About Play Classical Guitar

What is 'The Method'?

There are many guitarists in the world that can play chords and even finger-pick, but who would love to develop their playing and their musicality a bit further by learning classical guitar. The course was developed for both the beginner who wanted to start off on the right foot, and the frustrated chord player who wanted to develop widen their musical horizons.

They may or may not want to get to concert standard – but what they do want is to:

- Learn to read and play music (from notation, ie the dots, not tab)
- Develop a proper right hand finger style technique (or left hand if you are left handed) to add harmonic richness
- Develop their overall understanding of music
- Learn to play certain classical style pieces and explore the world of classical music

A good classical technical can help you play jazz, folk, pop, rock or any other style you care to mention, and make your study of music more enjoyable for you. It will open up a whole new world!

Who is it for?

Anyone can learn to play guitar with this method, whether you are an absolute beginner or an intermediate player who has knowledge of chords. With practice and careful application, any student can start at the absolute beginning and quickly achieve competence building a sound finger style technique, and an excellent grounding in music theory.

Once you work though the units, you will be well on the way to musical self sufficiency and have developed a sound technical basis for your future. If you wish You can then go on individual pieces or a more advanced tutor.

Is it really self instruction?

It is a self teach course – in other words designed with the pedagogical underpinnings that enable self instruction. But to be clear, you will always do better and develop quicker, and with less faults if you learn in conjunction or with support from a real live tutor. You cannot replace that. Ideally your tutor will use this method in conjunction with their own approach. However, many people a) don't have access to a teacher, b) can't afford the ongoing commitment and c) prefer to learn on their own. A younger child (below the age of 10) will require the support of a musical adult to progress through the course.

What do I get?

There are presently two units available for purchase, with a third under development. The course is available as a download or on DVD disks. The instructional material combines audio, video and text to create a powerful learning environment. You can choose how you wish to learn: print out the pdf, play on a video player or on your PC, and stop and start the video as you wish. You also get access to the resources area for

one year where new tunes, music, hints and tips and other information will be posted in a regular basis.

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How does it work?

The course is the outcome of many years development and testing and concentrates on enabling you to develop a proper foundation of both left and right hand techniques. It works by breaking things down very clearly and taking you though the course in a structured and progressive manner.

With a combination of print, audio and video, the materials are clearly laid out and this is a typical methodology:

- Providing you with an objective
- Providing an example of how to do it
- Breakdown of component elements of the exercise or piece
- You practice and compare each element
- Compare and contrast
- Play piece as a duet with the audio/video

Who is the author?

Richard Faint has taught guitar to literally hundreds of pupils over the last twenty five years. Educated at Edinburgh University then undertaking teacher training at AveryHill College (now Goldsmith's) in London, he later studied with David Russell, (one of the UK's foremost concert players) and also attended several of the late John Duarte's Summer Schools.

In the 1980's he was a guitar tutor for Glasgow schools as well as the Inner London Education Authority, where he was instructed in the 'ensemble' method of tuition, a technique especially useful for beginners and younger pupils.

A keen educator, he has been involved in many national and international initiatives in promoting effective learning, including the teaching of teachers and lecturers. He has developed his teaching method over the years to cater for all abilities and ages. He was a founder member and ex-chair of the eLearning Alliance in Scotland, and is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development.

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