

## Guitar Playing

### Market Sentiments

#### Web Search Interest in 1 Year (2010-2011)

Shows general market interest, attention and curiosity online about the topic.



#### Regional Interest

Shows general market interest online according to geographical location

Regional interest		
1.	<a href="#">United States</a>	100
2.	<a href="#">Philippines</a>	97
3.	<a href="#">New Zealand</a>	92
4.	<a href="#">Australia</a>	91
5.	<a href="#">Canada</a>	85
6.	<a href="#">Ireland</a>	71
7.	<a href="#">India</a>	68
8.	<a href="#">United Kingdom</a>	65
9.	<a href="#">Netherlands</a>	20
10.	<a href="#">Germany</a>	10

Note: All results from Google Insights are normalized. So just because a particular region doesn't appear on the top Regional interest list, it doesn't necessarily mean that the niche isn't popular at all - it just means that the term is more popular in other regions.

## Demographics (data based on guitar.about.com)

Demographics are the characteristics of a population. In the field of marketing, it is important to define the demographic profile of your target audience. This is to identify target audience in the overall population and to create a clear and complete picture of the characteristics of the target consumer.

The following data tells you the gender, age, children per household, education status, income levels, and other demographic insights of your target audience.

### Demographics

Updated May 2010 • Delayed - Next: Jan 2011



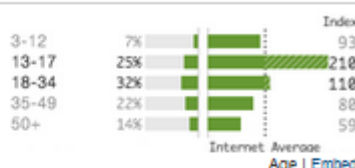
#### Male



Gender | [Embed](#)



#### Teens

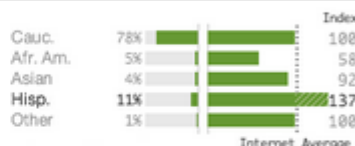


Age | [Embed](#)



#### Hispanic

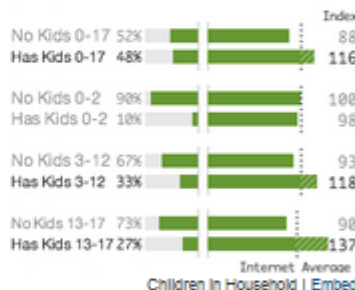
There are more Hispanic visitors here than average.



Ethnicity | [Embed](#)



#### Has Kids 13-17 In Household

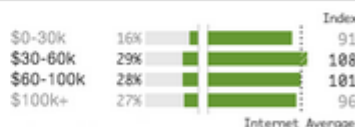


Children In Household | [Embed](#)



#### Middle Income

This site attracts a middle income audience.

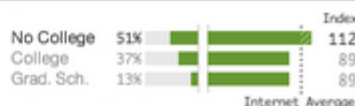


Household Income | [Embed](#)



#### People With No College

There is a high index of people with no college here.





The “index” represents the delivery of a specific audience segment compared to the internet average of 100. Composition, which is represented by the % of audience figure on the left side of the chart, represents the percentage of a property’s total audience that meets a specific demographic criteria.

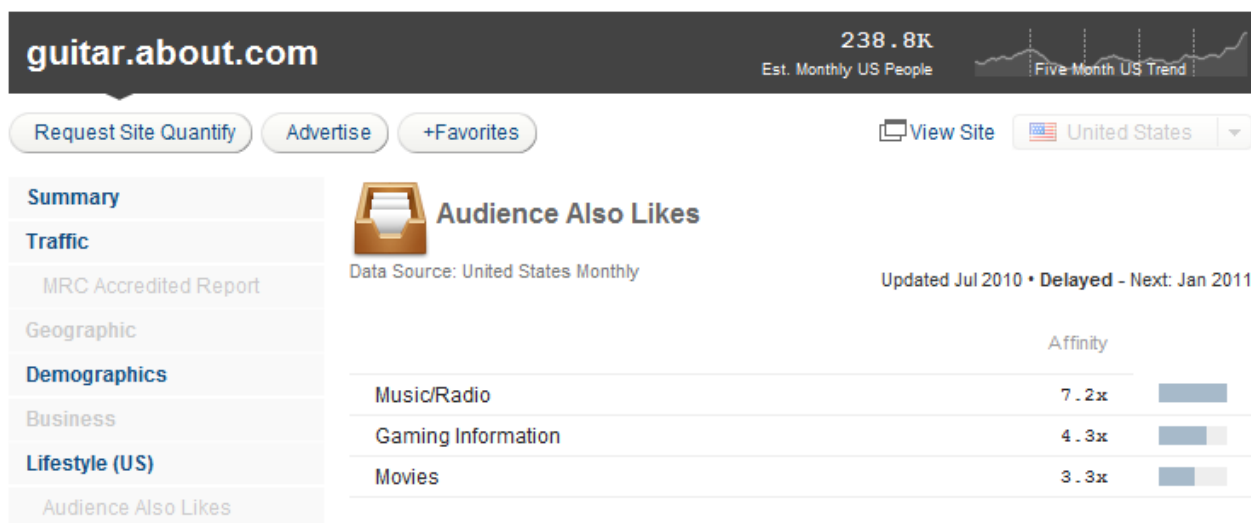
For example, an index of 100 indicates the target audience is equivalent to the demographic make-up of the total internet population. Any increase over 100 means that the property is “over indexed” and attracts a more concentrated group of a particular demographic group than in the general internet population.

