

what to practice to get better at guitar

What to Practice to Get Better at Guitar

what to practice to get better at guitar is a question that every guitarist, whether a beginner or someone who's been playing for years, has asked at some point. Improving your guitar skills isn't just about strumming away aimlessly or jamming on your favorite songs repeatedly. It requires focused practice, understanding of fundamental techniques, and a strategic approach to develop speed, accuracy, and musicality. Whether you're after fingerpicking mastery, shredding solos, or rhythm guitar prowess, knowing what to practice to get better at guitar can transform your playing experience.

Understanding the Basics: Laying a Strong Foundation

Before diving into complex solos or advanced techniques, it's crucial to ensure your fundamentals are solid. Practicing the basics will not only enhance your technical skills but also help you build muscle memory, which is essential for seamless playing.

Mastering Chords and Transitions

One of the first areas to focus on is chord shapes and smooth transitions between them. Many beginners struggle with switching chords fluidly, which can make playing songs feel disjointed. Spend time practicing common open chords like C, G, D, E, A, and minor variations, then move on to barre chords and more complex voicings. Use a metronome to gradually increase your chord change speed while maintaining clarity.

Developing Proper Picking and Strumming Techniques

Picking and strumming are fundamental skills that define your rhythm and tone. Practice alternate picking (down-up-down-up) to improve your picking hand's coordination and speed. Strumming patterns can vary widely depending on the style of music you want to play, so learning different rhythms and being able to switch between them naturally is key. Focus on dynamics, accenting certain beats, and muting strings when necessary to add texture to your playing.

Building Technique: Scales, Finger Exercises, and Articulation

Once you have a grasp on chords and rhythm, advancing your technical abilities will open up new musical possibilities. Technical practice is often the difference between a casual player and a skilled guitarist.

Practicing Scales for Speed and Musicality

Scales are the building blocks of solos, melodies, and improvisation. Start with the pentatonic scale, which is widely used in blues and rock, and then explore major, minor, and modal scales. Playing scales with a metronome helps develop timing and precision. Additionally, practice scales in different positions on the neck to familiarize yourself with the fretboard. This knowledge is invaluable when creating solos or improvising over chord progressions.

Finger Independence and Strength Exercises

Exercises targeting finger independence can significantly improve your fretting hand dexterity. Simple drills like the 1-2-3-4 exercise (playing frets 1, 2, 3, and 4 on each string in sequence) help develop control, speed, and endurance. Also, try spider exercises, which involve moving fingers in non-adjacent patterns. These drills enhance accuracy and prevent common issues like finger collisions or uneven pressure.

Incorporating Bends, Slides, and Vibrato

Articulations such as bends, slides, hammer-ons, pull-offs, and vibrato add emotion and character to your playing. Practice each technique slowly to ensure clean execution and then gradually increase speed. For example, vibrato can make a sustained note sing, while bends can add expressiveness to solos. Mastering these nuances elevates your guitar playing from mechanical to soulful.

Musicality and Ear Training: Playing with Feeling and Understanding

Improving technically is essential, but playing guitar is also about expressing yourself musically. Developing your musical ear and understanding theory will help you connect with the instrument and other musicians on a deeper level.

Learning Songs and Playing Along with Recordings

One of the best ways to practice what to get better at guitar is by learning songs you love. This keeps motivation high and exposes you to different styles, rhythms, and techniques. Try playing along with recordings to improve your timing and feel. This exercise also helps train your ear to recognize chord changes, riffs, and phrasing.

Ear Training and Interval Recognition

Ear training is often overlooked but is vital for any guitarist who wants to improvise or compose.

Start by identifying intervals—the distance between two notes—and then progress to recognizing chord qualities and progressions by ear. Apps, online courses, or simply active listening and humming along with music can sharpen your auditory skills.

Understanding Music Theory for Guitarists

While you don't need to be a music theory expert, having a basic grasp of scales, chords, and key signatures can dramatically improve your ability to learn songs, improvise, and communicate with other musicians. Understanding how chords relate to each other and how scales fit over chord changes will make your playing more intentional and creative.

