

CHOOSING A GUITAR

Choosing a guitar for your child can be a daunting task... it doesn't have to be! Having taught well over 5000 guitar lessons here at RBMS we have seen what the market has to offer!



LET US HELP YOU DECIDE

Don't forget to check out the
Guitar House in Uckfield!

ELECTRIC ?

Electric guitars will always have the cool factor, with modern edges and bright colours this is the closest thing to being a rockstar! Whilst they do tend to be a little more expensive they do last longer and can really help increase their interest and drive to practice. The main downside is however they require an amp (could be a headphone amp - phew!) and have metal strings which can be a little harder on the fingers for the first few weeks.

WHAT SIZE ?

From what we have seen ...a ¼ size guitar will be a good fit for anything from the ages of 2 to 5, ½ size guitars are good for 5 to 8 years, and a ¾ guitar will suit those from ages 8 to around 12. We do suggest that your child try a few guitars either in a lesson or within a shop to see what suits them best - after all that's the most important thing!

ANYTHING ELSE ?

We strongly recommend purchasing a tuner, the digital clip on kind are the best although there are a couple of great apps available also. This will ensure the guitar sounds at its best at all times - without being in tune even the very best guitarist will sound ... awful! A practice book is also a good way of tracking progress - our partners at 100% Rockstar produce a great one embraced by many of our students. A couple of guitar picks of various thicknesses can also be a good idea, these can help soften the impact on fingers and build great technique. More about all of these below.

CLASSICAL & ACOUSTIC

There isn't that much difference between these two, one has metal strings and one has nylon - out of all of our students we see the majority with nylon strung classical guitars. This has become the tradition within guitar education as they often provide the best value and comfort to start out.

IF IT WERE US

In a nutshell the most important thing is for your child to feel comfortable with the guitar they have, if they idolise rock and pop musicians perhaps an electric can be the way to go. If guitar is a new thing for them why not start with a classical and see how they get on. Whatever your decision, be it electric, acoustic or classical it doesn't have to cost the earth - we have collected some good examples below. As always we advise to purchase the best your budget allows.

A NEW HOME

From time to time we find a guitar needs a new home - through our network of tutors and over 300 students we can often help sell a second hand guitar that is no longer required.

THE OPTIONS...

This is just a guide of the guitars we see day to day ... as always prices and availability may change

If you need more help or have any further questions please don't hesitate to ask!

CLASSICAL



An entry level classical - a popular choice. One of the cheapest options.

Link: <http://amzn.eu/glbvMA2>

Price: £34

CLASSICAL



A great mid range guitar, we are seeing a lot more of these! Really good guitars!

Link: <http://amzn.eu/dUV7yMi>

Price: £55

CLASSICAL



A higher end classical, this brand dominated the market for a long time - for good reason!

Link: <http://amzn.eu/5dFZNom>

Price: £70

ACOUSTIC



We like these! Another good starting place - should last while, great value! Four colour choices.

Link: <http://amzn.eu/jcAC4do>

Price: £44.99

ACOUSTIC



A little more pricey but great sounding and build quality. A tutor favourite!

Link: <http://amzn.eu/2sNfL4e>

Price: £119.91

ELECTRIC



A great introduction into the world of electric guitars, this one is guitar only.

Link: www.guitarhouse.co.uk

Price: £129

AMPLIFIERS



Good little amp, quiet enough for neighbours. Headphone amp for noiseless practice.

Link: www.guitarhouse.co.uk

Price: EVH £30 Headphone £19.99

ELECTRIC SET



An industry standard brand, great package and massive cool factor! Everything you need.

Link: www.guitarhouse.co.uk

Price: £299

THE REST ...PICKS/TUNERS/CAPOS/PRACTICE BOOK

As we mentioned there are a few other things that can be very useful to a guitarist - these are not all obligatory but recommended by our tutors. There is a FREE tuner app available here:

(Android) [GuitarTuna](#)

(iOS) [GuitarTuna](#)



Available at Guitar House, Uckfield

Price: £10

Link: [100% Rockstar](#)

Price: £8