Major
- Learn the Chords C, G and Am
- 2 Chord Songs to Learn and Play
- Chord Change Strategies for the 5 Chord Power Pack
- Songs to Play with Your 5 Chord Power Pack

35 Videos

## Chapter 5: Must Know Basic Open Chords

- More Must Know Minor and Major Chords
- Seamless Chord Changes, Every Time!

13 Videos

## Chapter 6: How Chords Work Together to Make Songs

- Playing Songs in the Key of G
- Playing Songs in the Key of C
- Playing Songs in the Key of D
- Playing Songs in the Key of A
- Playing Songs in the Key of E

27 Videos

## Chapter 7: Intro to Timing and Rhythm

- Basic Strumming in 4/4 Time
- Basic Strumming in 3/4 Time
- You're a Guitar Player Now!

17 Videos

WOW. That took a while to write out.

So in just the *Guitar Fundamentals 1* section, you get over 150 video lessons!

Remember, Guitar Fundamentals is a course offered at the guitar lesson website called [Guitar Tricks](#).

You can try these lesson out right now with their 14 day free trial:



## Which Lessons are Best?

Everything I outlined here is what you get with online lessons from Guitar Tricks.

Guitar Tricks offers the best online lessons in my opinion.

What's great is that they have a [free trial which last 14 days](#) which you can test out.

You can literally try the lessons out, and see if you like them.

[Click here to start your own free trial.](#)

# What's the Average Cost of Guitar Lessons?

The answer that you don't want to hear: *It depends.*

The price of guitar lessons will depend on a few things:

- Experience of your teacher
- The city you live in
- Buying more lessons upfront
- Your skill level

So it depends on these things.

But there certainly is an average.

**The average cost of guitar lessons is \$40 per hour.**



05-04-2011, 10:33 PM

I'm \$25 per lesson. That's standard around small towns in CA USA.



05-04-2011, 08:57 PM

One day a week, 30 mins - IMHO \$20-\$25 is a fair price per lesson.

## How much do guitar lessons cost?

Average price: \$40/hr



Image from Thumbtack.com

## How Much Would These Lessons Cost a Year?

If you do weekly lessons for an entire year, the cost is quite high.

Say you do a 30 minute session every Thursday night.

That would cost you \$1040 per year.

You would get 26 hours of 1 on 1 instruction.

As you can see, in-person guitar lessons can be expensive for some new players.

## Other Things to Consider

*Can you find a good guitar teacher in your area?*

Most people don't have access to professional guitar teachers in their local area.

If you do find one, hopefully your commute is not too long.



### *Is 30 minutes per week enough?*

There's no doubt that you will get better from guitar lessons, but some people find 30 minutes to not really be enough.

Sure you can go to more lessons, but it can get expensive.

### *What if you don't like your teacher?*

It's not like you have 50 guitar teachers to choose from in your area. Your choices are limited, and some teachers aren't any good.

## Have You Considered Online Lessons Instead?

I know I'm sort of bashing the whole in-person guitar lesson industry.

There are definitely some great teachers out there, and many students have had success. If you can afford \$40 per hour, and you live in a big city, you could be OK.

But what about some other options?

### **What about these online guitar lessons?**

Online guitar lessons give you the most value for money.

The cost of about 4 in-person lessons (1 hour), will get you an entire year membership to online guitar lessons. 4 lessons vs. 365 days of access.

### **What do you get with online guitar lessons?**

Basically online guitar lessons are offered through membership websites.

You created an account and you have access to thousands of video lessons, and hundreds of song lessons.

< PREV MAIN GUITAR LICK NEXT >

LESSON INFO

INSTRUCTOR  
MIKE OLEKSIY

ARTIST: Smash Mouth

SONG:  
Can't Get Enough Of You Baby

DIFFICULTY: ★★★

KEY: G major

STYLE: **ROCK**

MARK AS FAVORITE

PRINT NOTATION

OPEN GUITAR TUNER

DESCRIPTION NOTATION LYRICS

The tune kicks off with an explosive lick that launches into the main groove of the song. The lick is a typical bluesy one in G with some cool bending. Then we get into the groove with a simple G7 to C7 chord progression, played with plenty of energy and attitude!

CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF YOU BABY

- Can't Get Enough Of You Baby: Welcome
- Can't Get Enough Of You Baby: Gear, Tone, & Tuning
- Main Guitar Lick**
- Verse and Chorus
- PreChorus
- Can't Get Enough Of You Baby: Performance

The lessons are created by hundreds of professional guitar teachers from all over the world.

They have created beginner courses, genre specific courses, and even lessons on hundreds of songs.

And you get full access, 24/7. The value is huge in my opinion.

But you don't have to take my word for it.

[You can actually try these lessons risk free, with a free trial.](#)



I personally use and recommend everyone starts with a website called Guitar Tricks.

They have a [14 day free trial](#) that you can use to see if you like it.

# How To Get Back Into The Guitar

There could be a number of reasons why your guitar is collecting dust in the basement.

Maybe you've just taken a break for a few years. Or perhaps you're a bit older and you haven't played since high school.

Whatever the case is, if you want to get back into the guitar, then you'll find this quick guide useful.

- Get Your Gear Sorted
- Find an Affordable Instructor
- Schedule Time for Practice
- Join a Community Online

## Do You Need a New Guitar?



You might not need a brand new guitar, but you probably want to get some new strings, or at least tune it up.

If you do want a new guitar, there are many choices out there. For beginners and those just getting back into playing, I like to recommend the Jasmine S35 acoustic guitar.

This is a great beginner guitar, and it costs less than \$100.

If you're willing to spend a bit more, one of the best value for money guitars is the Seagull S6 Original.

[You can read reviews on these guitars here.](#)

# Where Have All The Good Guitar Teachers Gone?

The second step is to find yourself a guitar teacher.

In order to get better at the guitar, you need some type of resource. You need some instruction.

You can find these resources online, or you can learn from a coach in person. **Many people wonder if they can teach themselves the guitar.** The truth is you can't learn all by yourself. You'll need some type of resource.

I personally like to recommend **online guitar lessons** instead of real in person lessons.

The reason is that **in-person lessons can be very expensive**, and many people don't have access to good teachers in their area.

Plus the quality of online guitar lessons is amazing.

The screenshot shows a lesson page for "BLUEGRASS LICK LIBRARY G2: INTRO" by instructor Ben Lindholm. The page features a video player showing a man playing guitar, a "DESCRIPTION" section, and a sidebar with lesson info and a list of other licks in the library.

**BLUEGRASS LICK LIBRARY G2: INTRO** NEXT >

**LESSON INFO**

INSTRUCTOR: BEN LINDHOLM

DIFFICULTY:

KEY: G

FOCUS: Style Tutorial

STYLE: BLUEGRASS

MARK AS FAVORITE

DOWNLOAD LESSON

OPEN GUITAR TUNER

**BLUEGRASS LICK LIBRARY G2**

- Bluegrass Lick Library G2: Intro
- BG2: 1st Round Over G
- BG2: 1st Round Over C
- BG2: 1st Round Over D
- BG2: 1st Round All Licks
- BG2: 2nd Round Over G
- BG2: 2nd Round Over C
- BG2: 2nd Round Over D
- BG2: 2nd Round All Licks
- BG2: 3rd Round Over G
- BG2: 3rd Round Over C

**DESCRIPTION**

In this tutorial we will increase the difficulty a little bit, still keeping it fairly simple though, as far as bluegrass goes. We will use the same backing track as in Bluegrass Lick Library G1, meaning we'll play over one bar of G major, one bar of C major, one bar of D major and another bar of G major.

This is one of the most common bluegrass chord progressions, and it is very important to be able to use all your licks over real life chord progressions, not just over stand-alone chords.

*Online Lessons Offer So Much Value*

*[Find my top recommendations for learning guitar online here.](#)*

## Practice Makes Perfect

In order to get better you will need to practice.

People who report the best results with getting back into playing often have a specific playing schedule.

A typical schedule would be 20 - 30 minutes a day. If you try your best to practice everyday, you'll see the best results.

You need to make a schedule that works for you, and I would take this very seriously.

## Want to Meet Other Guitar Players?

Once you've been practicing for awhile, and you've refreshed some of your skills, it could be good to play with some other players if you have this luxury.

Many people won't have access to other players because of their geographic location and social situation, however you can definitely join a forum and online community no matter where you live.

There are some great online guitar communities that you can join and make new friends.

## Your Next Step

These are some basic steps for getting back into the guitar.

What's great is that after you've cleaned up your guitar, or bought a new one, all the other suggestions can be done with one resource: **Guitar Tricks**.



Guitar Tricks is a **guitar membership website**.

It supplies online video lessons for all types of guitar players.

There are tons of professional guitar coaches, thousands of video lessons, and hundreds of song lessons.

And if you're interested, they have an awesome guitar community you can be apart of and meet other players.

Bottom line, online guitar lessons are a great way to help you get back into learning and playing the guitar, and they offer so much value.

The easiest thing to do is to try Guitar Tricks for free to see if you like it. They have a 14 day free trial you can test out.

[Click here to try Guitar Tricks for FREE](#)

# Should I Take Guitar Lessons or Teach Myself?

If you want to learn the guitar, or improve on your skills, you have a few options.

Right now you're obviously wondering if you should invest in guitar lessons, or try and learn by yourself.

We need to first break this question down into two parts: **In Person Lessons vs. Online Lessons.**

There are essentially two ways to learn the guitar. You can pay for lessons where you go and see a guitar teacher, or you can learn online.

For answering this question we'll consider "learning online" to refer to "teaching yourself".