Practice Strategies: Maximizing Your Progress

Knowing what to practice is only half the battle; how you practice is equally important. Efficient practice routines and habits lead to consistent improvement.

Setting Clear Goals and Structuring Practice Sessions

Break your practice down into focused segments: warm-up, technical exercises, song learning, improvisation, and cool-down. Each session should have a clear goal, whether it's improving speed, learning a new chord shape, or mastering a solo. Setting achievable, measurable goals keeps you motivated and tracks your progress.

Using a Metronome to Develop Timing

Rhythm is the backbone of music, and a metronome is an invaluable tool for developing a solid sense of timing. Start slow and make sure every note is clean and in sync with the beat. Gradually increase the tempo only when you can play perfectly at a slower speed.

Recording Yourself and Seeking Feedback

Recording your practice sessions allows you to objectively assess your playing. Listening back helps you catch mistakes, notice areas that need improvement, and track your development over time. Additionally, getting feedback from teachers, fellow musicians, or online communities can provide new insights and motivation.

Exploring Different Styles and Techniques

Expanding your musical horizons keeps practice exciting and broadens your skill set.

Dabbling in Fingerstyle, Slide Guitar, and Other Techniques

Trying various playing techniques like fingerstyle, slide guitar, or tapping can introduce you to new sounds and challenges. Each style demands different skills, which can cross-pollinate and enhance your overall musicianship.

Improvisation and Jamming

Improvising is a fun and practical way to apply scales and theory knowledge. Jamming with friends or backing tracks encourages you to think on your feet and express yourself freely on the guitar.

What to practice to get better at guitar is a blend of focused technical drills, musical understanding, and consistent, enjoyable playing. By dedicating time to fundamentals, exploring different techniques, and training your ear, you set yourself up for continuous growth. Remember, the journey with the guitar is unique for every player—embrace what excites you, stay patient, and enjoy the process of making music.

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the most important skills to practice to get better at guitar?

Focus on practicing chord transitions, scales, fingerpicking, strumming patterns, and timing to build a solid foundation on the guitar.

How can practicing scales improve my guitar playing?

Practicing scales improves finger dexterity, helps you understand the fretboard, and enhances your ability to improvise and create solos.

Is it better to practice chords or scales to get better at guitar?

Both chords and scales are important; chords help with rhythm and harmony while scales improve lead playing and fretboard knowledge. A balanced practice routine including both is ideal.

How often should I practice guitar to see improvement?

Consistent daily practice of at least 20-30 minutes is more effective than occasional long sessions. Regular practice helps build muscle memory and progress steadily.

What role does metronome practice play in getting better at guitar?

Using a metronome helps develop a strong sense of timing and rhythm, which are crucial for playing with other musicians and maintaining steady tempo.

Should I focus on learning songs or exercises to improve my guitar skills?

Both are valuable; exercises build technical skills, while learning songs keeps practice enjoyable and helps apply techniques in a musical context.

How can practicing fingerpicking improve my guitar playing?

Fingerpicking develops finger independence, coordination, and control, enabling you to play more complex and expressive pieces.

What warm-up exercises should I practice before playing guitar?

Simple finger stretches, chromatic exercises, and slow scale runs are effective warm-ups to increase flexibility and prevent injury.

How important is ear training in improving guitar skills?

Ear training is essential as it helps you recognize chords, intervals, and melodies by ear, improving your ability to learn songs and improvise.

Can practicing improvisation help me get better at guitar?

Yes, improvisation encourages creativity, helps apply scale knowledge, and improves your ability to play spontaneously in different musical styles.

Additional Resources

****Mastering the Strings: What to Practice to Get Better at Guitar****

what to practice to get better at guitar is a question that resonates with beginners and seasoned players alike. Guitar playing is a multifaceted skill, blending technique, musicality, and theory into a cohesive whole. While natural talent can play a role, consistent and focused practice forms the backbone of improvement. Understanding exactly what areas to target during practice sessions is crucial for making meaningful progress. This article delves into the essential components of guitar practice, examining methods and strategies that foster skill development and musical expression.

