

Fretwork – Teachers' Notes

The Performance

A look into the many roles the guitar has in music. Classical, Jazz, Rock, Blues, Heavy metal, and the future role with the creation of Synth guitar.

A look at the effects guitar players use. Echo, Reverb, Chorus, Overdrive, Flanging, Phase. Also a look at its acoustic role in music.

A look at the guitar as a band instrument, then as a solo instrument.

Guitars used in performance;

Terry is sponsored by legendary guitar makers "Fender". He uses Fender Telecasters, and Stratocasters. Jacksons guitars. Guild acoustic guitars, and Gretch Guitars. Note Terry owns over 40 guitars so he usually only brings along about 5, or 6 to a show. It depends on the day as to what he takes with him.

Effects used in show;

Terry uses a "Roland" GT5, and a GT8 for his guitar effects. He uses a "Roland" GR 1 And a GR 20 for his synth effects.

THE GUITAR- Where did it come from?

The guitar is part of the CHORDOPHONE family. These are instruments that have strings and a sound hole. These instruments have to be plucked in order to vibrate and produce a sound.

There are five members of the Chordophone family;

"Lyres", "Bow", "Harps", "Lutes" and "Zithers". Of these five, the guitar came from the Lute section. It first came to prominence in the 14th century. It was introduced by the Arabs to Spain, and became the most favourite portable instrument ever.

* Note: The first chordophones are believed to be over 5000 years old, used by ancient Egyptians and Sumerians.

* The Lute also had many variations around the world;

Cobza (Romania), Uti (Yugoslavia), Ud (Syria), Biwa (Japan), Pipa (China), Tambura (India), Balalaika (Russia), Bandurria (Spain), Ramkie (South Africa), and Cha pei (Cambodia) to name a few.

Other modern relatives of the guitar are: Ukuleles, Banjos and Mandolins.

What makes the sound?

The Acoustic Guitar

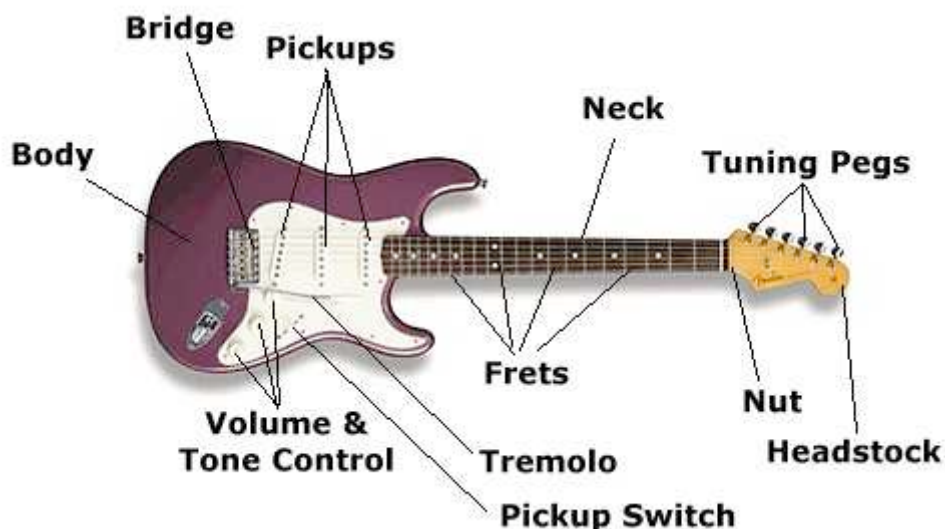
Strings are stretched along the neck over the body and sound hole and tightened on the bridge at one end and at the other, tightened by pegs (machine heads). Pegs allow us to tune each string to different tensions, so as to allow various pitch (high to low). The usual guitar tuning is 1st E, 2nd B etc., although many guitar players have their own custom tuning.



The Electric Guitar

There are many differences between the electric and acoustic guitars. There are two kinds of electric guitars, the solid body has no acoustic sound and has to be amplified to be heard, while the cello body has both acoustic and electric capabilities.

The strings on both styles of guitar are steel so that the magnetic pickup when activated, can pick up the vibration, the musician creates when playing the instrument. The solid body guitar sound is controlled by the volume and tone controls and switches.



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