

Contact Details

Guitar Academy tutor books are available from all good music shops and guitar centres, as well as from www.guitaracademy.co.uk

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Guitar Academy books

GA Book 1:	RRP £9.99 per book (including CD)
GA Book 2:	RRP £9.99 per book (including CD)
GA Book 3:	RRP £10.99 per book (including CD)

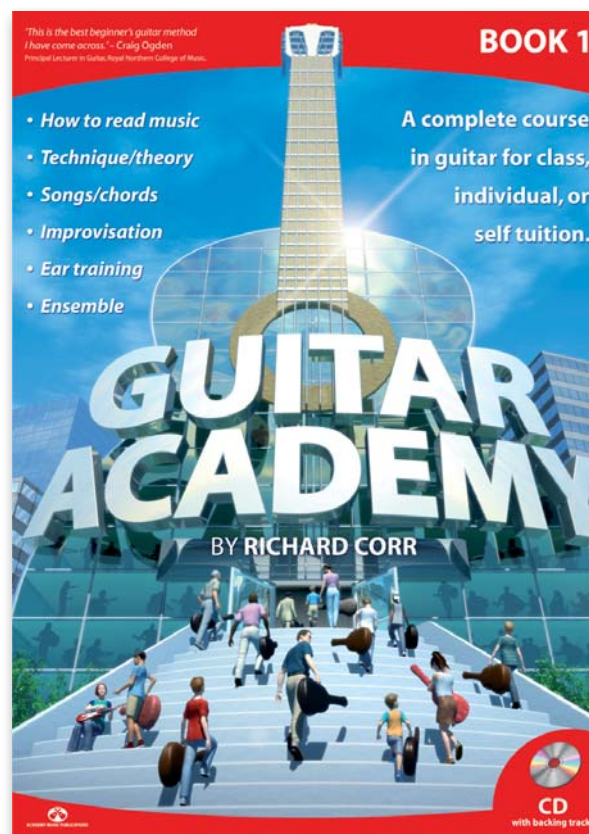
GUITAR ACADEMY

'This is the best beginner's guitar method I have come across.'
Craig Ogden, Principal Lecturer in Guitar, Royal Northern College of Music.

Guitar Academy is an exciting new three-volume method, which has been written to reflect prevailing views on good instrumental teaching; thus, not only is music reading, technique, and repertoire covered, but also songs/chords, improvisation, composition, ensemble, and ear training. This thorough and wide-ranging method is especially suited for use in schools, but it is also appropriate for individual and self-tuition.

Find out more at www.guitaracademy.co.uk.

Guitar Academy, Books 1, 2, and 3.



- How to read music
- Technique
- Theory
- Pupil/teacher duets
- Ear training
- Ensemble supplement
- Song/chord supplement
- Improvisation
- Composition
- Written for schools
- Written tests & exercises
- Homework diary
- Web links & resources
- Printed in full colour
- CD & online audio tracks
- Rave reviews
- Amazing value!

21 Good Reasons to Choose *Guitar Academy*

1. **It is the most thorough and complete method available** – Music reading, repertoire, technique, theory, songs/chords, improvisation, composition, ensemble and ear training – no other tutor covers all of these important subject areas.
2. **It supports the requirements of A Common Approach 2002** – This document, by the Federation of Music Services, encourages a multifaceted and holistic approach to instrumental learning. GA is the only guitar tutor that meets the broad recommendations of this publication.
3. **Technique** – Great emphasis is placed upon the need to acquire the correct habits from the very beginning. This is backed up by high-quality line drawings illustrating both good and bad technique.
4. **Theory** – No previous knowledge is assumed and everything is clearly explained.
5. **Pupil/teacher duets** – While usual in tutors for other instruments, this is not always so for guitar tutors. Adding a harmony part really helps bring the pieces to life, and the teaching process becomes far more enjoyable for teacher and pupil alike. The duet approach also gives the pupil an extra incentive to play the music up to speed with the correct rhythm.
6. **Song/chord supplement** – Most students take up the guitar in order to play their favourite pop songs. Nevertheless, many guitar tutors do not include chord study/song accompaniment, preferring to focus entirely on developing notational skills. This can be quite discouraging and limiting to many students. GA includes popular songs and chords, with suggested strumming rhythms and finger-picking styles. It also explains chord theory.
7. **Ensemble supplement** – Students love the musical and social interaction of ensemble playing. Most instrumental teaching in schools is done in small groups of three or four where there is an obvious opportunity and need for ensemble playing. GA has its own dedicated ensemble supplement of trios and quartets.
8. **Well known and accessible tunes** – Most of the beginner melodies are selected from the ‘greatest hits’ of the student repertoire. There are certainly no ‘filler’ tunes to be skipped, as is the case with many tutors.
9. **Original music** – The tutor also contains many original compositions.
10. **Improvisation** – Many teachers acknowledge the importance of improvisation but, lacking suitable teaching material, find the subject difficult to teach. GA is the only guitar tutor aimed at school children that addresses this important subject.
11. **Composition** – Music educators agree that composition should be an integral part of all musical training. GA includes a variety of exercises to encourage composition.
12. **Ear training** – Grade requirements are covered with tests for interval, chord, and time signature recognition; associated listening tests are included on the CD. Other ear-training methods include completing well-known melodies and copy-cat aural games.
13. **Self tuition** – School children often have as much as 20 weeks holiday time per year where they receive no tuition, which can hold back progress. Children, particularly brighter children, are inspired to practise more in the holidays by a book that encourages and facilitates self-tuition. Older children/adults will definitely require a tutor that encourages self-tuition.
14. **Written tests and exercises** – These provide variety in the lessons, help assess understanding, and reinforce the information taught.
15. **Homework diary** – This puts the focus on pieces learnt rather than time spent practising. The teacher, student, and parent can immediately see what needs to be practised. Students are encouraged by seeing a growing list of pieces ticked off – teachers should never underestimate the power of the tick!
16. **Written to be used in schools** – While GA can be used by all ages, it is particularly suited to school children, both primary and secondary.
17. **Website** – The GA website www.guitaracademy.co.uk includes many useful resources: audio tracks of all the pieces and exercises, supplementary study pieces, and a Links page.
18. **Accompanying CD** – This really inspires students to practise more. It is especially useful for students using the book without a teacher. What sets this CD apart is i) The pupil and teacher parts are recorded on separate stereo channels. This means that the balance control can be used to isolate each part with the student being able to duet with the teacher at home. ii) Backing tracks for improvisation. (From 2023 audio tracks are also online)
19. **Presentation** – Beautifully illustrated throughout, each tune is accompanied by a full colour illustration, while the line drawings illustrating technique are of the very highest quality.
20. **Glowing reviews:**
 - ‘Guitar Academy provides an educational breadth previously neglected in most other tutor books. The various elements of classical guitar technique are elucidated with admirable clarity and simplicity, as are the basic principles of reading music. It is simple and comprehensive and is the best beginner’s guitar method I have come across.’ – Craig Ogden, Principle Lecturer in Guitar, *Royal Northern College of Music*.
 - ‘It really is one of the best [guitar tutors] I have ever seen.’ – Chris Dumigan, *Classical Guitar* magazine.
 - ‘It is a breath of fresh air.’ – Selina Copley, *Stafford Guitar Centre*.
21. **Amazing value!** – Prices have been kept deliberately low to attract the school market.