Breaking Down the Elements of Guitar Practice

Guitar proficiency is not built overnight; it requires structured practice focused on various interconnected aspects. To answer what to practice to get better at guitar effectively, one must consider the technical, theoretical, and expressive dimensions of playing.

Technical Skills: Building a Solid Foundation

Technical skills form the core of guitar playing. These include finger dexterity, hand coordination, and precision. Without a solid technical foundation, executing complex pieces or improvising becomes challenging.

- **Scales and Arpeggios:** Practicing scales enhances finger strength and familiarity with the fretboard. Major, minor, pentatonic, and modal scales each contribute to different stylistic approaches. Arpeggios, on the other hand, improve picking accuracy and chord tone recognition.
- **Chord Changes:** Smooth transitions between chords are vital, especially for rhythm playing. Working on common chord progressions helps develop muscle memory and timing.
- **Fingerpicking and Picking Techniques:** Whether using a pick or fingers, mastering various picking styles expands versatility. Alternate picking, sweep picking, and hybrid picking are techniques that advanced players often incorporate.
- **Speed and Accuracy Exercises:** Utilizing a metronome to gradually increase playing speed while maintaining accuracy ensures clean execution and rhythmic precision.

Integrating these technical exercises into daily practice routines leads to incremental improvement. Data from music educators suggests that even 15-30 minutes of focused technical drills can significantly enhance finger independence and speed over time.

Musical Theory: Understanding the Language of Music

Many guitarists overlook theory, yet it is indispensable for deeper musical comprehension. Knowing what to practice to get better at guitar theory-wise means dedicating time to scales, chord construction, intervals, and harmony.

- **Chord Construction:** Understanding how chords are built allows players to create their own voicings and progressions.
- **Scale Application:** Learning how scales relate to chords aids in improvisation and soloing.

- **Ear Training:** Developing the ability to identify intervals, chord qualities, and progressions by ear enhances musical intuition and adaptability.

When guitarists incorporate theory into their practice, they gain the ability to communicate ideas more effectively and improvise with purpose. This theoretical underpinning also assists in reading standard notation and tablature, broadening learning resources.

Repertoire and Musicality: Expressing Emotion Through Song

What to practice to get better at guitar is not solely about mechanics; musicality and repertoire play a pivotal role. Playing songs enhances motivation and contextualizes technical exercises.

- **Learning Songs:** Selecting pieces that challenge current skill levels pushes boundaries and introduces new techniques.
- **Dynamics and Phrasing:** Practicing how to vary volume and articulation brings life to playing and prevents mechanical sounding performances.
- **Improvisation:** Experimenting with melodic ideas over backing tracks fosters creativity and spontaneity.

Focusing on musicality ensures that guitar practice remains enjoyable and expressive, rather than a purely mechanical routine.

Effective Practice Strategies to Accelerate Progress

Knowing what to practice is only half the battle; how one practices significantly impacts outcomes. Efficient practice methods optimize time and reinforce learning.

Structured Practice Sessions

Breaking practice time into focused segments can make a substantial difference. For example:

1. **Warm-up (5-10 minutes):** Finger stretching and simple scale runs prepare muscles and mind.
2. **Technical Drills (15-20 minutes):** Scales, arpeggios, and chord transitions.
3. **Theory Application (10-15 minutes):** Ear training or analyzing song structures.

4. **Repertoire Practice (20-30 minutes):** Learning and refining songs or improvising.
5. **Cool-down and Review (5 minutes):** Reflecting on progress and setting goals for next session.

This compartmentalization ensures balanced development and prevents monotony.

Utilizing Technology and Tools

Modern guitarists have access to a wealth of digital resources that complement traditional practice.

