

Being Prepared Prior to the Start of the School Year

Making a List

Here is a list of 15 things that may be helpful in preparation for the coming school year and the first days of the year. How ready are you for the school year to begin?

- 1) Select a method book
- 2) Learn to model the content of the method book
- 3) Learn to model technique for both left & right hands
- 4) Learn to model posture
- 5) Learn to make a sound with a pick, the thumb, and alternate fingers
- 6) Learn to change a string
- 7) Learn to tune a guitar
- 8) Have lesson plans that will cover at least the first quarter
- 9) Have handouts ready to be printed
- 10) Know exactly what is going to be covered in the first week of school
- 11) Know exactly what is going to be covered in the second week of school
- 12) Have a curriculum map for the entire school year
- 13) Prepare a class handbook and have it printed and ready to distribute to students
- 14) Check that all equipment is in place and in working order. For example, there are enough guitars for each student, all broken strings have been repaired, electronic string winder is working and charged, guitar tuner is working, drum machine is working, etc.
- 15) Know how your seating arrangement for the classroom is going to work and have chairs and stands in place to match your seating chart.

All of these topics are covered in great detail in Chapter Two of *Teaching Beginning Guitar Class: A Practical Guide* published by Oxford University Press available at Amazon.com. In addition, the weekly Guitar Teacher Newsletter will assist you in providing much of these materials needed.