## Why I Don't Recommend In Person Lessons

I don't want to paint a negative picture of paying for in person guitar lessons. There are some great teachers out there, and you will get better after seeing them.

But for so many people this is probably not the best option. These lessons can be expensive, you will have to commute most of the time, and your access is limited.

Plus, many people simply don't have a good guitar teacher that lives close to them.

So these are the main reasons why I don't recommend in person guitar lessons, and why I think you should try learning online first.



# Teaching Yourself = Learning Online

Let's be real, you can't teach yourself the guitar without some help.

You either need to buy a book, watch a DVD, play a game, or study material online.

In the world of learning the guitar online (*teaching yourself*), there are free resources, and paid resources.

**You need to be careful with free guitar lessons** Firstly, you're always going to be limited to how much you can learn with free lessons. Sure you can learn a few chords, but most of these lessons are not step by step, and don't lead you on to the next level in order to progress.

Even the websites that are labeled as "free", almost always push you towards buying a guide book, DVD course, or some other type of promotion.

**So understand this: *If you want the best learning experience online, you will eventually need to pay.***

There are some awesome free trials available to allow you to see if you like learning through online video lessons, but to really improve you will want to invest in some type of membership.

## What Do Lessons Really Costs?

I've mentioned this a lot in the past, but let's quickly cover some of the costs associated with your options.

In person guitar lessons will vary in costs. There are quite a few factors that come into play:

- Experience of your instructor
- Your geographic area
- Where you are taking the lesson (home or in studio)
- Online via Skype

From what I've seen, the standard rate for 1 hour is \$40. Some teachers do 30 minutes for 20 or 25 dollars.

### **So that's for 1 lesson!**

For \$19.95, you can have 24/7 access for a whole month to thousands of online video lessons, hundreds of guitar song lessons, and step by step instructions. For 4 hours of in person guitar lessons you could have access to the best online guitar lesson website for a full year!

**There's really no comparison.**

## **What Online Resources Do I Recommend?**

I've actually reviewed and rated [6 of the best online guitar websites here](#).

After researching and testing all the different options you have to learn the guitar online, I have come up with my top 2 recommendations:

### **Guitar Tricks and JamPlay**

These are two membership websites where you can teach yourself the guitar through studying online video lessons.



They offer so much when it comes to learning the guitar online.

I've had memberships with both of these websites and currently still have a membership with Guitar Tricks. I've created a full video that compares these two programs so you can see exactly what type of lessons you get.

[Watch my video comparison of Guitar Tricks and JamPlay here.](#)

# Guitar Tricks vs. JamPlay

As you probably already know from the sections above, **Guitar Tricks** and **JamPlay** are the online websites I recommend most. *I personally use Guitar Tricks.*

There are many other programs, courses, and even apps like Yousician, however they just don't compare in my opinion.

If you've narrowed down your choices to these two, then you're on the right track.

I'm hoping this Guitar Tricks vs. JamPlay comparison will help you make the final choice. [I have a video breakdown which you can watch here if you wish.](#)

## Guitar Tricks

Price: \$19.95 / Month

Refund: 60 Days

[Free Trial: Yes - \*Free Trial: Yes - Click Here\*](#)



## JamPlay

Price: \$19.95 / Month

Refund: 7 Days

[Free Trial: Yes - \*Click Here\*](#)



## What These Offer For Beginners

If you're a beginner, then getting the proper instruction is key.

Both Guitar Tricks and JamPlay have dedicated sections for beginners.

**Guitar Tricks has a step by step class for beginners** where each lesson builds on the previous one. There is a TON of information for beginners.

Here are the chapter headlines for their Guitar Fundamental Courses:

- 1 - Get to know your guitar
  - 2 - Let's learn to play
  - 3 - How to play simple melodies
  - 4 - Your 5 chord power pack
  - 5 - Must-Know basic open chords
  - 6 - How chords work together to make songs
  - 7 - Intro to timing and rhythm
- 
- 1 - All about power chords
  - 2 - Intro to the major scale
  - 3 - A-String power chords and the amazing magic L
  - 4 - What is a chord, really?
  - 5 - Getting started with barre chords
  - 6 - Intro to the minor scale
  - 7 - Intro to reading music

The video lessons are short and stay to the point, which is great if you need to re-watch some of them.

If you like step by step lessons, I highly recommend you try their 14 day free trial:



**JamPlays' beginner lessons are categorized by teachers and guitar types.**

So each instructor has a set of lessons for beginners.

This allows you to choose from not one course, but many (close to 20).

They vary in length depending on what material the teacher created. [If you like the sound of this, then check out the full in depth review here.](#)

I personally feel Guitar Tricks' section for beginners is a little easier to follow.

I like that it's one course, which is extremely well thought out, and I can run through it step by step.

This is more appealing than looking through the various instructor courses from JamPlay, and deciding on which one to choose. Some are thorough, some aren't, so for me it's just not as clearly laid out.

**If you're a beginner, I would recommend starting with Guitar Tricks.**

## Beyond Beginner Lessons

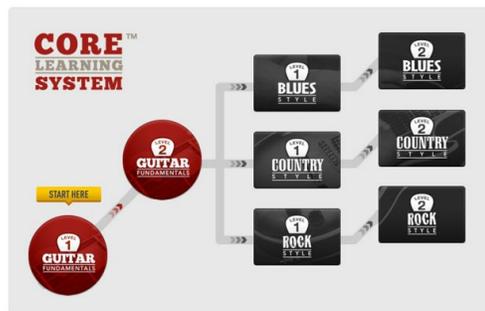
These programs are NOT only designed for beginners.

They have great beginner sections, but the real meat of the lessons are everything that comes after.

The **main distinction between the set up of Guitar Tricks and JamPlay**, is that Guitar Tricks continues on a straight path, while JamPlay gives you a bunch of options to choose from.

Neither is necessarily better than the other, however I personally tend to like the structure with Guitar Tricks.

As you can see from the image to the right, with Guitar Tricks you're lead through a Blues, Country or Rock course where you progress through that type of guitar style.



So you can definitely follow one of these courses, in a straight line, step by step path, and really master it.

**JamPlay presents a lot of different choices, as they did with their beginner courses.**

They offer up more choices when it comes to genres of guitar than Guitar Tricks, and when you chose a genre, you then choose an instructor who teaches their own material.

For more advanced players, JamPlay offers some lessons from guitarists who teach their own style of guitar as well.

If you're an intermediate player, it's worth starting a 7 day free trial with JamPlay:

For intermediate players, you will get slightly more choices with JamPlay, however the linear learning structure is still present in Guitar Tricks, which many people find very beneficial.

For advanced players who want a larger list of genres of guitar, they may feel JamPlay is the better option. [Learn more about JamPlay here.](#)

## How the Lessons are Presented

The lessons are presented with video.

This is really what separates these programs from many of the other learning tools available.

If you want HD video lessons, these are the websites which offer the best material.

Both of these will offer video lessons in a dashboard style with a few different features.



3 Main Camera Views at Guitar Tricks



Video Lessons at JamPlay



Various Camera Views at JamPlay

It's hard to really choose a winner here.

The videos with Guitar Tricks are a bit more basic, but also very simple which is good. JamPlay offers more camera angles but it's not always beneficial.

At the end of the day the camera views and video quality are great with both options. They both do a great job at zooming in and out at proper spots within a given lesson.

This is when I would really recommend you jump in and start a free trial with both websites and see which videos you like more. There are so many mixed opinions here, and it really boils down to personal preference.

## Song Library

Guitar Tricks has more lessons from popular songs. They offer more songs, however JamPlay does still offer plenty to go through.

If you're interested in learning how to play your favourite songs, both programs will definitely meet your needs.

## Pricing and Trials

**Guitar Tricks:** Price: \$19.95 / Month - Refund: 60 Days - [Free Trial: Yes](#)  
[Free Trial: Yes](#)

**JamPlay:** Price: \$19.95 / Month - Refund: 7 Days - [Free Trial: Yes](#)

*Both offer cheaper rates with yearly plans.*

When all the smoke settles, you really can't go wrong with either of these programs.

I think Guitar Tricks has a slight edge, and they currently offer a great free trial, so you really have absolutely nothing to lose. I would recommend you try them first. [Get started with a free trial from Guitar Tricks. Click here.](#)

If you're a bit more advanced then you might find JamPlay a bit more useful. For you, I would recommend [starting off with JamPlay's free trial here](#). Remember, you can actually test them both out for free.

# Get Guitar Tricks' Free Trial for 14 Days

Not only is Guitar Tricks one of the best websites for learning the guitar, they also have the longest free trial option available!

You can use Guitar Tricks for 14 days for FREE. [Click here to start your free trial now.](#)

## What Does a Free Trial Look Like?

I've actually gone ahead and created a short YouTube video of me using a free trial.

You can watch it here:



The screenshot shows a lesson page on the Guitar Tricks website. The main video player displays a woman, Lisa McCormick, playing an acoustic guitar. The video title is "COMMON MODELS OF GUITARS". The page includes a "LESSON INFO" sidebar with details such as "INSTRUCTOR LISA MCCORMICK", "DIFFICULTY:" (indicated by a red checkmark), "FOCUS: Musicianship", and "STYLE: Any Style". Below the video player, there are resolution options: "HIGH RESOLUTION", "MEDIUM RESOLUTION" (selected), "LOW RESOLUTION", and "MOBILE". A "GET FULL ACCESS!" button is prominently displayed. The sidebar also features a "READY FOR MORE LESSONS?" section and a "GUITAR FUNDAMENTALS 1" section with a list of lessons, including "1: Get to Know Your Guitar", "Welcome to the Guitar!", and "Common Models of Guitars".

