

# CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	<i>iv</i>
PRELUDE	<i>v</i>
CREATING A SYLLABUS	<i>vi</i>
CHAPTER 1: FUNDAMENTALS	1
The Very First Steps	3
Great Guitarists	4
Accessories	5
Parts of the Guitar	6
How to Hold the Guitar	7
Tuning the Guitar	10
How to Practice	11
Rudiments of Music	12
How to Read Tablature	14
Standard Notation Versus Tablature	15
Notes on the Guitar Fretboard	17
CHAPTER 2: RHYTHM AND CHORDS	19
Standard Notation Versus Rhythm Notation	21
Time Value of Notes	22
Chords	25
Essential Chords	26
Rhythm Exercises and Keys	27
Key of G	27
Key of Em	30
Key of D	32
Key of A	34
Key of E	36
Key of Am	39
Key of C	41
Boom Chick with Alternating Bass	44
Walking Bass and Boom Chick	47
How to Use a Capo	62
CHAPTER 3: LEAD, MELODY AND IMPROVISATION	63
Essential Elements	65
Major Scale	65
Major Scale in the Key of C	65
Major Triad	66
Arpeggios	66
Blues Scale	67
Comparing the Scales	68
Change Running	69
Exercises	69
Key of C	70
Key of E	90
CHAPTER 4: TECHNIQUE	111
Chromatic Scale	113
Variations of the C Major Scale	118
Modes	123
Variations on the Blue Scale	126