

Written by Andrew Wasson for Creative Guitar Studio

## EAR TRAINING

**NOTE:** As a student, you can work through these lessons in any order you choose. Enjoy!

### 1) Matching Tone & Pitch

The first lesson of Ear Training focuses on matching pitch to the tones found in all 12 key signatures of music. Examples and explanations of how to perform the pitch matching drills are provided across four videos a detailed PDF handout and 24 mp3's.

### 2) Perfect & Major Intervals

Being able to associate and recognize the intervals found within the major scale is an important first step to developing an advanced musical ear. This lesson focuses on intervals of the major scale (Perfect; 1, 4, 5, 8) and Major intervals, (2, 3, 6, 7).

### 3) Minor Scale Intervals

In our musical language the Minor sound offers musicians dark intervals that involve important references of sound. They are Minor; 2nd, 3rd, 6th and minor 7th. In this lesson, we will practice hearing these important intervals from the minor scale.

### 4) Developing Triad Harmony

The smallest chord types in music are known of as triads. These chords consist of 4 types. They are; "Major, Minor, Augmented and Diminished." In this lesson we will study how to practice developing each of these qualities using a series of exercises.

### 5) Developing Seventh Chords

This lesson offers training on the four-note chords of diatonic harmony. This group consists of four important 7th-chord quality chord types. They include; Major 7, Minor 7, Dominant 7, and the Minor 7(b5).

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### 6) Suspended & Add Chords

This lesson will focus on the unique sounds of both suspended and add chord types. Piano & Guitar drills apply the sounds of the sus2 and sus4 chords. The Add chords will include both 2nd & 4th degrees in Major & Minor.

### 7) Extended Chords (9, 11, 13)

Lesson 007 explores the sound of compound intervals including the 9, 11 and 13 chords. Piano & Guitar drills apply the sounds of Major 9 and 13, along with Minor 9, 11 and 13. Dominant 9 and 13, as well as the Dom. 11(sus2) are also included.

### 8) Altered Dominant Chords (#9, b9, #11, b13)

Lesson 008 works through practice drills for the sounds of altered dominant. Exercises include coverage the #9, b9, #11 and b13 chords. Piano & Guitar drills study each altered dominant sound across several different root notes.

### 9) Melody Tracking (Major and Minor)

Lesson 009 shifts over to working on exercises that develop the ability to hear melody line movement. The lesson plan contains a series of drills that focus on major and minor key melodies performed over "IV-I" and "V-I" triad harmonies.

### 10) Melody Tracking (Seventh Chords)

Lesson 010 continues with training for the ability to hear melody line movement. This lesson plan offers a series of exercises that focus on major and minor key melodies performed over "IV-I" and "V-I" seventh chord harmonies.

### 11) Extended Melodic Phrasing

Lesson 011 expands on melody line training with the introduction of longer practice exercises that use 4-bar melodic statements. There are eight guitar exercises and four piano. They focus on major & minor key melody.



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### 12) Tracking Non-Diatonic Melody

Lesson 012 introduces non-diatonic melody. These melodies do not remain within a key center. Instead tones are introduced from outside of the key. There are 16 guitar exercises and 8 piano. The exercises focus on both blues & jazz harmonies.

### 13) Introduction to Rhythmic Feel

Lesson 013 switches to the development of rhythmic awareness. This 4-part lesson runs through the foundation of learning the basic elements of rhythm. Sixteen examples cover developing the feel for; Quarter, Eighth, Sixteenth and 8th-note triplet rhythm.

### 14) Time Signatures and Accents

Lesson 014 explores time signatures and how we accent them. This 4-part lesson includes time signatures of "4/4, 3/4, 6/8, 5/4 and 7/4." Sixteen examples run through all of the most popular accents used throughout these popular signatures.

### 15) Rhythm Stress and Style

Lesson 015 places the focus on rhythmic; stress, accent and style. This 4-part lesson includes coverage of; Rock, Country, Folk, Blues, Pop, Jazz, Funk and R&B. Eight examples run through common rhythm feels applied across these popular styles.

### **16) Introduction to Charting Music**

Lesson 016 is an introduction to the world of transcription. The lesson breaks down how to chart a melody. The focus is placed upon learning how to establish "Form, Sections and Layout," using the 1920 Broadway piece, "Look for the Silver Lining."

#### 17) Till We Meet Again

Lesson 017 explores a new transcription by making a chart for the melody of the piece "Till We Meet Again." Similar to lesson 16, we will learn how to establish "Form, Sections and Layout," using a transcription system based upon song analysis.



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### 18) If I Had My Way

Lesson 018 continues working on song transcription with a project of charting the melody of the piece "If I Had My Way." As we had done in lesson 17, we will learn about organizing, "Form, Sections and Layout," using a transcription system.

### 19) Transcribing a Guitar Solo

Lesson 019 works through what is involved when it comes to the transcription of a guitar solo. As we have done in other lessons, we will learn about organizing the guitar solo by using a transcription system that is dedicated to learning lead guitar parts

### 20) Transcribing Rhythm Guitar Parts

Lesson 020 is the last lesson of Ear Training. It focuses on learning to transcribe rhythm guitar parts. The lesson covers learning to hear; chord roots, chord movement (direction / distance), chord quality, inversion process, and chord location.