[Start Your Free Trial Here](#)

Guitar Tricks actually offers the longest free trial when compared to the other leading guitar learning websites.

**I love recommending free trials for two reasons:**

Firstly, **Guitar Tricks is one of the best options** for learning and improving on the guitar.

Secondly, these trials allow you to jump in and see if you actually like this type of learning platform.

**All you need is an email address to get started. That's it!**

[Start Your Free Trial Here](#)



# Get Your Free Trial of JamPlay Now!

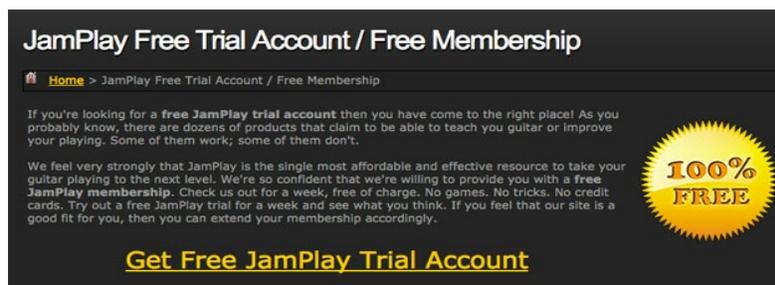
One of the biggest questions I get is: "Does JamPlay offer a free trial?"

Yes it does!

[You can get a free trial by clicking here](#)

## How Does It Work?

Free trials are a great way for you to test out a product and see if you like it.



**JamPlay Free Trial Account / Free Membership**

[Home](#) > JamPlay Free Trial Account / Free Membership

If you're looking for a **free JamPlay trial account** then you have come to the right place! As you probably know, there are dozens of products that claim to be able to teach you guitar or improve your playing. Some of them work; some of them don't.

We feel very strongly that JamPlay is the single most affordable and effective resource to take your guitar playing to the next level. We're so confident that we're willing to provide you with a **free JamPlay membership**. Check us out for a week, free of charge. No games. No tricks. No credit cards. Try out a free JamPlay trial for a week and see what you think. If you feel that our site is a good fit for you, then you can extend your membership accordingly.

**100% FREE**

[Get Free JamPlay Trial Account](#)

For an online learning website like JamPlay, these types of accounts can be extremely helpful. You really don't know if you will like a product until you actually sit down and use it.

You can read all the greatest reviews and testimonials in the world, but it doesn't mean you will be able to learn from a given program. So with this type of account, you can use it for one week for free, and see if you like it.

- Free For 1 Week (7 days)
- No Credit Cards
- Extend If You Want
- Full Refund Guarantee on Paid Subscriptions

[Get Your Free Trial Membership Here](#)

# Learn Over 600 Specific Songs

*How would you like access to over 600 guitar songs you can start learning how to play right now?*

In fact, by the time you're reading this it could be closer to 700 songs as new lessons are added weekly.

When I first began learning the guitar, I started right here, on the Internet.

I signed up for a free trial with [Guitar Tricks](#), I liked it a lot, and began working on their beginner lessons. I moved from fundamentals 1, to fundamentals 2, and soon I found myself scrolling through hundreds of online video lessons on specific songs. I was in heaven.

**ALL SONGS**

TOP HITS Acoustic BLUEGRASS Blues Classical COUNTRY FUNK & SOUL MASTER LIST  
BEGINNER SONGS Jazz METAL ROCK Rockabilly Surf World

VIEW ALL ARTISTS

SORT BY POPULARITY TITLE DIFFICULTY ARTIST STYLE NEWEST INSTRUCTOR

**ALL SONGS**

INFO	TITLE	ARTIST	STYLE	PUBLISHED	INSTRUCTOR
<a href="#">i</a>	Dream Police	Cheap Trick	ROCK	1 Sep 2016	BEGIN
<a href="#">i</a>	Harlem Shuffle	The Rolling Stones	ROCK	29 Aug 2016	BEGIN
<a href="#">i</a>	All Your Love	Otis Rush	Blues	25 Aug 2016	BEGIN
<a href="#">i</a>	Big River	Johnny Cash	COUNTRY	22 Aug 2016	BEGIN
<a href="#">i</a>	Goodbye	Night Ranger	ROCK	18 Aug 2016	BEGIN
<a href="#">i</a>	I Got The Blues	T-Bone Walker	Blues	15 Aug 2016	BEGIN

The guitar lessons are sorted into tabs and categories. There is an info tab, followed by the title, artist, style, published date, and instructor. Simply click begin and the video lesson loads up instantly.

Because there are so many song lessons, you'll want to sort them in some way. You can view them based on their popularity, title, style, difficulty, artist, published date, and instructor.

Are you starting to see how someone who wants to learn specific guitar songs might be in heaven? I sure was.

You can actually hit the View All Artist button and you're given a full alphabetical list of all the artists and the songs which are available.

## What Kind of Quality Do You Get?

The reason I recommend people [start with a free trial of Guitar Tricks](#) is to check out the video lessons, and see if you find them useful. If you like them, you can continue on with a membership.

For those who are serious about learning, and who want a full list of over 600 songs organized and presented in a super high quality fashion, then a membership is totally worth it.

**Trust me it's not expensive. It's WAY cheaper than real in person lessons** and you will avoid wasting time surfing random YouTube video lessons.

Here are some screenshots of the video lessons:



The screenshot shows a lesson page for the song "CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF YOU BABY" by Smash Mouth. The page features a video player at the top with the title "ROCK SONGS" and "CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF YOU BABY" in yellow text. Below the video player is a yellow "BEGIN TUTORIAL" button. The page is divided into two columns: "LESSON INFO" and "CONTENTS".

**LESSON INFO**

Mike will show you the guitar in song that uses barre chords and open chords, staccato backbeat strumming, chord arpeggiation, and a cool bluesy lick.

**MIKE OLEKSIY**

**CONTENTS**

- Can't Get Enough Of You Baby: Welcome
- Can't Get Enough Of You Baby: Gear, Tone, & Tuning
- Main Guitar Lick Performance
- Verse and Chorus Jam Along
- Pre-Chorus
- Can't Get Enough Of You Baby
- Can't Get Enough Of You Baby

The screenshot shows a guitar lesson interface. At the top, a red header contains navigation links '< PREV' and 'NEXT >' flanking the title 'MAIN GUITAR LICK'. Below the header is a video player showing a man playing a guitar. An inset video in the bottom-left corner of the main video shows a close-up of the guitar's body and strings. Below the video player is a red navigation bar with three tabs: 'DESCRIPTION', 'NOTATION', and 'LYRICS'. The 'DESCRIPTION' tab is active, showing a text block: 'The tune kicks off with an explosive lick that launches into the main groove of the song. The lick is a typical bluesy one in G with some cool bending. Then we get into the groove with a simple G7 to C7 chord progression, played with plenty of energy and attitude!'. To the right of the video player is a 'LESSON INFO' sidebar. It includes a small profile picture of the instructor, 'MIKE OLEKSHY', and lists: 'ARTIST: Smash Mouth', 'SONG: Can't Get Enough Of You Baby', 'DIFFICULTY: 3/4', 'KEY: G major', and 'STYLE: ROCK'. Below this are three buttons: 'MARK AS FAVORITE', 'PRINT NOTATION', and 'OPEN GUITAR TUNER'. At the bottom of the sidebar is a 'CAN'T GET ENOUGH OF YOU BABY' section with a content menu. The menu items are: 'Can't Get Enough Of You Baby: Welcome', 'Can't Get Enough Of You Baby: Gear, Tone, & Tuning', 'Main Guitar Lick' (highlighted with a red border), 'Verse and Chorus', 'PreChorus', and 'Can't Get Enough Of You Baby: Performance'.

As you load up a video lesson, you have the video player on the left, and the navigation on the right.

You can play, pause and loop the video. When the instructor is speaking, you will usually get a front camera angle, however when the instructor is explaining something specific on the guitar, you can watch with 3 camera angles.

Below the video is a description, as well as the sheet music notation, and the lyrics of the song.

On the right (pictures below), you will get all the lesson info, as well as a content menu so you can watch different videos of the lesson, and a progress bar indicating how far along you are.



## Try For Free!

If you want access to the biggest list of online guitar song lessons, then consider starting a free trial with Guitar Tricks today.

*Here is a link to get started for free: [Star Your 14 Day Free Trial Now!](#)*

# Do Free Guitar Lessons Exist?

*Let's cover this whole "free online guitar lessons" myth.*

Yes, access to websites like Justin Guitar is free however I guarantee you will find yourself adding courses and items to your cart within a few days.

You can find a bunch of free lessons on YouTube, but with no structure or consistency, it's a hard path to take. That being said, I'm sure many people have grinded it out with free lessons and improved.

But in general, the people who excel with online guitar lessons usually get a paid membership and take advantage of all the features. I personally did that with Guitar Tricks and it's not expensive.

So although I started my guitar journey with Guitar Tricks, I'll try and keep this comparison review of Justin Guitar (free lessons) vs. Guitar Tricks unbiased.

## What You Get With Guitar Tricks

Guitar Tricks is a paid membership, and you get what you pay for.

If you're willing to pay for lessons, then you will get access to the best instruction.

This is a business designed to produce a great guitar learning experience, and I believe they have done a great job.

**But let's be clear.** Compared to real in person lessons, it's not expensive. Even comparing it to some of the costs of products at Justin Guitar, it's still the best value for money.

