STEP BY STEP

STANDARD TUNING · A4 = 440 HZ

How to tune your guitar

Standard tuning, low to high: E · A · D · G · B · E. Works with any tuner; the free one on the QR code runs in your browser.

THE SIX STRINGS

String 1	String 2	String 3	String 4	String 5	String 6
E4	B3	G3	D3	A2	E2
329.6 Hz	246.9 Hz	196.0 Hz	146.8 Hz	110.0 Hz	82.4 Hz

String 1 is the thinnest, closest to the floor. Memory aid, string 6 to 1: Eddie Ate Dynamite, Good Bye Eddie.

FIVE STEPS

1. **Open the tuner and allow the microphone.**
   Hold the guitar close to your phone or laptop. Quiet rooms work best.
2. **Pluck one string and let it ring.**
   Start with string 6, the thickest. Play the open string, no fingers on the frets.
3. **Too low (flat)? Tighten. Too high (sharp)? Loosen.**
   Turn the tuning peg a little at a time and pluck again. Stop when the needle is in the middle and turns green.
4. **Always tune up to the note.**
   If you go too high, loosen below the note and come back up. The string holds its pitch better.
5. **Go through all six, then check them again.**
   Tuning one string changes the tension on the neck, so a second pass catches small shifts.

Scan to open the free tuner

guitartunings.app · no app, no sign-up, no ads. New strings? They stretch for a few days, so expect to retune often.

Common Alternate Tunings

Strings low to high · numbers are semitones to retune from **standard E-A-D-G-B-E**

TUNING	6	5	4	3	2	1
Standard The default for most tabs and lessons	E	A	D	G	B	E
Eb Standard Easier bends, warmer tone; Hendrix, SRV	Eb −1	Ab −1	Db −1	Gb −1	Bb −1	Eb −1
D Standard Heavier sound, lower vocal key	D −2	G −2	C −2	F −2	A −2	D −2
Drop D One-finger power chords, heavy riffs	D −2	A	D	G	B	E
Double Drop D Low and high D drones, folk rock	D −2	A	D	G	B	D −2
Drop C Metalcore and hard rock riffs	C −4	G −2	C −2	F −2	A −2	D −2
Drop B Down-tuned metal; use heavier strings	B −5	F# −3	B −3	E −3	G# −3	C# −3
DADGAD Celtic and folk fingerstyle	D −2	A	D	G	A −2	D −2
Open G Slide and Keith Richards-style riffs	D −2	G −2	D	G	B	D −2
Open D Slide guitar and ringing fingerstyle	D −2	A	D	F# −1	A −2	D −2
Open E Slide blues; Open D shapes, brighter	E	B +2	E +2	G# +1	B	E
Open C Huge open chords, ambient fingerstyle	C −4	G −2	C −2	G	C +1	E

UKULELE TUNING CHART

4-STRING · A4 = 440 HZ

Standard GCEA

G - C - E - A Soprano, concert and tenor

Re-entrant: the 4th string is tuned higher than the 3rd. String 4 is the one closest to your face.

4	G_4	392.00 Hz	Higher than string 3
3	C_4	261.63 Hz	
2	E_4	329.63 Hz	
1	A_4	440.00 Hz	Closest to the floor

Tuning check

Name _____ Date _____

1 **Write the note of each open string in standard tuning.**

String 1 is the thinnest string.

String 1	String 2	String 3	String 4	String 5	String 6

2 **Match each frequency to its string (write the letter).**

a) 110.00 Hz · b) 329.63 Hz · c) 146.83 Hz · d) 82.41 Hz · e) 246.94 Hz · f) 196.00 Hz

String 1	String 2	String 3	String 4	String 5	String 6

3 **The tuner shows −20 cents. Do you tighten or loosen the string?**

_____

4 **Drop D (D A D G B E): which string changes, and which way?**

_____

5 **Ukulele (G C E A): which string is higher than you'd expect?**

_____

6 **Why tune up to the note instead of down to it?**

_____

7 **Write the open strings of a ukulele in standard tuning.**

From string 4 (closest to your face) to string 1.

String 4	String 3	String 2	String 1

8 **True or false: a thicker string plays a lower note.**

_____

Tuning check: answers

1 **Write the note of each open string in standard tuning.**

String 1 is the thinnest string.

String 1	String 2	String 3	String 4	String 5	String 6
E	B	G	D	A	E

2 **Match each frequency to its string (write the letter).**

a) 110.00 Hz · b) 329.63 Hz · c) 146.83 Hz · d) 82.41 Hz · e) 246.94 Hz · f) 196.00 Hz

String 1	String 2	String 3	String 4	String 5	String 6
b	e	f	c	a	d

3 **The tuner shows −20 cents. Do you tighten or loosen the string?**

Tighten (it is flat)

4 **Drop D (D A D G B E): which string changes, and which way?**

String 6, down a whole step (E to D)

5 **Ukulele (G C E A): which string is higher than you'd expect?**

String 4, the G (re-entrant tuning)

6 **Why tune up to the note instead of down to it?**

The string holds its pitch better

7 **Write the open strings of a ukulele in standard tuning.**

From string 4 (closest to your face) to string 1.

String 4	String 3	String 2	String 1
G	C	E	A

8 **True or false: a thicker string plays a lower note.**

True

Frequencies low to high: E2 82.41 Hz · A2 110.00 Hz · D3 146.83 Hz · G3 196.00 Hz · B3 246.94 Hz · E4 329.63 Hz

FREE ONLINE TUNER

NO APP · NO SIGN-UP · NO ADS

Tune here.

Scan with your phone camera, allow the microphone, play a string.

Guitar

guitartunings.app

Ukulele

guitartunings.app/ukulele