

The ability to tune your guitar is of first importance. If you can't tune your guitar, nothing you play will sound right. If you can't get in tune with other musicians, you can't play in the band.

An electric tuner is, without question, the best tool on the market for tuning your guitar. Electric tuners are priced from just a few dollars to several hundred dollars. The inexpensive tuners are perfect for beginners. I think an electric chromatic tuner is best. They cost a few dollars more but will serve you longer.

Having said that, it is still necessary for you to know the techniques for tuning your guitar in the old fashioned way — by ear. There are several ways in which this is done. Each of these methods will require you to get your first note tuned to some external standard (i.e. another guitar, a tuning fork, a pitch pipe, a piano or even tuning to a recorded song).

---

## General Information

1. New strings will be easier to tune than old ones.
2. New strings stretch; so, they will need to be tuned more frequently. New nylon strings are especially prone to stretching.
3. Tightening the string will cause the pitch to go higher. Loosening the string will cause the pitch to go lower.
4. Your string will stay in tune better if you always tighten the string into pitch. If the string you are tuning sounds too high, loosen the string so the pitch sounds lower than the desired pitch and then

---

## Tuning To A Piano or Keyboard

Tune each of your open strings to the corresponding notes on a piano or keyboard.