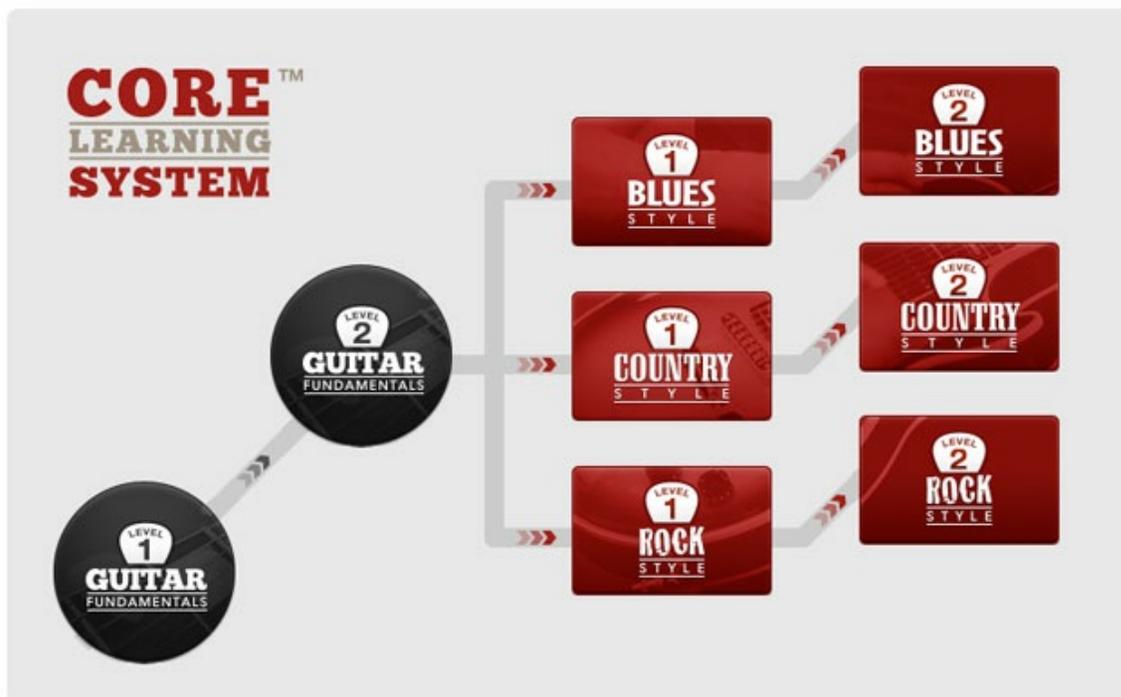
Below is what you get with a full access membership.

Keep in mind, you can [test Guitar Tricks out for free with their 14 day free trial](#). [Click here](#).

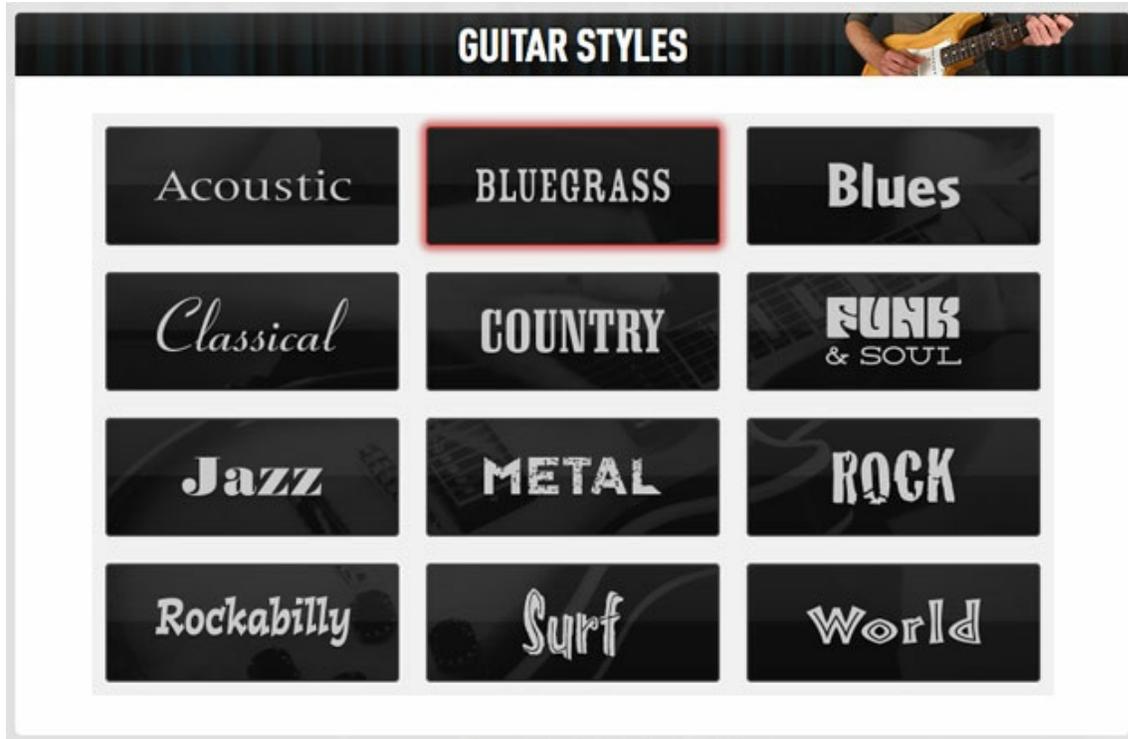
## Beginner Lessons



# Experienced Lessons



# Learn Styles of Guitar



# Learn to Play Songs

The screenshot shows the 'ALL SONGS' page on the Justin Guitar website. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'ALL SONGS' in the center. Below it, there are several genre buttons: TOP HITS, Acoustic, BLUEGRASS, Blues, Classical, COUNTRY, FUNK & SOUL, BEGINNER SONGS, Jazz, METAL (highlighted with a red border), ROCK, Rockabilly, Surf, World, and MASTER LIST. A 'VIEW ALL ARTISTS' button is located below the genre buttons. Below the navigation bar, there's a 'SORT BY' section with buttons for POPULARITY, TITLE, DIFFICULTY, ARTIST, STYLE, NEWEST, and INSTRUCTOR. The main content area is titled 'ALL SONGS' and contains a table with the following data:

INFO	TITLE	ARTIST	STYLE	PUBLISHED	INSTRUCTOR
	Dream Police	Cheap Trick	ROCK	1 Sep 2016	BEGIN
	Harlem Shuffle	The Rolling Stones	ROCK	29 Aug 2016	BEGIN
	All Your Love	Otis Rush	Blues	25 Aug 2016	BEGIN
	Big River	Johnny Cash	COUNTRY	22 Aug 2016	BEGIN
	Goodbye	Night Ranger	ROCK	18 Aug 2016	BEGIN
	I Got The Blues	T-Bone Walker	Blues	15 Aug 2016	BEGIN

## Quality of the Lessons

You get what you pay for. Guitar Tricks is such a big and established business. What this means is that the overall quality of the lessons, the dashboard, and all the features are excellent.

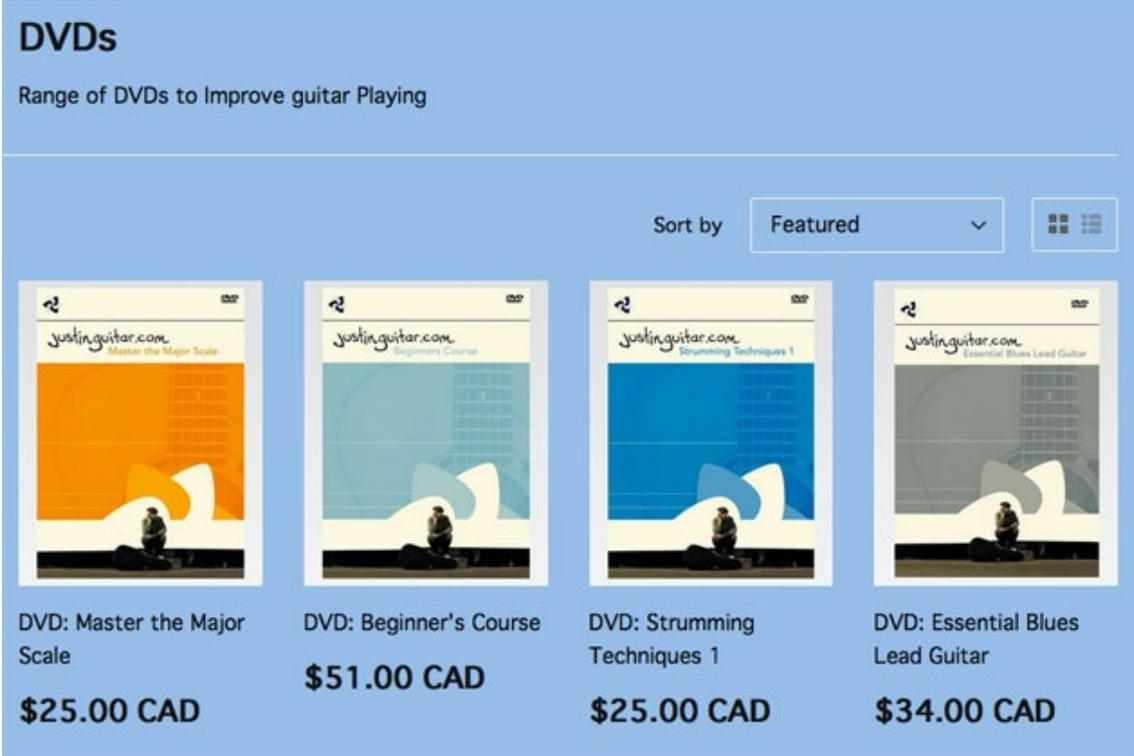
Justin Guitar has done a great job, but at the end of the day, it's hard for a "one man show" to compete with a larger business like Guitar Tricks. You notice this in the quality of the lessons.