- **Metronomes and Drum Machines:** Essential for developing timing and rhythm.
- **Backing Tracks and Loopers:** Provide a musical context for improvisation and soloing.
- **Guitar Apps and Software:** Tools like guitar tuners, scale libraries, and tablature apps aid in learning and practice.
- **Recording Devices:** Listening back to practice sessions reveals mistakes and areas needing improvement.

These tools, when integrated thoughtfully, can accelerate learning curves and keep practice engaging.

Consistency and Goal Setting

Research in skill acquisition highlights the importance of regular, deliberate practice over sporadic, lengthy sessions. Setting clear, achievable goals—such as mastering a particular scale, increasing tempo, or learning a new song each week—helps maintain motivation and track progress.

Common Pitfalls and How to Avoid Them

Even with a well-designed practice plan, certain habits can hinder progress.

Neglecting Fundamentals

Jumping into complex solos without mastering basic chords or scales often results in frustration. Focusing on fundamentals lays the groundwork for advanced techniques.

Overemphasizing Speed

Many guitarists prioritize playing fast at the expense of accuracy and tone. Prioritizing clean execution before increasing speed produces better long-term results.

Lack of Variety

Repeating the same exercises can lead to burnout and plateauing. Incorporating diverse styles, techniques, and musical genres keeps practice stimulating.

Ignoring Physical Health

Poor posture or excessive tension can cause injury. Regular breaks, stretching, and ergonomic playing positions contribute to sustainable progress.

Integrating Theory and Practice for Holistic Growth

A nuanced understanding of what to practice to get better at guitar involves blending technical drills, theoretical knowledge, and musical application. For example, practicing a scale alongside its corresponding chord shapes and using it to improvise over a backing track reinforces multiple skills simultaneously.

Moreover, collaborating with other musicians or taking lessons can provide valuable feedback and expose players to new perspectives. Peer interaction often motivates practitioners to refine their skills and explore unfamiliar musical territories.

Exploring different genres—from blues and jazz to classical and rock—broadens stylistic vocabulary and adaptability. Each style emphasizes unique techniques and approaches, enriching overall musicianship.

Ultimately, improving on guitar is a journey marked by continuous learning and refinement. By focusing on targeted practice areas, employing effective strategies, and embracing musical diversity, guitarists can steadily elevate their craft and deepen their connection to the instrument.

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what to practice to get better at guitar: How to Be Better at Almost Everything Pat Flynn, 2019-01-29 Mastering one specific skill set might have been the key to success 20 years ago . . . but being the best at a single thing just doesn't cut it in today's global economy. Think about those people who somehow manage to be amazing at everything they do—the multimillionaire CEO with the bodybuilder physique or the rock star with legions of adoring fans. How do they manage to be so

great at life? By acquiring and applying multiple skills to make themselves more valuable to others, they've become generalists, able to stack their varied skills for a unique competitive edge. In *How to Be Better at Almost Everything*, bestselling author, fitness expert, entrepreneur, and professional business coach Pat Flynn shares the secrets to learning (almost) every skill, from marketing and music to relationships and martial arts, teaching how to combine interests to achieve greatness in any field. Discover how to: Learn any skill with only an hour of practice a day through repetition and resistance Package all your passions into a single tool kit for success with skill stacking Turn those passions into paychecks by transforming yourself into a person of interest To really get ahead in today's fast-paced, constantly evolving world, you need a diverse portfolio of hidden talents you can pull from your back pocket at a moment's notice. The good news? You don't need to be a genius or a prodigy to get there—you just have to be willing to learn. *How to Be Better at Almost Everything* will teach you how to make your personal and professional goals a reality, starting today.

what to practice to get better at guitar: *The Pro Guitarist's Handbook* Paul Lidel, 2001-07 If you dream of having a career as a professional guitarist, then this book is for you! Paul Lidel, a National Guitar Workshop teacher and Atlantic, Sony and Shrapnel recording artist, offers advice on playing the guitar and surviving in the music business. Covering everything from how to pass an audition and how the recording process works to theory, technique and playing great solos, this comprehensive guide is the ultimate reference for any aspiring professional guitarist. You'll be coming back to this useful reference book for years to come. The CD includes exercises.

