



Ashton

— Sydney, Australia —

**GUITAR
LESSONS**

in association with
Book House

DO NOT THROW AWAY!
THIS MANUAL CONTAINS
YOUR UNIQUE CODE FOR AN
ONLINE ASHTON GUITAR LESSON

GUITAR MANUAL

A COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO
GUITARS & GUITAR MAINTENANCE

INTRODUCTION

Congratulations and thank you for purchasing an Ashton guitar. We are confident that you will get many years of use and enjoyment from this quality product.

Designed in Australia by a highly qualified team of experts, Ashton's range of musical instruments and sound equipment is ready to rock your world. Our instruments, systems and accessories are the result of countless hours of development, research and testing.

Ashton's range of guitars have been crafted to the highest standards to ensure they deliver a powerful, smooth sound; plugged or unplugged.

This guide contains important and practical information about your new Ashton guitar. Please read through this manual before you play your guitar to enable you to get the very best from your instrument and keep it playing well, and looking good for years to come.

For more information about Ashton,

visit us at **www.ashtonmusic.com**
or email us on **info@ashtonmusic.com**



Enjoy!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "The Ashton Team". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Ashton Team



INTRODUCTION

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PARTS OF THE GUITAR

ELECTRIC/BASS GUITAR



TUNING PEGS

Turn to adjust tuning of each individual string.

HEADSTOCK

NUT

Holds strings in place and controls action of strings.

FRET

A fret translates to one note per string in a guitar scale.

FINGERBOARD/NECK

Dots indicate specific locations on the fingerboard to aid in correct chord and note placement.

STRAP BUTTON

Use to attach strap.

PICKGUARD

Prevents scratches on the body where the strings are picked or strummed.

PICKUPS

Detects the frequencies of sound and converts them electronically. Pickups in multiple positions (pictured) provide different tones and can be used individually or combined using the pickup selector switch.

PICKUP SELECTOR SWITCH

Switches between the different pickup configurations.

BRIDGE

Holds strings in place.

CONTROLLER KNOBS

Adjusts the volume and tone of the guitar output.

TREMOLO ARM WHAMMY BAR

Bends the tailpiece to change the pitch of the note being played.

PARTS OF THE GUITAR

ACOUSTIC/CLASSICAL GUITAR

TUNING PEGS

Turn to adjust tuning of each individual string.

HEADSTOCK

NUT

Holds strings in place and controls 'action' of strings.

FRET

A fret translates to one note per string in a guitar scale.

FINGERBOARD/NECK

Dots indicate specific locations on the fingerboard to aid in correct chord and note placement.

BUILT-IN TUNER/PICKUP (SELECTED MODELS ONLY).

SOUND HOLE

Allows sound to resonate from within the body of the guitar.

BRIDGE

Holds strings in place.





STRINGING

ELECTRIC GUITARS

Many people avoid re-stringing their guitar because they feel confused about the correct procedure. Changing the strings on the guitar is one of the simplest ways to keep your guitar working at its peak. Strings should be changed depending on how often you use your guitar and how well it is kept. If your strings start to look rusty or have lost their tone, it is time to replace them. You can get quality strings in a range of gauges from your local retailer. See below for a step-by-step guide to changing your strings:



STEP ONE

Ashton guitars feature several styles of bridge. One common style requires the string to be inserted through the back of the tailpiece (pictured). Another common style requires the string to be inserted through the holes in the back of the guitar, through the body and over the bridge.



STEP TWO

Pull the string through the tailpiece and then over the bridge toward the headstock of the guitar, ensuring the string is properly seated in the saddle.



STEP THREE

Insert the string through the small hole in the tuning peg. Be careful to insert as shown in the picture.



STEP FOUR

Twist the string around the tuning peg as shown in the picture.



STEP FIVE

Using a string winder, wind the string into the tuning peg, use the other hand to maintain the tension of the string as it is being wound onto the tuning peg.



