

Tuning the Guitar

The 6 strings of the guitar are tuned to 6 different notes with the lowest in pitch (thickest and closest to the ceiling) being the 6th string and the highest in pitch (thinnest and closest to the floor) being the 1st string. This can be a bit confusing as what is known as the top or high E string is actually the string closest to the floor!

E - First String (Thinnest and closest to the floor)

B - Second String

G - Third String

D - Fourth String

A - Fifth String

E - Sixth String (Thickest and closest to the ceiling)

This is called “standard” tuning. There are many other ways of tuning the guitar but for most songs this tuning will do the job. Now that we know what notes the strings should be tuned to we can tune the guitar. It is highly recommended to get an electronic guitar tuner.



When using the electronic tuner pluck the open string and let it ring out for as long as possible for the tuner to work out what the note is. Once you can see the needle being displayed on the tuner tighten or loosen the string as required until the needle is in the middle of the display. Also make sure that you're tuning to the correct note for the string as it's easy to tune a G string to G# (one note up from G) if you're not reading the display on the tuner correctly.