what to practice to get better at guitar: Practice Less, Play More Steve Mastroianni, 2019-02 *** SPECIAL LAUNCH PRICE GOES AWAY MARCH 1ST *** If you're a Self-Taught Guitarist wanting to play songs without spending all your time practicing, this may be the most important book you ever read... But first a warning: this book is NOT for everyone... This isn't one of those practice until your fingers bleed or cram confusing theory into your mind type of guitar instruction books. There are plenty of those available (i.e. practice scales & exercises for hours per day and feel guilty if you don't). When I first decided to learn to play guitar, I read all the guitar books for beginners and focused on developing a lot of areas like scales, theory, and exercises that promised me one day I'd be able to play the songs I loved. The problem is, when you approach practice like that, you have a lot of stuff to practice, but you usually have no REAL MUSIC to show for it, ending up with what I call Mountain Climber Syndrome. You feel like eventually, your hard work is going to pay off, everything will come together, and you'll finally be able to play songs. Why not play songs right away instead? The simple, three-step system in this book requires a slight shift in the way you think about practicing, but leaves you with lots of songs, confidence, and a lifelong skill you can use any time you want to learn the songs you love ON DEMAND. With that said, let's jump right in... **Practice Less, Play More!** is about getting immediate results from your guitar. This means ONLY focusing on the things that help you play songs (both BEFORE practice & AFTER practice). The idea is to divide your guitar practice into 3 phases: The first phase focuses on priming your mind so you have the right mindsets & techniques to learn songs quickly and all of the right materials to get the most out of your practice sessions. The second phase focuses on practice technique, showing you exactly how to break a song down and quickly program each part into your fingers. Far too few guitar practice books explain this clearly! The final phase focuses on the best mindsets & techniques to use when you switch out of Practice Mode and are actually playing songs, so you can play them as effortlessly as possible and have a blast doing it. It is called Practice Less, Play More!, because you are constantly building momentum (and your song Playlist) without having to endure hours of mind-numbing practice. It is actually an easier, less-stressful approach to playing guitar. Not only that, this book shows you: How to get songs to performance-quality within days... You should practice guitar parts over & over until you master them, right? WRONG! (find out why in Chp 7) How to create a practice routine you enjoy and can actually stick to (even if you have a super busy schedule) When is the best time to practice for long-lasting results 5 ways to cut your practice time in half and virtually guarantee you make progress each time you pick up your guitar What to think about while you're playing songs (the answer may surprise you) How to reduce the amount of

mistakes you make and exactly what to do when you make one (most Beginners are doing the opposite!) One practice method you should NEVER use if you want rapid results on guitar Say goodbye to guessing what to practice next and finally build a Playlist of songs you're proud to play on guitar! The book is an easy read and will feel like we're just chatting, as I tell you my best stories from on & off tour and show you my best strategies for learning songs. Order Now Before The Price Increases ***All proceeds from this book are being used to create new programs for cancer patients and their caregivers. Thank you for your support!