## Psychographics (data based on guitar.about.com)

In the field of marketing, psychographic variables are any attributes relating to personality, values, attitudes, interests, or lifestyles.

The following data profile shows other topics that the audience is likely to be interested to visit and the affinity indicates how much more likely than average.

An affinity of 10x means that your target audience is ten times likelier to be interested in the topics than the average internet user.



## **Frequently Asked Questions**

- How to progress Guitar playing ability further?
- What is the best way to strengthen fingers for guitar playing?
- How do I improve my guitar playing while standing?
- How long before I notice an improvement in my guitar playing?
- What level of guitar playing is ideal for playing in a band?
- What is the best strategy for mastering guitar playing?
- Am I able to play other string instruments if I know how to play guitar?
- If yes, what are the other string instruments?
- How do I add my own personality to my guitar playing?
- How to build calluses for better guitar playing?
- What are some ways to improve my guitar playing skills ?
- How to make fingers tougher for guitar playing?
- Besides mastering the guitar playing skills, what other skills should I be learning?
- What fits in the beginners level of playing guitar?
- What are the basics to guitar playing?
- How to maximize my guitar playing abilities?
- Does pick type really make a difference in your guitar playing?
- How can I improve my strumming guitar technique/overall guitar playing?

- Does playing piano help with playing guitar?
- How can I be more creative in my guitar playing?
- Which techniques will increase my speed while playing guitar?
- Do I need to learn how to read notes before playing the guitar?
- What are some good exercises before starting guitar playing lessons?
- How to avoid developing calluses when playing guitar?
- How can i protect my fingers while playing my guitar?

## **Problems & Frustrations**

- **Tuning**

My band plays in Drop A# (A#-F-A#-D#-G-C) and I was wondering if anyone had any suggestions for some good strings I can try out? We've played in this tuning for years and I've used a lot of different brands but I've never really settled on one. Does anyone have any suggestions as to any other brands/gauges I could try?

- **Problems switching from acoustic guitar to electric guitar**

I have played acoustic guitar for about 10 years and feel I'm pretty accomplished on it. I have decided I would like to start branching out to electric guitar, but when I play a friend's, I find myself flubbing all over the place and seem perplexed as to how to get the sounds I want out of it. It's a much different instrument than I thought. Is there anyone else that's gone through the same transition and can offer some advice for making the switch?

- **Problems sustaining motivation in playing guitar**

Around 10 years ago, I took some guitar lessons and played acoustic guitar for a while (achieving a "strumming simple chords around a campfire" level of proficiency), but gradually lost interest and gave up when I realized just how monumental the task was to achieve the level of competence that I desired. However, I later got into fake plastic rock with Guitar Hero and have continued on that path up to this day. The release of Rock Band 3 introduced the Pro Guitar mode, where you play the game using an actual tricked-out Squier Stratocaster. On Expert difficulty, every note and chord of the actual song is played. Pro Guitar mode made me interested in picking up a real guitar once again. It doesn't replace proper lessons from an actual guitar teacher since there's more to proper technique than just hitting the right notes, but it does beautifully complement the learning process. "Gameifying" the experience probably helps with some of the motivational hurdles. Thing is,

I've been hesitating to buy a new guitar because of my previous motivational slump. I just don't know if I'll be able to maintain my focus and practice enough for it to make a difference, game or no game. To me, learning a thing is a process of constantly failing at that thing but failing ever so slightly less over time. But it's still failing a lot, and thus still not fun, and thus demotivating. I've never really been able to see it from the opposite side, as a string of small successes in the midst of punishingly hard work. Consequently, I've never understood how people persist at learning something hard in the hope of some future reward. How do guitarists who keep practicing until they're happy with their playing keep themselves motivated enough to do so?

- **Afraid that diminished feeling and mobility of finger will affect guitar playing**

I have diminished feeling and mobility in my left pinky and spreading outwards. (I am right handed, but the childhood accident that forever damaged the nerves and tendons in my left wrist also ruined my primary school violin career.) I also have a small (7.5") finger span. Despite all this, I would really want to take up the guitar. Is there an acoustic guitar that is suitable for my hands?

- **Unsure if a right hander can teach a left hander**

My son wants to learn guitar; I know how to play, but I'm a righty and he's a lefty. How should I teach him? Is it alright if I just teach him how to play like a righty?