What's great is that you don't really need to trust me on this. You can simply try Guitar Tricks out for yourself. [Get your free trial here.](#)

## Benefits of Using Justin Guitar

If you're truly not going to spend a dime, and you promise to keep your credit card away from your computer, then Justin Guitar has a lot to offer.

There are tons of free videos to watch and learn from, but be careful as there are many temptations to head over to the Official Store and buy some beginner products.



The screenshot shows a webpage titled "DVDs" with the subtitle "Range of DVDs to Improve guitar Playing". It features a "Sort by" dropdown menu set to "Featured" and a grid view icon. Four DVD covers are displayed in a row, each with a title and price in CAD:

DVD Title	Price (CAD)
DVD: Master the Major Scale	\$25.00 CAD
DVD: Beginner's Course	\$51.00 CAD
DVD: Strumming Techniques 1	\$25.00 CAD
DVD: Essential Blues Lead Guitar	\$34.00 CAD

I know I'm sort of bashing this whole "free" concept, but it's something to really consider.

You might end up buying a \$50 beginner DVD, when you could have spent the same amount for 4 months of unlimited lessons at Guitar Tricks, and gone through their Core Learning System.

But if you do stay on the free route, there are many lessons to choose from.

**JustinGuitar.com**

Books and DVDs at The JustinGuitar Store

**Beginner**  
Beginner's Course  
Beginner's Songs

**Intermediate**  
Intermediate Method  
Intermediate Songs  
Blues Rhythm Guitar 1  
Blues Lead Guitar 1  
Blues Lead Guitar 2  
Funk Guitar Course  
Folk Fingerstyle  
Rock  
Jazz  
Songwriting

**All Levels**  
All Songs List  
Practice Better  
Classic Solos  
Essential Skills  
Quick Tips  
Ear Training  
Transcribing  
Technique  
Awesome Licks  
Masterclasses

**Welcome to justinguitar.com - over 1000 completely free guitar lessons!**

**The best guitar lessons available on the internet - and they're free :)**  
Nothing to pay, nothing to lose - so take a look around and see why over 30,000 people a day learn guitar here!

There are **hundreds of free guitar lessons here** and it's taken a lot of work over nearly 15 years for me to create it all. It's important to me to help everyone that wants to learn to play the guitar, not just those with money for tuition, so I run it on an "honour system" and I rely on **the honesty of users like your good self to make a donation** if they can afford to.

Donations allow me to keep it free, so if you like what I'm doing then please support the site, don't leave it for "everyone else". This site is pretty much my full time gig these days, not a hobby, I want to continue making it THE best place to learn guitar, but I need your support!

**Click here to make a donation or here for my books and DVDs.**

Wishing you love, peace and happiness (and a fun guitar journey!), Justin

**Dr Martin Taylor MBE**  
[www.martintaylor.com](http://www.martintaylor.com)

*"Justin is one of the most impressive guitar teachers on the planet. Whether he's teaching a complete beginner, or helping a more advanced player reach the next level, he knows exactly how to communicate the knowledge he has to share."*

Martin has an excellent tuition site too! **Click here to check it out.**

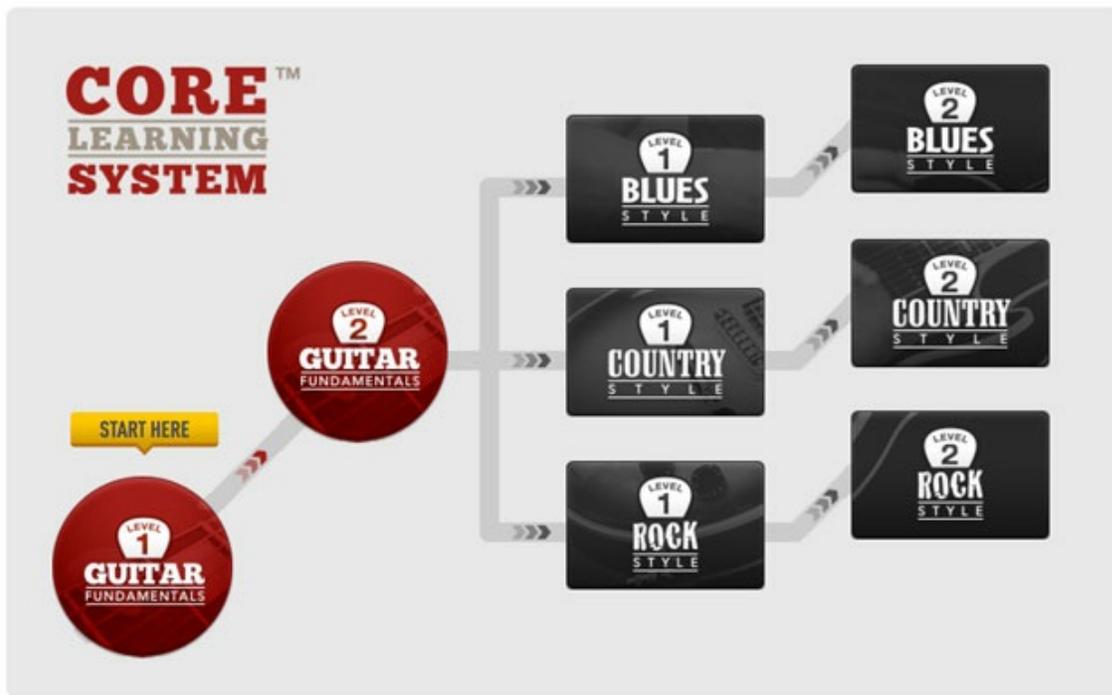
There are quick start guides, intermediate lessons, as well as a large list of songs. The quality of the lessons are very good (not the same level as Guitar Tricks), and there is usually some additional text and images to go along with the lessons.

If you're still not convinced you want to learn guitar, then spending some time over at Justin Guitar could be beneficial.

## Where Should Beginners Go?

Justin Guitar has a lot of beginner videos, as well as beginner products.

But based on my personal experience (after testing many different guitar learning websites), nothing compares to Guitar Tricks' **Core Learning System** for beginners:



This is designed as a step by step system.

You go from one video to the next, in a straight line progression. Everything is laid out nicely. In my opinion, it's the best resource for beginners.

Test it out yourself with a **14 day free trial**. [Click here](#).

## Membership vs. DVDs and Books

If you end up purchasing any resources for learning guitar, then you will have to decide on buying a membership, or buying a one time product (DVD or book).

Yes the core of Justin Guitar is free, but essentially all the lessons drive you to buying some type of course or book.

When you look at value for money, you get so much more from a membership website like Guitar Tricks. The main reason is leverage.

**With so many members, Guitar Tricks can afford to charge a low monthly or yearly fee**, which allows you to access all their great content. If you compare prices of a membership at Guitar Tricks, versus a product sold at Justin Guitar, the difference is huge.

Again, just try it out for yourself. [Start your free trial with Guitar Tricks here](#).

# Do Free Guitar Lessons Exist: Part 2

Nothing in this world is free.

Maybe sometimes, but it's quite rare, especially on the Internet.

When someone offers you a free gift online, or free lessons, they generally have some sort of product they will eventually try and sell you.

This is exactly what came to my mind when I started researching for this JamPlay vs. Justin Guitar article (*and the Guitar Tricks comparison*).

One of the main differences between these two is that one is a membership website (JamPlay) which you pay for access to the lessons, while the other (Justin Guitar) offers free lessons.

But as I mentioned above, **things on the Internet are never totally free**. And these so called "free lessons" are never as good.

*"If you think it's expensive to hire a professional to do the job, wait until you hire an amateur."*

## Is Justin Guitar Totally Free?

Access to the website is free, however the website does state that if you can afford to make a donation, then you should not consider it to be a free resource.

That being said, most people probably don't donate.

The other thing you'll find is that there are many products, books and DVDs promoted on the website. This is not a bad thing, but a beginner who watches a few free lessons will probably be tempted to buy a book for DVD set.

**Beginner products you may like from justinguitar.com**

I have five great beginners products that will help you make the most of this course and you'll find them all at **The Official JustinGuitar Store**. If you want to really support the site then please buy direct from us. :)

**PLEASE REMEMBER THAT THIS SITE RUNS ON PRODUCT SALES AND DONATIONS.**  
If you like what I do then **PLEASE CONSIDER BUYING SOMETHING** or making a **DONATION**.

## DVDs

Range of DVDs to Improve guitar Playing

Sort by Featured

DVD: Master the Major Scale <b>\$25.00 CAD</b>	DVD: Beginner's Course <b>\$51.00 CAD</b>	DVD: Strumming Techniques 1 <b>\$25.00 CAD</b>	DVD: Essential Blues Lead Guitar <b>\$34.00 CAD</b>
---	--	---	--

So technically the site is free to use, but you will most likely need to make a purchase to really get better at the guitar in my opinion, and these purchases can really add up quickly.

What you will also notice is that Justin Guitar actually promotes the JamPlay program on the website. So they clearly see the value in the membership.

## Comparing the Quality of the Lessons

At the end of the day, Justin Guitar can't compete with the quality and size of JamPlay. [You can read the full JamPlay review here.](#)

JamPlay has over 5000 HD video lessons produced by close to 80

professional teachers and they're growing.

They have lessons for beginners to advanced players and cover how to play all the most popular songs and styles of guitar.