what to practice to get better at guitar: *Secrets of The Electric Guitarist* Rick Stack , *Secrets of The Electric Guitarist* You play guitar. You love guitar. Now learn the REST! *Secrets of The Electric Guitarist* offers solid gold advice about being a great overall guitarist and musician, and the music business. Rick Stack provides an insider's look at the world of a working musician, with practical "how to" steps, about playing in a band and performing, writing and recording music, buying music equipment, and health as related to being a musician. The book will keep you entertained with stories from Rick's musical experiences. Are you ready to begin your journey of being the most complete guitarist and musician you can be? Shredding out cool riffs and licks is awesome, but there is a lot more to being an amazing guitarist as a working musician. You will learn all about starting a cover band, original band, being a band leader or a sideman. You will also learn the best way to run rehearsals, get great gigs, and tips on how to get your performing game rocking. Discover how easy it is to get started writing your own songs, and with Rick's help you will get a clear road map to the recording process, with making home demos and going into a professional recording studio. You will gain insight into having effective and efficient guitar practice sessions. Learn health related advice to stay in top form and not get injured. Are you unsure what 6L6 tubes are or what scale length is on a guitar? Find out all you need to know about music equipment, so you can get amazing tone. Anything you do beyond playing as a hobby is going to require some knowledge of the music business. If you would like to be (or are already) a semi-professional/weekend warrior, or full time professional musician, you will want to know the secrets that will allow you to navigate the music industry with confidence. And how about making money? There is a myth that musicians don't make much money. Rick dispels this myth and gives you a clear plan of attack to make your music career flourish. *Secrets of The Electric Guitarist* is a reference to use any time you embark on one of topics contained in the book. This is also a fun read for "guitar nerds" who love all things guitar. It took Rick over 35 years to learn everything in this book. You can learn it all here!

what to practice to get better at guitar: *Why You Suck at Guitar* Tommy Gordon, 2015-11-18 Here's a book intended to challenge you. Here's a book meant to inspire you. This book is a wake-up call to the global problems and roadblocks for you as a guitarist. This book is meant to be a reality check. Even if guitar playing is a hobby for you, your level of enjoyment and satisfaction will increase exponentially if you get better, start to like your playing and sound, and then continue to move forward. But if you aspire to be a part-time gigging and recording musician or full-time musician/guitarist, this book is filled with the ten reasons that are seriously holding you back. (It might even give you enough clues to help you teach guitar lessons for years to come!) I want you to attack any or all of these problems that apply to you, and get your momentum back as a guitarist. I've always believed that the expression "momentum builds motivation" is the key to developing as a musician. Once you're truly excited about your playing, your creativity, and your growth, amazing things can happen with your music. If you're here reading a book called "Why You Suck at Guitar" then it means that you're finally ready to deal with those issues that plague aspiring musicians everywhere. It means that you're brave. Brave enough to face the facts. I wrote this to help you, and not to make you feel bad — or worse — about your music. This is your wake-up call — a musician-to-musician intervention — with the goal of helping you get back on the right path. Music should be fun, and it's always fun to get better. I wrote this to help all guitarists because I know that if we don't like our sound, our abilities, or our playing, then music isn't fun at all. It's an annoying feeling. By the way, if you're just looking for a book of guitar exercises, that's not what you'll find

here. If you wanted to buy another book of riffs that some random musician-author thinks every guitarist in the world should know, that's fine -- but maybe you don't understand what being a real musician means. What you need is clear. You need a personal sound — and that takes a very personal, grounded approach. That means that you need to deal with some big, global issues in your music-making and not worry about which new lick or riff will suddenly transform your playing. On the other hand, if you've already totally decided what you — as a guitarist — need to do to get better, but you're kind of pissy and stubborn about it, then may I suggest that you just go and do that thing. Don't read this book to see if I can or will change your mind. Do what you want! Follow your musician instincts. If you pretty much know what you want as a musician, and you already have a sense about what you need to work on, seriously, just practice that! But if you do need some more input, some more ideas, some feedback, and a dose of outside inspiration, then you are my ideal reader because: 1) You want to get better now and 2) You admit that you don't have all the answers 3) You have enough of an open mind to check out what I'm going to say and work on removing those roadblocks that apply to you.

what to practice to get better at guitar: The 5 Lesson Guitar Method - Part One Gary U Petrin, 2020-10-05 The 5 Lesson Guitar Method - Part One is an Interactive eBook designed to familiarize beginners with five very important aspects of playing guitar. An effective and simplified method that will help you get started playing the guitar quickly. Lessons include the basics and fundamentals that every beginner needs to get started on the right track, regular chords and progressions, names of the notes on the guitar, barre chords and progressions, beginning lead playing, easy guitar licks, and basic tablature. There are links to numerous video clips, handouts, and information to help create an Interactive experience. Read the information in the booklet, and click on the links to view the video lessons. This is the best method for beginners that want to prepare themselves for bigger and better things on the guitar!

