

## Vocabulary

Acoustic – The name given to any instrument that doesn't require electricity to make sound.

Melody – The 'tune' of the music.

Notation – Music that is written down.

Pattern – A repeating sequence of notes or chords.

Plectrum – A small tool that can be used to strum or pluck the strings.

Pitch - How high or low the sound is.

Pluck - Pulling the string and letting go quickly causing the string to vibrate.

Staff – The ladder of five lines and four spaces that formal music notation is recorded on.

String - The part of the guitar that is plucked or strummed to create sound.

## Playing the guitar

How do I play individual notes on the guitar?



### About the instrument:

A traditional acoustic guitar has six strings which are tuned to different pitches. The tuning of the strings is E, A, D, G, B and E. The strings are plucked when playing individual notes or strummed when playing a chord.

## Prior learning

Work in KS1 on tuned and untuned percussion, reading some standard notation and playing individual notes on the glockenspiel.

## Interesting ideas:

The pitch of each string can be changed by turning the tuning pegs. This affects how tight or loose the string is pulled. When the string is tightened, it shortens making a higher pitched sound. When the string is loosened, it is lengthened creating a lower pitched sound. The guitar should be tuned carefully in order to produce the best sound.

## Useful links:

Follow this link to watch a simple guitar tutorial:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b0BfNjIGlrg>