Justin over at Justinguitar.com has produced a ton of great work and content which is extremely impressive and many people have benefited from the lessons.

However when you really compare the two products in terms of content and quality, JamPlay comes out on top.

## But I'm a Beginner...

Many beginners will be drawn into the "free" lessons, but will soon find that to progress and really get better, they'll need to buy a book or DVD set from Justin.

On the other hand, [JamPlay and some other recommended online courses](#) have fantastic step by step beginner programs that cover all the fundamentals. These are offered by many different instructors.

Home My JamPlay Lessons Live Tools Community Extras

## Beginner Lessons, Acoustic Guitar

Select an instructor below to start your journey. While these lessons use an acoustic for instruction, players using and electric can also benefit.



### David Isaacs



Don't get stuck learning chords, scales and theory with nowhere to apply the things you work on. Take the "David Isaacs" approach and learn the guitar by using real music. You'll be playing along with simple song examples after the second lesson!

36 Lessons 529 minutes in Length [Go to Series](#)

### Steve Eulberg



If you are a beginner to the guitar or looking to brush up your skills, this series is for you. This beginner series starts off pretending you have never touched a guitar and gets you playing in no time. The skills in this series will be the foundation for your guitar-playing career.

59 Lessons 501 minutes in Length [Go to Series](#)

### Jim Deeming



Jim is a fingerstyle expert with over 30 years of experience. His series offers a wealth of information for any beginner guitarist, and especially those interested in fingerstyle.

25 Lessons 643 minutes in Length [Go to Series](#)

### Jessica Baron



Jessica Baron, founder of Guitars in the Classroom, brings her very own unique series to JamPlay. In this highly interactive, easy to follow set, Jessica invites students of all ages to journey through fun, song-based instruction.

66 Lessons 883 minutes in Length [Go to Series](#)

### Mark Lincoln



Mark is an expressive player and energetic teacher, which gives his series an entertaining but insightful set of lessons to start you off in your guitar playing.

51 Lessons 930 minutes in Length [Go to Series](#)

### Randall Williams



Singer, songwriter and international touring performer, Randall Williams believes that learning the guitar should be fun. His concise approach to teaching starts you playing easy and recognizable chord progressions right away.

10 Lessons 89 minutes in Length [Go to Series](#)

Home My JamPlay Lessons Live Tools Community Extras

## Beginner Guitar With David Isaacs

Home / Phase 1 / Beginner Guitar With David Isaacs

Whether you've never played before, or your coming back to guitar after brief startup attempt, you'll find everything you need to get going in this series. David uses real musical examples to teach even the most basic concepts and techniques.



Name: David Isaacs Experience: 36 years Favorite Genre: Folk [View all lessons](#)

**In this Lesson set:** Don't get stuck learning chords, scales and theory with nowhere to apply the things you work on. Take the "David Isaacs" approach and learn the guitar by using real music. You'll be playing along with simple song examples after the second lesson!

[Email me when a new lesson is added](#)

### Lesson 1: The Series Introduction



Don't get stuck learning chords, scales and theory with nowhere to apply the things you work on. Take the "David Isaacs" approach and learn the guitar by using real music. You'll be playing along with simple song examples after the second lesson!

2:32 mins 0.5 Skill 18 Comments [Include in Progress Report](#) 84% Progress

### Lesson 2: Strings & Things



Tune up, learn your way around your guitar, and explore a simple, musical picking exercise to help you learn the string names. You'll be playing right out of the gate!

22:20 mins 0.5 Skill 37 Comments [Include in Progress Report](#) 0% Progress

### Lesson 3: Hands on the Fretboard



Learn hand position, posture and see how to set up your playing for success when it comes to your fret hand. Dave goes in depth with his discussion and demonstration of hand mechanics. Don't miss this lesson!

16:10 mins 0.5 Skill 36 Comments [Include in Progress Report](#) 0% Progress

And even for those who aren't sure if the guitar is something they want to pursue and want to try some free lessons, [JamPlay has a free trial offer you can sign up for at no charge.](#)

## Final Thoughts

I remember when I was buying my first computer, a man in the store gave me some good advice which has stuck with me.

He said: "When you buy something high quality and pay a premium price, you often cry just once (when you make the initial purchase). When you buy something cheap, you will often cry many many times in the future.

I believe this can be applied to these online learning resources. Yes JamPlay is a membership site with a monthly or yearly fee (extremely affordable when compared to real in person lessons), however the quality of content is superior in my opinion.

I truly believe you will get way more value from JamPlay, but it's not free.

That being said, they do have a ***FREE TRIAL*** which will allow you to test the website and video lessons out to see if you like it.

[I recommend you sign up for a free trial and test JamPlay out first. Click here.](#)

# 2 Best Acoustic Guitars for Beginners

I have two great recommendations for beginner guitars.

You might be a beginner yourself, or perhaps you can benefit from having another guitar (*a traveler*).

*If you are looking for a new guitar, I've been in your shoes, and I know how you feel. Tons of choices right?*

A few years ago I was searching for the best acoustic guitar for beginners, and now I'm sharing my findings.



**But I can honestly say that you're much better off than I was.**

When I was doing my research, no one seemed to have a clear recommendation. It was extremely frustrating coming across list after list of 25 guitars, when I was looking for just 1.

So I'm proud to say that I have just 2 options for you here. Sure there are more guitars that you'll probably be happy with, however I'm doing my best to help you make a decision.

The only thing which separates these options are their prices.

## #1 Recommendation for Under \$100

If you're a beginner, or shopping for one, you might not want to spend a lot of money.

I totally get it.

As a beginner, you might not be fully committed to learning this instrument yet, and for that reason my first recommendation is a guitar under \$100.

At the time of writing this, the [Jasmine S35](#) retails for \$79.99 (*pictured above*).

You can [read the full review here](#).

## Best Option Under \$500

As with any type of instrument, as long as you stick with a reputable brand, you will generally get what you pay for.

My recommendation for those who want a great guitar without breaking the bank (under \$500), is the Seagull S6 Original.

Sure there are more expensive models, however I'm assuming most beginners aren't interested in those ones yet.



[The Seagull S6 Original](#) is not only great for beginners, but it's basically one of the top rated acoustic guitars even when compared to more expensive models. [You can read the full review here](#).

## Conclusion

I created this article exactly the way I would have wanted to find it when I was in your position searching.

There are just two options, it's straight to the point, and I hope you found it useful. *If you think it's too short, simply follow the links to the full reviews of each guitar.*

Obviously I'm just a sample size of one, however I have consulted musicians, specifically guitarists, other guitar websites, customer reviews, and my own personal experience.

Bottom line, will both of these options, you will definitely be happy with your

purchase.

**Quick Recap:**

[For under \\$100 Get the Jasmine S35 - Click Here](#) (*For pure beginners*)

[For under \\$500 Get the Seagull S6 Original - Click Here](#) (*Best value*)

# Do Guitar Learning Apps Work?

Over the last few years, apps in general have skyrocketed in popularity.

There's almost an app for everything these days.

But what about music, and specifically learning the guitar? Are these any good, and do they actually work?

## Yes and No

The truth is, guitar learning apps do work, and they can be a lot of fun, but there are definitely some better options out there in my opinion.

I would recommend these two articles that explain my point in more detail:

[Yousician vs. Guitar Tricks](#)

[Yousician vs. JamPlay](#)

These articles compare one of the most popular guitar apps, with the most popular guitar learning websites.

## Other Options and Alternatives

Because this is such a popular topic, I actually created a post called: [Alternatives to Music Learning Apps](#).

When it comes to the guitar specifically, you do have a few more options to consider rather than sticking with an app, and these would be the **guitar lesson websites referenced in this book**.

# Review of Yousician

Yousician is a new popular app that is designed to help you learn and master a few instruments (guitar and piano).

After downloading the app, and logging in, you will be prompted to choose your instrument of choice. You can always switch later. In this example, I chose a guitar.

Then you're asked to choose your skill level:

- Nothing yet...
- Some basics
- Lots of songs
- Almost anything

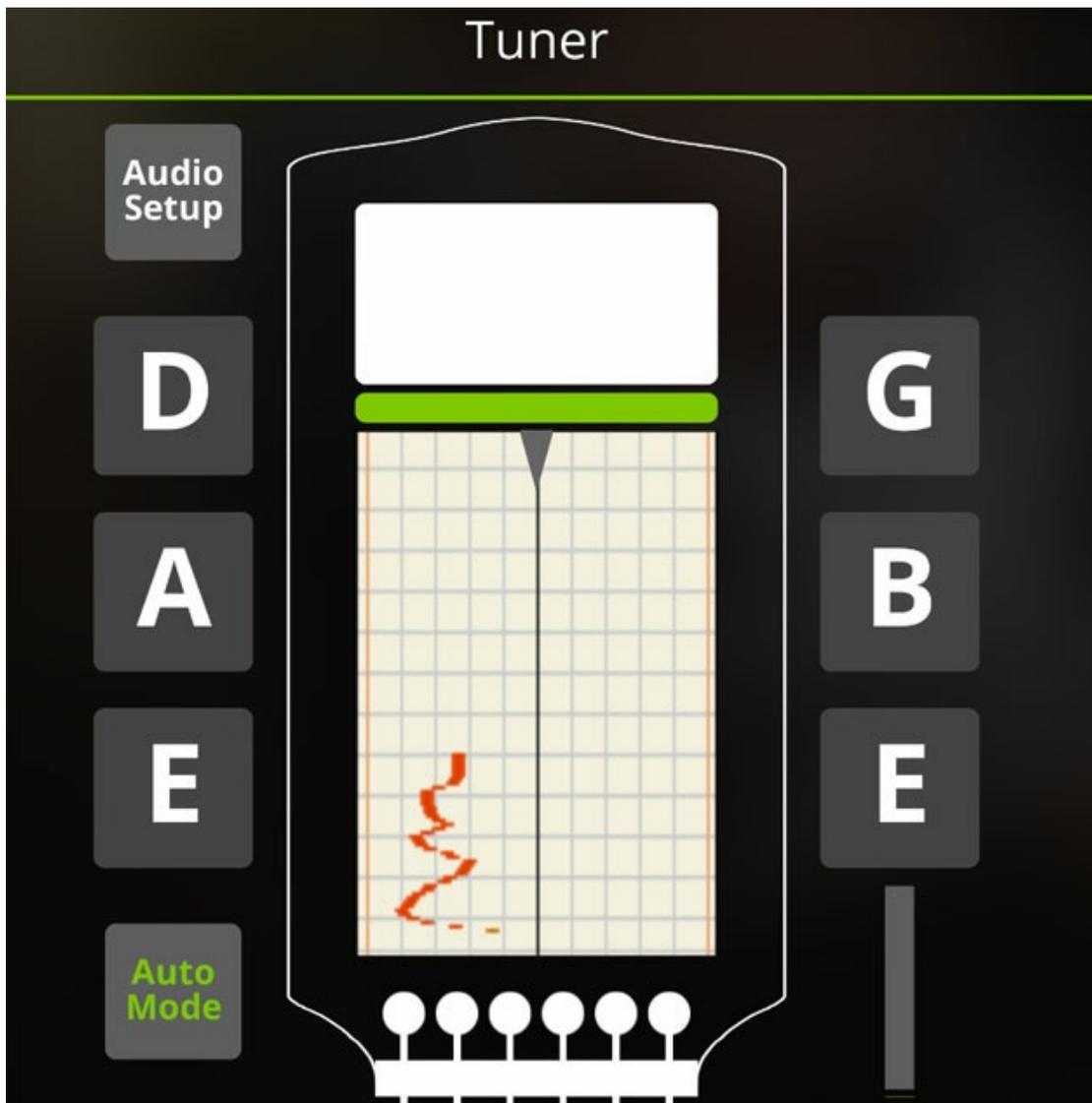
Then based on your skill level, it will ask you for a few things that you're comfortable paying.

Here is a screenshot from the basic level guitar option:



After you choose your skill level, you need to tune up so Yousician can hear what you're playing.

A easy to follow video will help you tune your guitar. It's actually really cool:

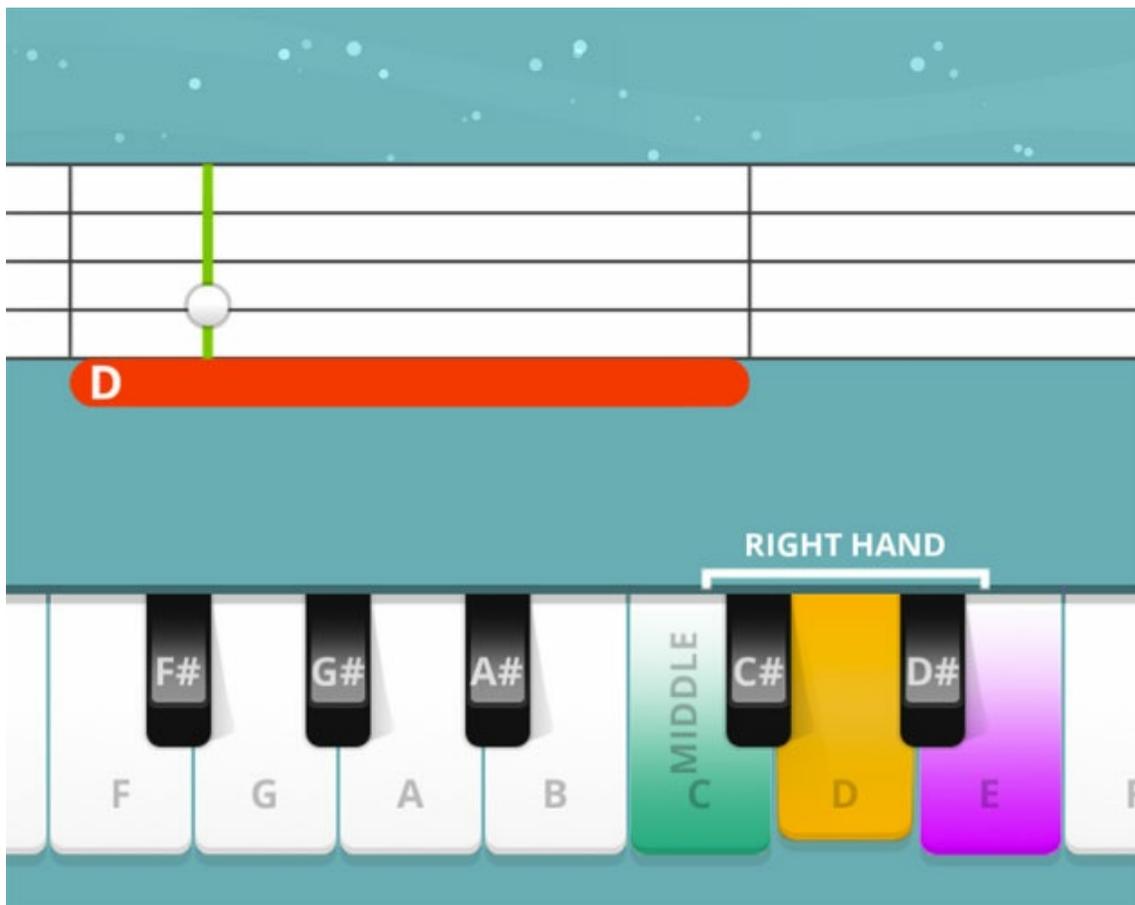


Based on your skill level, the app runs through various missions to help you learn as you go.

You can jump over to the song section where you can start to play along with some famous songs.

As you progress through the "Missions", you unlock new tasks.

When you just get started on the chosen instrument, you will be asked to run through a few practice tasks to get set up.



The interface on the app is very easy to follow along with. Whether you're using a guitar or piano, you will see your instrument and a white ball that floats along a set of chords. When the ball drops on the chord, you're supposed to play. It's very easy to follow along with.

Because this is a free app, it's always best to download it and get started. You may have to spend some time figuring it all out for yourself, and really that's the best way to learn.

## When is it Not Free?

There is a limit on what songs you can play, and how much you can do with the [free version](#).

It's definitely enough to get started and actually see if you're learning enough with the app, [to warrant paying for extra features](#).

## Are There Better Alternatives?

The Yousician app is great for beginners, and as you can see in the video, even more advanced players can enjoy it, however it does have its limitations as well.

One thing it doesn't have, is that full human to human connection like some other options have. If you're happy to learn from a digital screen then it's great, but if you want a lot more human interaction and demonstration, there may be some better options.

I still encourage everyone to consider the [guitar learning program called Guitar Tricks](#). And for people wanting to seriously learn piano, [consider some other Piano options here](#).

*In my opinion, these options are much better than Yousician.*

Some of these will also have free trials, and at the end of the day, you might find them more valuable, especially when you get past the beginner stages.

[Read the Guitar Tricks review here.](#)

[Find my top recommendations for piano here.](#)

# Yousician vs. Guitar Tricks (App vs. Online Videos)

I have compared Yousician to other guitar apps, guitar video games, and now here with Guitar Tricks, a full membership website.

There is an absolute clear winner in my opinion, however each one has its own benefits.

I'm hoping this Yousician vs. Guitar Tricks comparison will highlight a few of the main differences to help you make the right decision.

## What is the Main Difference?

The main difference between these two guitar learning platforms is that one's an **app** (Yousician), and the other is a **website membership** (Guitar Tricks).

Apps generally have more of a game type of feel.

That's really one of the biggest differences. Yousician is a fun app, while Guitar Tricks is full membership with hundreds of video lessons.

There are some video demonstrations within Yousician, however the main learning is happening through the app, where you follow a white ball on guitar strings.

With Guitar Tricks, you learn by watching HD video lessons.

**So this is really the main difference: App vs. Video Lessons**

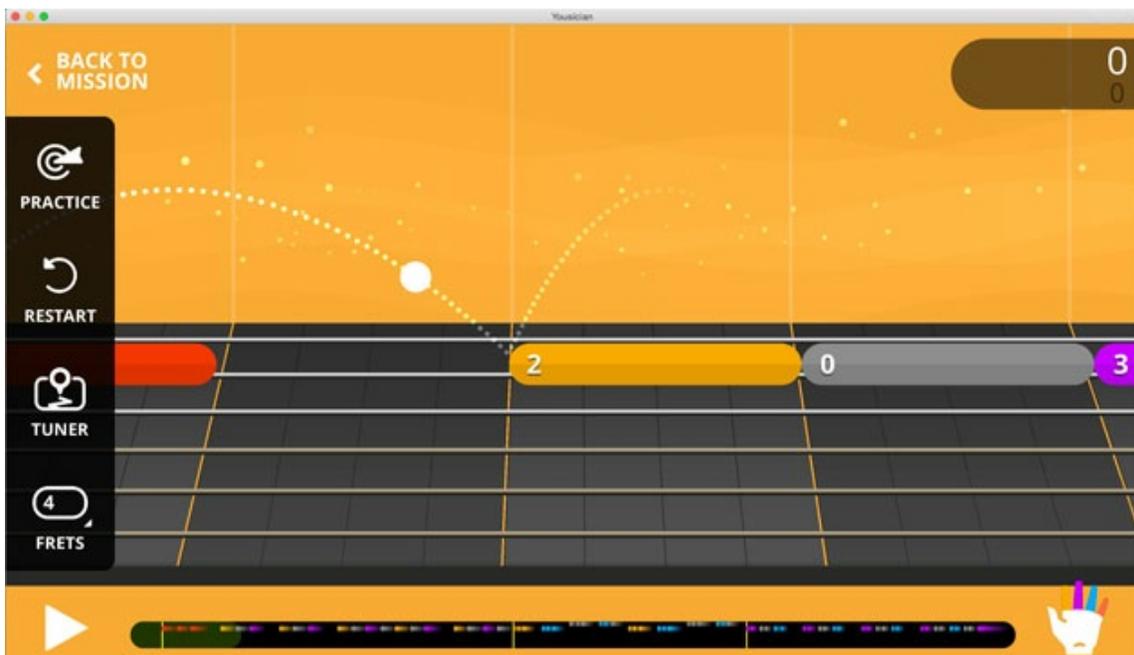
## Good Things About Yousician

There are definitely some good things about this app.

