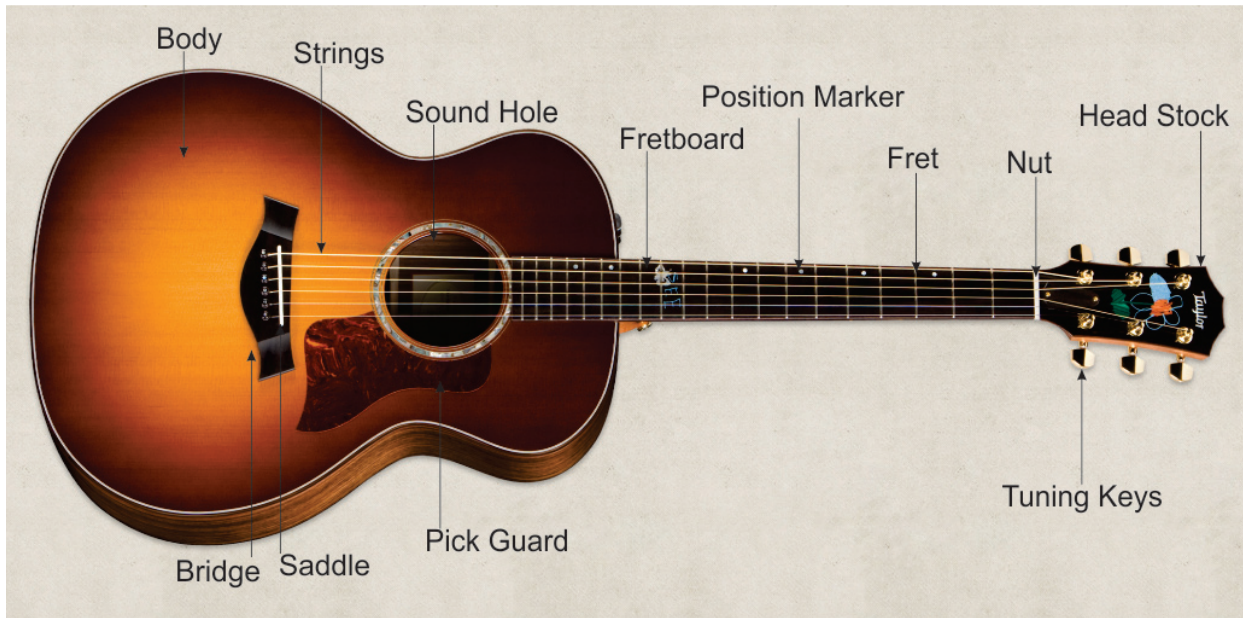


Anatomy of a Guitar



- Body – The body of an acoustic guitar is a hollow body with a sound hole. An electric guitar has a solid body without a sound hole.
- Sound Hole – It's designed to project the sound of an acoustic guitar or a classical guitar.
- Saddle – The saddle is most commonly found on acoustic guitars and hollow-bodied electric guitars. Its function is to hold the strings above the bridge of the guitar and to mute the vibration of the strings so the strings do not buzz and damage themselves or the bridge.
- Tuning Keys or Tuners – The tuners are used to adjust the pitch of each of the strings on the guitar. They keep the strings of the guitar stretched from the guitar's base all the way up to the guitar's knobs.
- Headstock or head – Situated at the top of the guitar, the headstock is attached to the slimmer neck of the instrument.
- Bridge – It's used to raise the strings above the sound board and to shift the string's vibration to the sound board.
- Fretboard or fingerboard – It's a thin, lengthy wood plank above which the strings run. The fret board is fretted, having raised metal strips perpendicular to the strings against which the strings are stopped.
- Frets – These metal strips, which are made of nickel alloy, are raised portion on the fretboard. Some other guitarists may use fret to describe the space on the fretboard between one piece of metal to the next.

- Position Markers – These are the small circles that can be found on certain frets. These markers can be found on third, fifth, seventh, ninth and twelfth frets. The twelfth fret has 2 position markers because notes played on it are exactly one octave above the notes of the corresponding string when they are played open.
- Nut – The nut is a very small strip of hard material which supports the guitar's strings at the intersection where the headstock meets up with the fretboard. It's indented in order to secure the strings in position and guide them up to tuners. Nuts are made from a variety of materials including plastic, bone, brass and graphite.



- Pickups – Instead of a sound hole, an electric guitar generally has 2 or 3 pickups which essentially amplifies the string sound.
- Volume/Tone Knobs – The obvious use of these knobs is to adjust the volume and tone output.
- Bridge – It's used to raise the strings above the sound board and to shift the string's vibration to the sound board.
- Pickup Selector Switch – Most electric guitar especially for those which have more than 1 pickup have selector switch. It's meant for you to select the pickup you desire to play.
- Whammy Bar or Tremolo Arm – It's a lever normally attached to the bridge or tailpiece of an electric guitar to enable the player to quickly vary the tension and sometimes the length of the strings temporarily, changing the pitch to create a vibrato, portamento or pitch bend effect.