



## Introduction to Lessons

Thank you for studying music with me! This guide will help you get started and ensure your success.

What you need to bring to every lesson:

- **Instrument** – To make the most of your lessons, bring a functional, tuned instrument. I can help you fix or tune your instrument, but the less time we spend on that, the more time we spend learning how to play!
- **Notebook** – Get a cheap college ruled notebook that is only used for our lessons. You may want to get a folder, graph paper, and a manuscript paper notebook as well. Manuscript paper has lines in groups of 5, which is great for staff music (or banjo tablature!) The basic notebook is essential.
- **A Writing Utensil** – It's always nice to have a pen or pencil during a class.

Other things that you may want to bring:

- **Questions** – The most successful students have new questions every lesson. This gives *you* the opportunity to choose the direction of your learning.
- **Staff music or tablature** – It can be useful to have written copies of music you are learning. I can help you figure out how to play and analyze written music. You don't necessarily have to find an arrangement for your instrument.
- **Recordings of music that you want to learn** – If you cannot find a written copy of the music that you want to learn, I can transcribe audio recordings for you.
- **Camera/Cell Phone** – Some students find it beneficial to take pictures of my hands playing new chords, or to record me playing something new that you are learning.

**Practicing:** You should practice at least 20 minutes a day. To play music, you must consistently show your fingers how to use your instrument.

**Goals** – Think about what you want to learn in your music lessons. Write down clear and achievable goals. Goals like “I want to play Bach's Invention number 1 from memory at 60bpm” or “I want to be able to accompany myself when I sing” are more useful than goals like “I want to play awesome guitar”. Let me help you tackle each goal.

**CURRENT MUSIC GOALS:**

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