It's a very fun app, and you use it with a real guitar, instead of a plastic guitar you might use with some video games.

Yousician has a cool feature where the app actually listens to you play, and gives you feedback. You can use it on all computer platforms, and there's a free trial version to let you try it out, before upgrading to the premium package.

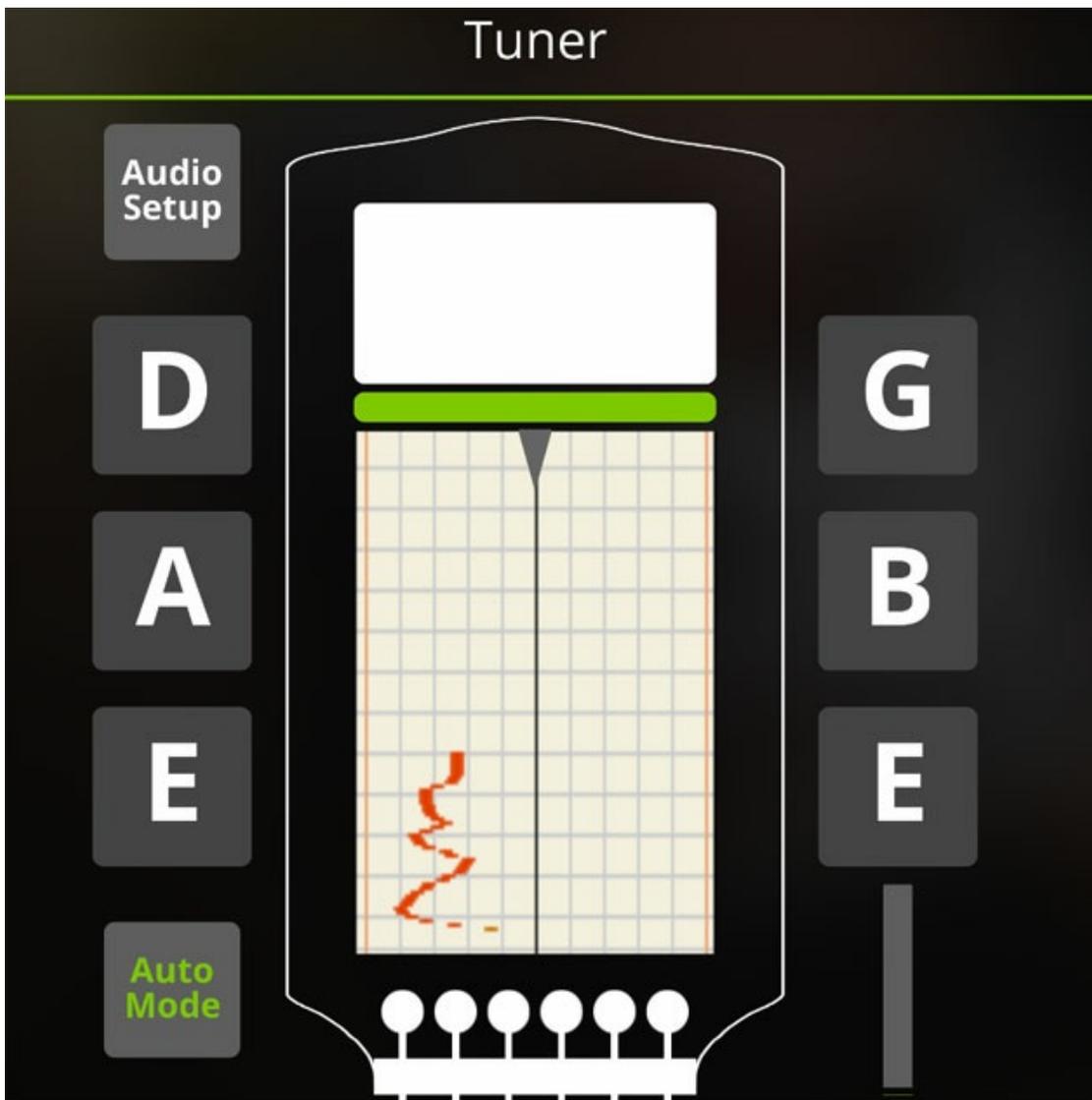
The gameplay is watching a white ball (which is synced to the backing track) bounce on the chords. As you play well you advance within the app.



There are different game modes and different skills levels, making this app appropriate for beginners and more advanced players.



The songs are constantly updated within the app, and there are some cool added features like a guitar tuner and chord diagrams.



Bottom line, it's entertaining, an easy way for beginners to get started with the guitar, and a fun way for experienced players to change up their practice routines.

**But you honestly get so much more with Guitar Tricks.**

## Good Things About Guitar Tricks

For a full in-depth review of these types of membership sites, consider the [Guitar Tricks vs. JamPlay comparison](#).

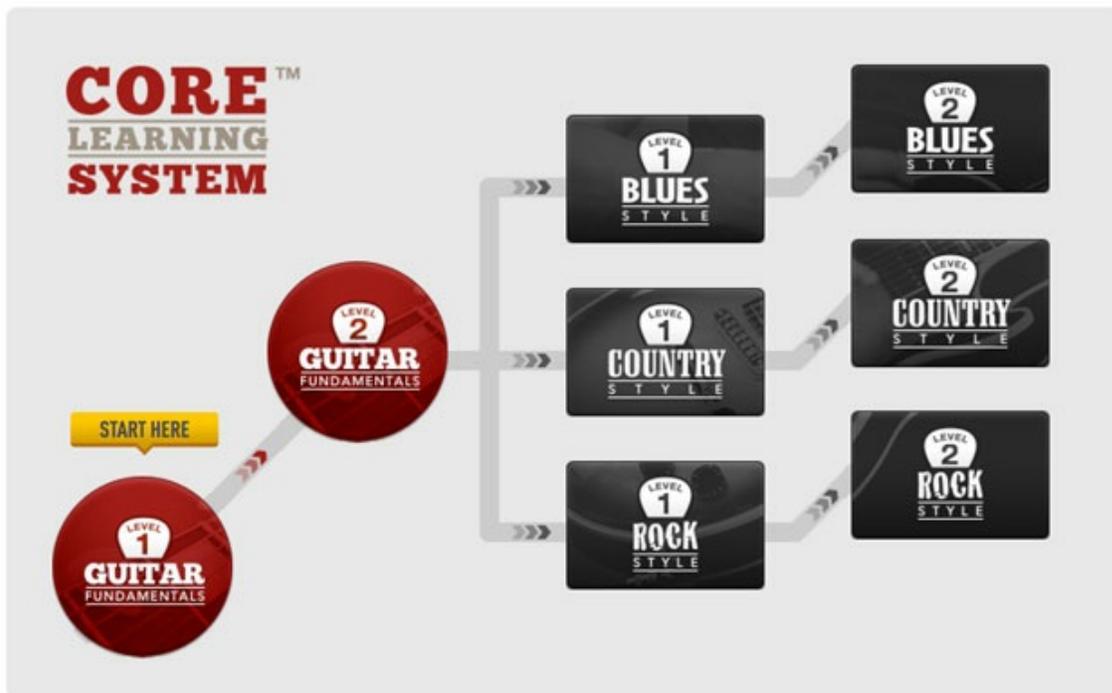
This goes into detail about what you get with these programs.



The great thing about this program is that **it's the closest thing to having a guitar coach in your home.**

Lessons are presented in a linear fashion where you watch online videos. There are a selection of lessons based on songs, guitar genres, and ability.

There is a huge section for beginners, and then full walkthroughs for learning the blues, country, rock and more. All of the most popular songs have video lessons to show you how to play them step by step.



Having a real in-person instructor is ideal, however this is not always possible, and Guitar Tricks is really the best alternative. There are so many benefits to these online courses, and two of the major ones are affordability and convenience.

## Which Should You Use?

Both offer free trials, however in my opinion, you get so much more value with Guitar Tricks.

You really have nothing to lose to just start with a free trial. Keep in mind, the free trials are limited, and with either program you will want to upgrade in order to get the real benefits.

That being said, with the trials you get to use the app and website to see if it is something you like. So you have no risk to try them out.

I would recommend you start with a free trial from Guitar Tricks. [Click here for access.](#)

# Get Started



After all my research and testing, I still recommend Guitar Tricks as the best website for online guitar lessons. I personally have a membership that I just renewed for another year.

Start a Free Trial Today:

[Start Your Free Trial - Click Here](#)



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