STEP SIX

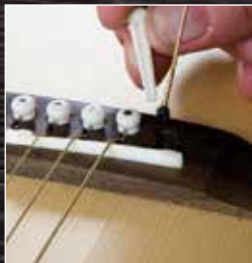
Cut the excess wire with cutters. Be sure to cut close so that there are no sharp wires sticking out.



STRINGING

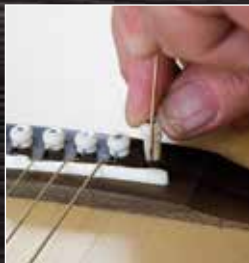
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ACOUSTIC GUITARS



STEP ONE

Pull out the bridge-pin (most string winders have a pin removal tool) and insert the ball end of the string into the hole on the bridge.



STEP TWO

Replace the bridge-pin and press firmly on it whilst pulling the string tight to ensure the peg is securely in place.



STEP THREE

Pull the string up toward the headstock of the guitar.



STEP FOUR

Insert the string through the small hole in the tuning peg. Be careful to insert as shown in the picture.



STEP FIVE

Twist the string around the tuning peg as shown in the picture.



STEP SIX

Using a string winder, wind the string onto the tuning peg, use the other hand to maintain the tension of the string as it is being wound onto the tuning peg.



STEP SEVEN

This picture shows how the process should look after you have finished winding the string. The most common mistakes is to wind too much string, this can lead to tuning problems.



STEP EIGHT

Now it is safe to cut the excess wire. Be sure to cut close to the peg so there are no sharp wires left sticking out.



STRINGING

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CLASSICAL GUITARS

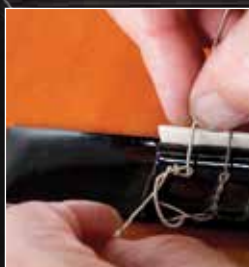
STEP ONE

Insert the string through the corresponding hole in the bridge of the guitar.



STEP TWO

Bring the end of the string back around itself to form a loop.



STEP THREE

Twist the end of the string underneath and over the top again. In a similar manner to tying up shoe laces.



STEP FOUR

Repeat this process two more times.

STEP FIVE

Pull the twists taut and extend the string toward the headstock of the guitar.



STEP SIX

Insert the string through the hole in the corresponding tuning peg.

STEP SEVEN

Loop the string as shown, to ensure that the string will be secure at the headstock. Remove any excess wire with a set of cutters.

STEP EIGHT

This picture shows how the string should look after being fully wound.

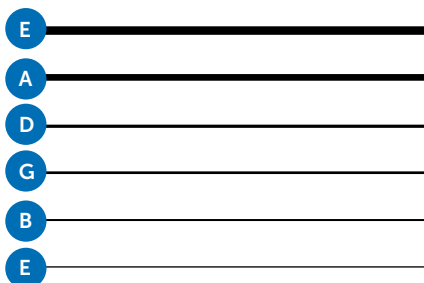
TUNING YOUR GUITAR

SOME NOTES ABOUT TUNING

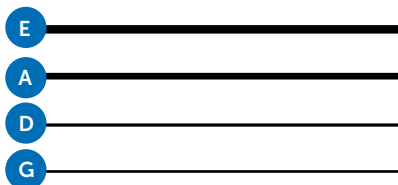
- The low E-string is the best string to tune first. As this is the thickest string, it is less likely to be out of tune.
- Once you have experience in tuning, you should be able to play the E & A, A & D, D & G, etc, strings together and recognise the tones to determine whether they are in tune. It is good to listen to how these notes sound together to recognise when tuning.
- The above tuning is standard guitar tuning, some electric guitarists like to drop the E-string down to a low 'D', this is referred to as 'Drop D Tuning' and is used in a lot of alternative and punk music. This extends down to 'Drop-C' and 'Drop-B' where all the notes of the guitar are dropped down one note consecutively to achieve a heavier sound. For these tunings, it is best to search online or find tablature for the song you wish to play to.
- Ashton produces a range of tuners, including tuner pedals, tuners/metronomes and clip-on tuners.

