

Written by Andrew Wasson for Creative Guitar Studio

# MUSIC READING

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

### 1) Low Register (Keys: C, G & F)

The first lesson of Music Reading focuses on developing awareness for tones off of the staff to the guitar - located in the low register. This lesson explores open and 2nd position reading in the keys of, "C, G & F" across (4) drills and a 12-bar melody.

### 2) Low Register (Keys: A, D, Eb, Ab)

Music Reading - Lesson Two continues with the further development of the low register keys. This lesson plan consists of five music reading exercises. The focus of the lesson is on the keys of A, D, Eb and Ab major in the 1st - 3rd positions.

### 3) Mid Register (Keys: C, F, Bb, Eb)

Music Reading - Lesson Three expands your reading skills up into the 5th position of the fingerboard. In this area we begin learning how to read music from the key signatures of "C, F, Bb and Eb" Major. Five exercises help start developing this area.

### 4) Mid Register (Keys: G, D, A, E)

Music Reading - Lesson Four continues reading in the 4th & 5th positions of the fingerboard. This lesson expands reading study to include key signatures of, "G, D, A and E" Major. Five exercises continue with the development of this mid-neck region.

## 5) Upper-Mid Register (Keys: C, D, F, G)

Music Reading - Lesson Five contains reading studies up in the 6th & 7th positions of the fingerboard. This lesson expands reading higher to include key signatures of, "C, D, F and G" Major. Five exercises focus on the upper-mid region of the neck.



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### 6) Upper-Mid Register (Keys: Eb, D, G, Ab)

Music Reading - Lesson Six contains reading studies up in the 7th, 8th & 9th positions of the fingerboard. This lesson expands reading higher to include key signatures of, "Eb, D, G and Ab" Major. Five exercises focus on the upper region of the neck.

### 7) Upper Register (Keys: C, G, Bb, F)

Music Reading - Lesson Seven contains reading studies up in the 11th & 12th positions of the fingerboard. This lesson expands reading higher to include key signatures of, "C, G, Bb and F" Major. Five exercises focus on 12th position of the neck.

### 8) Upper Register (Keys: E, A, D Eb)

Music Reading - Lesson Eight contains reading studies up in the 10th, 11th & 12th positions of the fingerboard. This lesson continues reading in the higher region to include five exercises in key signatures of, "E, A, D and Eb" Major.

### 9) Low /Mid Positions (Keys: C, F, D, G)

Music Reading - Lesson Nine begins teaching a new technique by introducing multiple position reading. This lesson includes five lateral "multi-position shifting" exercises in the key signatures of, "C, F, D and G" Major.

### 10) Low /Mid Positions (Keys: A, Bb, E, Ab)

Music Reading - Lesson Ten carries on with more reading studies based upon the coverage of multiple position reading. Lesson ten includes a series of "multi-position shifting" exercises covering the key signatures of, "A, Bb, E and Ab."

## 11) Mid-Range Positions (Keys: C, F, Bb, Eb)

Music Reading - Lesson eleven works through five pieces that apply multiple position reading across the mid-range neck area, (3rd to 8th position). The lesson plan includes exercises that cover the key signatures of, "C, F, Bb and Eb."



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### 12) Mid-Range Positions (Keys: G, Ab, D, A)

Music Reading - Lesson twelve studies five pieces that apply multiple position reading across the mid-range neck area, (3rd to 7th position). The lesson plan includes exercises that cover the key signatures of, "G, Ab, D and A."

### 13) Upper Register Shifting (Keys: C, D, F, G)

Music Reading - Lesson thirteen studies five pieces that apply multiple position reading across the upper-range neck area, (4th to 12th position). The lesson plan includes exercises that cover the key signatures of, "C, D, F and G."

### 14) Upper Register Shifting (Keys: Bb, Eb, A, E)

Music Reading - Lesson fourteen studies five pieces that apply multiple position reading across the upper-range neck area, (4th to 14th position). The lesson plan includes exercises that cover the key signatures of, "Bb, Eb, A and E."

### 15) Chart Reading - Verse /Chorus (32 bars)

Music Reading - Lesson fifteen works through a 32 bar chart. This full-length piece of music contains a 2-part Verse, Bridge and Chorus section, as well as, an ending. The lesson plan presents study of the piece in four segments (of 8 bars each).

### 16) Bach Suite No. 1 (vi.Gigue)

Music Reading - Lesson sixteen works through a chart for the JS Bach Cello Suite No. 1 (vi. Gigue). The lesson plan presents a full chart study of the sixth movement of Bach's Cello Suite No. 1. The piece is in 6/8 time and sounds like a lively folk dance.

### 17) Royal Garden Blues

Music Reading - Lesson seventeen works through the piece, "Royal Garden Blues." This jazz standard was composed in 1919 and is considered as one of the first popular songs based on a riff. The song is in the key of "F" and uses 4/4 time signature.



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#### 18) Bach: Cantata 140 (4th Movement)

Music Reading - Lesson eighteen works through the 4th movement of Bach's church, "Cantata 140." This famous classical piece was composed in yr. 1724 and is one of seven movements. It is in the key of "Eb" and uses 4/4 (common) time signature.

#### 19) Venetian Moon

Music Reading - Lesson nineteen covers a Ragtime /Foxtrot piece by composers Frank Magine and Phil Goldberg named, "Venetian Moon." This popular ragtime song from 1919 is in the key of "C Major /C Minor" and uses 2/2 (cut) time feel.

#### 20) Mozart Clarinet Concerto - 2nd Movement

Music Reading - Lesson twenty is the final lesson of the Reading course. In it we will study a piece by Mozart, the 2nd Movement of his Clarinet Concerto in, "D Major." The piece uses the time signature of 3/4 (waltz feel) time with a very slow tempo.