



Meyrick Guitar building course

Welcome to Richard Meyrick Guitars building course.

My aim with this course is to give you the skills and confidence to build your own, beautiful, acoustic guitar all the way from raw materials to a completely finished instrument.

You will be supported and guided throughout the process in a friendly and approachable manner, so that you, no matter your skill or experience level, can produce an instrument to be proud of.

The care and attention to detail that goes into making an instrument by hand makes it sound superior to anything that you will find in guitar shops.

The course will be run in the evenings or weekends, 1-2 sessions a week at my workshop in Abergavenny either on a individual or small group basis with a maximum of 3 people. There is no set time length to the course, building your guitar will take as long as you need. As a rough guide you could expect your first instrument to take between 90-100 hours depending on previous experience and the complexity of the individual build. You will be able to complete some aspects of the build at home if you wish, which will help to reduce the overall cost.

The cost of the course is determined by the number of sessions it takes you to complete your instrument. Each session costs £36 for two hours with all specialist tools and equipment provided. The cost of the materials to build your guitar is charged extra to allow you to choose your ideal tone woods. You will be fully guided throughout the decision making process if required. You can expect materials for a mid range instrument; Mahogany or Rosewood back and sides with a top range spruce top, Mahogany neck, Rosewood bridge and fingerboard, inlays and a quality set of tuners to cost approximately £300, but this will depend on your final decisions.

You will receive expert guidance and tuition in the use of hand tools and each piece of machinery throughout the process so that you are both confident and competent in their use. You will also be fully insured within the workshop environment.

There are four basic guitar models to chose from and a wide variety of timbers from which to build them. All of these options are detailed in this booklet. The final cost of materials will be determined by your tone wood choices and this will be discussed on an individual basis.

You will have an initial meeting with me at the workshop where we will discuss your initial ideas for your guitar. Payment for materials is required before the course is started and the first 4 sessions are to be paid in advance.

And not forgetting, most importantly, tea, coffee and lots of biscuits are available.

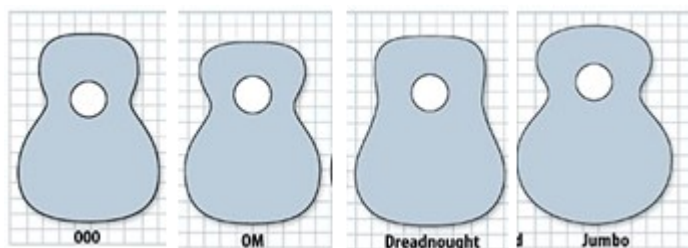
To book your place you can email or call.

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Acoustic Guitar Materials list Tonewoods

Body Shape



Sound Board



Sitka Spruce



Cedar



European Spruce

Back and Sides



Walnut



Indian Rosewood



Mahogany



Maple

Neck



Mahogany



Maple

**Fingerboard/Bridge/
Headstock veneer**



Ebony



Rosewood

Acoustic Guitar Materials list— Finishing touches

Binding



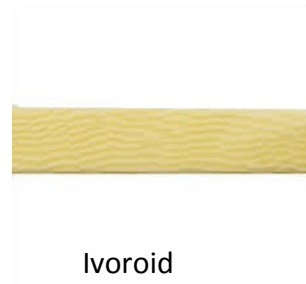
Black plastic



white plastic



Tortoiseshell



Ivoroid



Walnut



Mahogany



Ebony



Maple

Purfling



Black/White/Black



Herringbone



Rope

Acoustic Guitar Materials List—Internal Structure

Linings



Neck / Tail Blocks



Bracings



Truss Rod



Guitar Specification

Name

Part	Material/Option choice
Body shape	
Scale length	
Cutaway	
Left Handed	

Soundboard	
Back and sides	
Neck	
Fingerboard	
Bridge	

Binding	
Purfling	
Neck binding	
Headstock purfling	
Headstock Veneer	
Rosette	

Fingerboard inlays	
Bridge pins	
Tuners	

Electrics	
Other notes	

Construction Checklist

SOUNDBOARD

Join
 Prepare faces
 Chose face side
 Install rosette
 Thickness
 Cut out soundhole
 Brace
 Shape braces
 Sign

BACK

Join
 Prepare faces
 chose face side
 Install centre strip
 Brace
 shape braces

NOTES

Construction Checklist

Sides

Prepare faces
 Chose face sides
 Thickness
 Cut out shape
 Bend
 Fit to mould/cut ends
 Install blocks
 Profile back surface
 Glue reinforcement strips
 Glue linings to back surface
 Final profile of back surface
 Fit back braces into linings
 Roughly profile soundboard surface
 Glue on linings to soundboard surface
 Final profile of soundboard surface
 Fit soundboard braces into linings
 Glue on back
 Glue on soundboard

NOTES

Construction Checklist

BODY

Trim excess back and soundboard
 Sand sides smooth
 Rout purfling and binding channels
 Inlay end fillet
 Inlay purflings and bindings
 Scrape and sand purflings and binding flush and smooth
 Measure soundboard angle
 Drill bolt holes
 Rout mortice

NOTES



Guitar building course

Construction Checklist

Neck

- Prepare fingerboard
- Cut fretslots
- Radius fingerboard
- Prepare neck blank
- Rout truss rod cavity
- Roughly cut neck shape
- Drill bolt holes
- Rout heel shape and tenon
- Rout truss rod access in body
- Glue in truss rod
- Glue on headstock veneer
- Thickness and shape headstock
- Taper neck profile
- Drill tuner holes
- Shape heel and headstock transition
- Shape fingerboard
- Inlay positon markers
- Glue fingerboard to neck
- Fret fingerboard
- Shape neck profile
- Fit neck to body

[illegible]

NOTES

Spray Lacquer Finishing Schedule

Sand body and neck to 320 grit

Mask neck and body parts

Apply grain filler if necessary

Sand to 320 grit

Spray 3 coats

Sand to 320 grit

Spray 3 coats

Sand to 320 grit

Spray 3 coats

sand to 1000 grit

Sand to 1200 grit

Sand to 2000 grit

Buff

NOTES

Tru Oil Finishing Schedule

Sand body and neck to 1000 grit
 Mask neck and body parts
 Clean guitar with tack rag
 Apply one coat of shellac sealer, allow to dry for 2 hours
 Apply thin coat of oil using small pad in direction of the grain
 Leave to dry overnight
 Lightly sand with 1200 grit wet and dry
 Clean guitar using tack rag
 Apply thin coat of oil using small pad in direction of the grain
 Leave to dry overnight
 Lightly sand with 1200 grit wet and dry
 Repeat last 4 steps 10-12 times in total
 Final sand using 2000 grit using light pressure in the direction of the grain
 Buff the surface using a soft cloth

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Assembly

Unmask neck and body parts
Final fit neck to body
Bolt and glue neck to body
Make bridge
Level, crown and dress frets
Glue on bridge
Make nut and saddle
Install tuners and bridge pins
String up!

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