Visit www.ashtonmusic.com to view the full range and find your nearest Ashton retailer.

STANDARD ACOUSTIC AND ELECTRIC TUNING

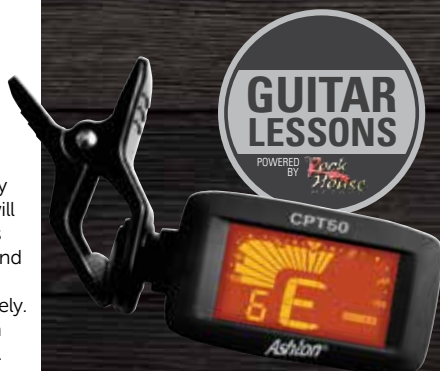


STANDARD BASS TUNING



TUNING WITH AN ELECTRIC TUNER

1. Play a string and let it ring, the tuner will pick up the note.
2. Use the tuning lights or indicators to correctly tune the string. Typically the centre light or (0) will indicate that the note is in tune. Left of centre and right of centre indicate flat and sharp respectively.
3. It is best to tune up to a note, rather than down.



USING THE FEATURES IN THE ASHTON GUITAR LESSONS SOFTWARE

Ashton's guitar lessons (see back of manual for details), feature a great integrated tuner feature. This uses the in-built microphone in your computer to recognise the note being tuned and helps you tune correctly.

GUITAR MAINTENANCE

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CARING FOR FINISHES

Caring for the finish of your guitar is simple, usually a soft clean cloth is the best thing to wipe your guitar down with after every use. If you have a lot of marks to remove, a guitar polish is best. Never use household polishes, as products with silicone in them can damage the guitar's finish or result in the guitar being covered in fingerprint.

SET UP AND NECK ADJUSTMENTS

Typically it is best to have your guitar serviced once every six months to one year. We recommend that guitar servicing is carried out by qualified guitar technicians. Your local Ashton dealer may be able to provide you with information on guitar technicians.

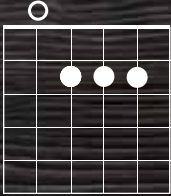
TEMPERATURE AND GUITARS

The simple rule to follow when considering your guitar and temperature, is to treat your guitar the same as you would a pet cat or dog. You would never put your pet in the boot of a car, or leave it in the sun and you shouldn't do that with your guitar either! Extreme heat or cold can destroy stringed instruments and should be avoided at all costs.

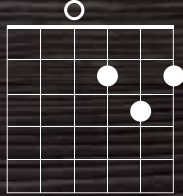
BASIC CHORDS



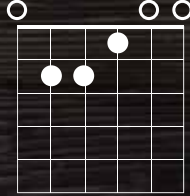
A MAJOR



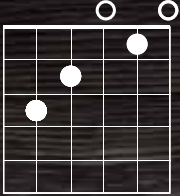
D MAJOR



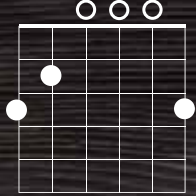
E MAJOR



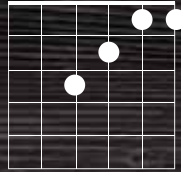
C MAJOR



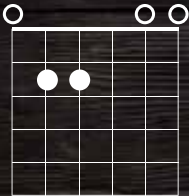
G MAJOR



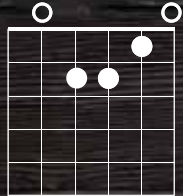
F MAJOR



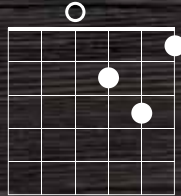
E MINOR



A MINOR

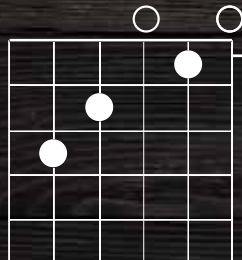


D MINOR



○ OPEN STRING

C MAJOR



CHORDS

See left for a list of basic guitar chords. The horizontal lines indicate the frets of the guitar (see image below and the vertical lines represent the strings (E,A,D,G,B,E).