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use for organising and finally understanding your guitar fretboard. Learn how to memorise these quickly and easily using 'speed learning' techniques, circle of fourths exercises and 'visualisation' approaches for a solid fretboard foundation - How to 'build' scale shapes and patterns around CAGED chord shapes for unshakeable fretboard knowledge and confidence. Use this method to find a shape for any scale, in any key, anywhere on the fretboard and play guitar with freedom at last! - 40 sample CAGED licks (with video demonstrations) show you how to go from playing scale shapes to playing killer licks and solos all over the fretboard. These licks show you the tastiest bends, double stops and scale runs to help you build your soloing vocabulary and start using each of the CAGED scale shapes like a pro (practice required!) - Connecting patterns to improvise and solo all over the entire guitar neck (no more getting stuck in 'box patterns') - How to build an endless number of great lick and soloing ideas. Use the techniques and practice methods described in the 'Vocab Accelerator' chapter to grow your soloing vocabulary, lick library and soloing skills - Step-by-step practice routines and I'll give you the exact fretboard exercises to use in order to thoroughly and efficiently assimilate everything shown into your guitar playing repertoire. Follow these and see the results roll in! The CAGED System for Guitar comes with over 50 mins of video content demonstrating licks and approaches used in the book plus 13 downloadable backing tracks for you to practice and play to. Using The CAGED System for Guitar, any player can learn, understand, master and apply everything they need to gain a whole new understanding of the guitar fretboard. So, if you: - Find your lack of fretboard knowledge holds you up - You find yourself losing your way when you try to improvise - You hit that 'wall' when you play and don't know where to go or which notes will work - You find yourself playing the same licks and ideas all the time (frustrating...) - You want a step-by-step, easy to use method for thoroughly improving your fretboard knowledge - You're sick of being stuck in the same little zone of the guitar neck - You want to boost your knowledge of the essential scales and modes we use on guitar and learn how to use them... ..then grab a copy of The CAGED System for Guitar and begin transforming your playing and guitar skills!

what to practice to get better at guitar: Mastering the Guitar 2A William Bay, Mike Christiansen, 2016-05-13 Absolutely the best, most comprehensive new method available for guitar. Introducing the innovative new Zone Concept for learning position playing. Over 150 solos and duets in the keys of C, G, D, and B minor. Musical styles: bossa nova, Latin, fiddle/tunes/ hornpipes/reels, Celtic music, ragtime, baroque, jazz, swing jazz ballads, American folk ballads, rock, early-American hymnody, be-bop, blues, samba, and tango. Concepts presented: basic improvisation, rhythmic variation, velocity studies, sight-reading, passing tone studies, chord progression studies, arpeggio studies, dropped-D tuning, blues, blues turn-arounds, licks/fills/ breaks, bass runs, principles of memorization, chord studies, minor pentatonic scale, principles of successful practice, principles of successful performance, movable power chords, and rock comping. New Composers featured: J.S. Bach, Carcassi, Moaazni, Giuliani, Carulli, Vivaldi, Handel, Sor, Galilei, Tarrega, Debussy, H.L. Clark, St. Jacome, Corelli, Johann Krieger, Wohlfahrt, Jeremiah Clarke, plus guitar duos on selections from Handel's Water Music, Vivaldi's Four Seasons, and selected Bach cantatas. Includes access to extensive online audio

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what to practice to get better at guitar: Complete Fingerstyle Guitar Method Lou Manzi, 1996-08 If you've been inspired to begin playing fingerstyle guitar or are an experienced player wanting to enhance your knowledge, this book is the perfect place to start. Using standard music notation and TAB, the examples guide you through basic chord theory, modes, drop-D tuning, alternating bass and more. The online audio and video provide lessons and demonstrations of the examples in the book. 96 pages.

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