

# Rock N Blues *Guitar* ACADEMY



Guitar Academy Courses Of Study



# Notes on the Neck

The Most Important Course You'll Ever take if you Truly Want to Master The Guitar



Did you know that 19 out of 20 guitarists can't quickly and correctly tell you the note they're playing? Without notes, music theory is a mystery that guitarists can't tap while they play. Complete **Notes on the Neck**, and you can go as far as you want in music theory — no music reading required. Master naturally occurring half steps, enharmonics, and the principles of writing the musical alphabet. Our one-of-a-kind approach is fun, easy-to-understand, and quickly mastered.

By the time you're done, you'll be able to:

- Apply the ideas and rules governing musical understanding and avoid the pitfalls common to self-taught players.
- Instantly locate any note on any string.
- Instantly identify any note on the fretboard.
- Find several notes on the fretboard simultaneously, making it easy to apply chord theory and construction (see our [Triads Course Description](#) for more details)
- Learn the basics of improvising in any key on any string ( see our [Lead Guitar 1 and 2 Course Description](#) for more details)

Prerequisites: None



# Lead Guitar Phase 1

Anyone Can Learn to Improvise and Solo

Even if you've never played a solo in your life, this course will teach you everything you need to know to play and improvise in any key, in virtually any style. Through an insightful combination of playing assignments, you'll be given the secrets to playing on the neck at will — anywhere, everywhere, and in any direction. Targeted drills address technique, the instructor demonstrating skills as you play along.

## By the time you're done, you'll be able to:

- Start playing any scale using any string
- Master the **B WARP PRINCIPLE**, a stumbling block for most guitarists
- Seamlessly play over any key in all four directions — without using **box scales** or the **CAGED** approach.
- Know and apply the theory behind a scale principle that is ideal for styles such as Southern rock and country blues.
- Unchain the entire neck: Unlock the **PENTATONIC MINOR SCALE**, use it over any minor key on any string, and play in all four directions with no guesswork.
- Embark on the first steps to improvisation: visualization, call and response, double stops, and variations on a theme. You'll also get to know the **ROCK N BLUES IMPROVISATION MATRIX**, an idea creation tool.
- Know the theory behind a blues scale and play to blues background tracks in all four directions.
- Discover **PENTATONIC HYBRID THEORY**, a novel approach that uses scales within scales to expand the power to improvise in any situation.

*Prerequisites:* **Notes on the Neck** as a foundation, including successfully passing the final exam.



# Triads and Chords

So Much More Than A Chord Book Could Ever Teach You.

You've learned **NOTES ON THE NECK**. You've realized you can learn to improvise in all sorts of styles. Now it's time to unlock the mystery of **TRIADS** — basic chords that come in four types. In this course you'll learn the theory and construction behind these chords, and then, using the skills you've mastered, find and play them. With that achieved, you'll learn to instantly name all the notes of any chord — you'll be like a chord computer!

## By the time you're done, you'll be able to:

- ▶ Understand the anatomy and theory behind every triad's construction
- ▶ Apply our unique and essential Get Ready to easily name triads
- ▶ Instantly name the musical letter notes of any of the **four triad types** — major, minor, augmented and diminished — and receive practical training on how to find and play them on the fretboard.
- ▶ Instantly identify a triad by simply seeing its notes. If a friend were playing an unknown chord with the notes Eb, C, G in it, for instance, you'd be able to name it. (C minor in 1st inversion, by the way.)
- ▶ Understand triad inversions and how to interpret them to identify the actual chord. Discover different voicing possibilities for a single chord.
- ▶ Grasp and correctly apply the principles of advanced enharmonics, including double-flats and double-sharps.
- ▶ Learn an easy-to-master, instantly accessible system to use and understand intervals, compound intervals, and how they are used to make extended chords.
- ▶ Use intervals to understand extended chords such as 6ths, 9ths, 11ths, and 13ths; altered dominant and diminished chords; 6/9 chords; and suspended chord types.
- ▶ Become a walking "chord computer" — never need a chord chart or dictionary again!
- ▶ Show off advanced triad and arpeggio applications, perform your own chord voicing, and experiment with exotic chordal sounds.

Prerequisites: **Notes on the Neck & Lead Guitar Phase One**



# Major Scales

## A Complete Study



At the root of the **Tree of Knowledge** for all musical theory lies the major scale. **Keys, scales, chords** — all arise from the MAJOR SCALE. In this course, we break down what the major scale is, what makes it work, and how it can be used to create, write, and understand music in a deeper, more meaningful way. The concepts here will be the glue that holds everything together in your understanding and application of music theory.

**By the time you're done, you'll be able to:**

- ▶ Understand the fundamental concepts of a **Major Scale**.
- ▶ Spell by letter or correctly write any Major Scale.
- ▶ Recognize the relationship between the notes of the Major Scale and the Triads derived from those same notes.

*Prerequisites:* **Notes on the Neck, Lead Guitar Phase 1 & Triads and Extended chords**



# Major Keys and Diatonic Harmony

## Putting It all Together Musically

Understanding the profound importance of the Major Scale, this course now teaches you how to apply that knowledge. You'll *assemble keys, changing them to suit your needs*; you'll make chords **fit** into your music; and find creative ways to *construct and write your own ideas*. You'll even improvise over them now that you can also play lead guitar!

**By the time you're done, you'll be able to:**

- ▶ Determine the chord types in any major key for four-part harmony.
- ▶ Understand specific chord types and their uses — the characteristics and functions in keys such as *dominants, major sevenths, minor sevenths, and minor 7b5 chords*.

Become familiar with the Nashville Numbering System, the advanced notation used by many pros.

Learn how to transpose. Transposition skills let you know exactly which chords to play so that a singer can perform in a preferred key.

Harness the secrets of modulation, a tried-and-true method the pros use to liven up their music. They move from key to key within the same song.

Construct original songs using your acquired skills, employing real-world, unique strategies to make songs fresh and interesting.

Analyze, identify, and use cadences in your own compositions — from authentic to plagal and everything in between!



# Advanced Composition

Creating Some Amazing Music.



An astounding amount of incomplete and incorrect information about modes keeps circulating.

One of the most misunderstood areas of these exotic scales is how to apply them. In this course, we illuminate the mysteries and teach you how to really use modes, from simple vamps to extended progressions with exotic chords. Best of all, you will be able to walk away from our academy fully capable of making your own music, and understanding everything you play or will ever play.

## By the time you're done, you'll be able to:

- ▶ Spell out any of the seven modal scales, identify the characteristic differences in each, and master the theory behind each mode. Exploit the knowledge instantly for composition and guitar play.
- ▶ Compose advanced chord progressions in every mode except Locrian. (*Locrian has a special function as a scale.*)
- ▶ Tap into advanced chord composition theory such as deviation from a diatonic key.
- ▶ Use outside concepts such as modal Interchange — also known as parallel minor keys — reverse polarity and pitch axis theory.
- ▶ Learn the forms and application of additional exotic scales — dominant pentatonic, harmonic minor, Phrygian dominant and diminished scales, as well as whole tone, whole-half tones, and melodic minors.
- ▶ Discover chord tone soloing, and lock onto a progression with lead playing that s

*Prerequisites:* **All previous Rock N Blues courses**

Congratulations! You're a Rock n Blues