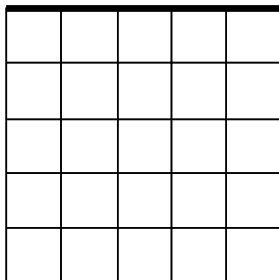
The large (O) circle indicates an open string and an unmarked string indicates that it is not to be played as part of the chord.



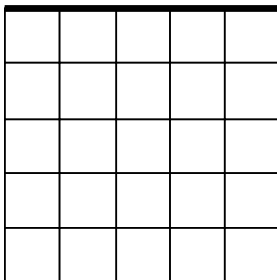
CHORD NOTATION

See below for some blank chord diagrams for you to fill out as you learn new guitar chords. The Ashton Guitar Starter Lessons will show you a variety of chords that you may wish to record here for future reference.

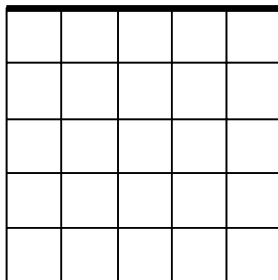
CHORD _____



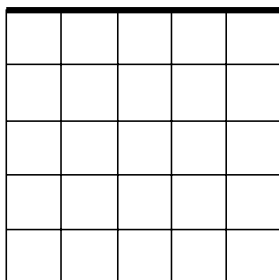
CHORD _____



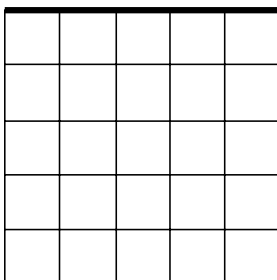
CHORD _____



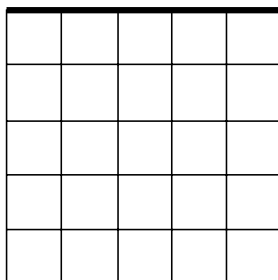
CHORD _____



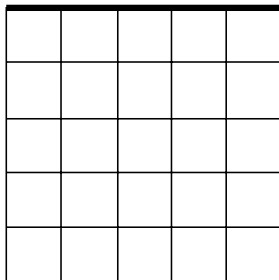
CHORD _____



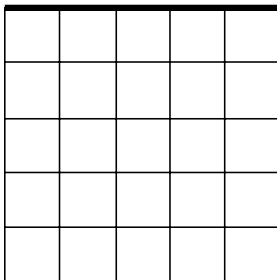
CHORD _____



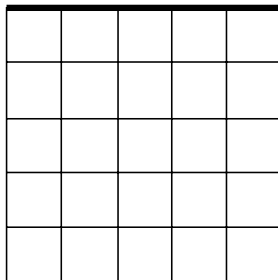
CHORD _____



CHORD _____



CHORD _____



ACTIVATE AND ACCESS YOUR ONLINE LESSONS NOW!



FEATURES

- Downloadable sheet music for each lesson
- Free downloadable tuner
- Free downloadable metronome
- Chord dictionary
- Complete beginner program
- Note and finger tracker
- Recording function

1

**LOG ON TO THE ASHTON WEBSITE
WWW.ASHTONMUSIC.COM**

2

**GO TO THE RESOURCE TAB
LOCATED IN THE MENU BAR**

CLICK ON THE 'LESSONS DOWNLOAD' TAB AND SELECT
'GUITAR STARTER LESSONS' FROM THE DOWNLOADS LIST.

3

FILL OUT REQUIRED ACTIVATION FORM

YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER YOUR UNIQUE CODE TWICE.
SEE BELOW FOR YOUR UNIQUE CODE.

4

START PLAYING!



UNIQUE CODE: