

How to Tune Your Guitar

HOLDING THE GUITAR

Lay the guitar across your lap so the thickest string is closest to the ceiling.

FRETS

Frets are strips of metal across the neck of the guitar. Your guitar has 12.

TUNING

6 tuning pegs are found on the head of your guitar. Use them to change the tension in the strings.

- 1) Tune the 6th string first. Turn the tuning peg for this string until it plays a nice deep tone. If the string is tuned too low it will make a buzzing sound. Tighten the string until the buzz goes away.
- 2) Tuning the 5th String: Place your non-dominant hand's index or middle finger on 5th fret of the 6th string. Don't put your finger directly on the fret—it should be just behind the fret on the side closer to the head of the guitar. With your thumb play the 5th & 6th strings together. Tighten the 5th string until the tones match.

Important! Any time you try to match two tones (one which is correct and the other which isn't) start the out-of-tune string lower than the string that's in tune. That is, loosen the out-of-tune string until it's lower (much lower, if you're not sure you're going in the right direction) than the correct one. You should always arrive at the right tone from below (by tightening a string that's too loose) and not from above (by loosening a string that's too tight).

- 3) Repeat this process with the 4th and 3rd strings. Once the 5th string sounds good, fret it at the 5th fret, and play the 4th string open. Adjust the 4th string's tuning peg to match the sounds. Then tune the 3rd string: fret the 4th string on the 5th fret, and play the 3rd string open, and match the sounds. You'll tune the first string the same way: fret the 2nd string on the fifth fret and playing the first string open (but hold off on that for now).
- 4) To tune the 2nd string, fret the 3rd string on the 4th Fret. Play the 2nd and 3rd strings with the 2nd string open. Tighten the 2nd string till the tones match.
- 5) Tune the first string by fretting the 2nd string on 5th fret, and play the first string open. Match the two tones, and you're done.