- **Not sure if learning the correct way**

I have learned 3 chords (D, A, E) and right now I'm practising switching between them and playing them clearly. I'm feeling good about my progress and my commitment to practising. The thing is, I have to get a good look at the fretboard and/or the strumming area to be sure I've got my fingers in the right spot and that I'm strumming the right strings for each chord.

I'm wondering whether will NOT looking at the fretboard and/or strings come naturally with practise, or should I make a concerted effort now to "feel" my way through? I don't want to learn a bad habit right from the start, but I don't know how else to know whether I'm strumming the right strings and touching the frets correctly.

- **Difficulties in tuning**

When I try to tune a stringed instrument (guitar, uke, autoharp), the B string always sounds off to me, no matter what I do. I've always had this problem. I have a pretty good ear, but a B string will always sound too sharp or too flat. It's probably not a matter of faulty intonation, because this happens on many different instruments (different guitars, and, as I said, different kinds of instrument altogether). Any insights into this minor mystery?

- **Unsure of how to select guitar**

I'd like to treat myself to a 40th birthday present - namely a telecaster from the 70s. This will be primarily for playing, not for hanging on the wall to impress people. Any insight into what I should look for in a 5 to 10 minute inspection to clue me in that the price might be inflated or the pedigree overstated would be helpful.

- **Unsure about putting a bass into a guitar amp**

I am interested in learning to play the electric bass and am set to get a beginner model + practice amp. The problem is, I have a guitar from a while back that I can hack out a few tunes on, and would like to amplify it as well. I would much rather not invest in a separate amp for each instrument. My readings tell me that putting a bass into a guitar amp is not the best idea because it might explode. But how about a guitar plugged into a bass amp? Would there even be any difference in sound or anything?

- **Tendonitis in wrists**

I suffer from a tendency to develop tendonitis in my wrists. My wrists recently flared up again and I decided it was time for a technique reboot on the instruments I play. Gyorgy Sandor's On Piano Playing has helped me learn to play piano in a way that keeps my wrists happy. What similar book exists for guitar?

- **Difference in playing the guitar and piano**

I play both classical guitar and piano, and have the requisite long nails on my right hand for proper playing of the former. The problem I run into is that long nails on the right hand force me into a suboptimal technique on the piano -- I know this by feel and by comparison, because recently my nails broke on my right hand and everything felt much better on the piano. I've tried making my nails shorter, but my experiments have essentially revealed to me that making my nails short enough to not be a hindrance on the piano results in problems in my guitar playing. I guess what my question boils down to is: is there any sort of removable nail system that will allow me to play classical guitar when I need to and piano when I need to? Or am I just going to have to deal with problems on the instrument I choose to favor?

- **Self-teaching**

I have been teaching myself guitar over the past few years and I still don't understand how to structure and play a guitar solo. Let's say I am playing a simple blues progression (I-IV-V). I have taught myself the blues scale, but when do I play what note? And do I need to move the scale up/down the neck in time with the progression? I want to be able to play an original solo, not just copy something already recorded.

- **Need help with understanding the hows and whys of what to play**

I have been playing the guitar for about 12 years now. Throughout this time, I have rarely ventured past the acoustic open chord type stuff. I began playing the guitar to accompany myself when singing. I've played tons of open mics/shows with bands/innumerable campfires and house parties. I really think that being a decent singer has taken away the impetus to improve my lead technique. Now I'm in a situation where being able to play some more advanced lead stuff would really open up some possibilities as far as playing out. A good friend is a drummer, and we have been playing with a few bassists. We're doing fine, but it'd be nice to strap on an electric guitar for a lot of the music we'd like to do (my dreaming of rock stardom days are long past - I'd be perfectly happy churning out music for folks to dance to at bars and weddings) I need help with understanding the hows and whys of what to play when - I have fiddled around with some basic blues scales over the past decade, but nothing has really stuck. Would switching to a straight electric guitar approach help me get the sound and feel that would move me along to mastering some lead technique? Is there a canonical band or style of music that I should start learning that will set me down the right path? My hands are reasonably agile - I can pick out random riffs all day long. I just need to know how to learn to know what to play and when to play it. A guitar teacher where I am right now is unfortunately not an option for me. Any advice/personal stories/tips are welcome.

- **Difference between 12 string and 6 string guitar**

Just got a nice 12-string guitar. While the strumming sounds enormously pleasant, I'm finding that the country/folk basic flatpicking that I enjoy on the 6-string doesn't really work so well. What else works for you on 12-string guitars?

- **Maintaining the condition of the guitar**

I have an old acoustic guitar. I usually just leave it out of the case on a stand. I moved to a new place about 5 months ago. When I moved in it, played perfectly. Now it has a few frets that make that quacking noise, most noticeably on the B string third fret. I guess the string is slightly touching the next fret when pushed down so it doesn't vibrate as it should. I brought it to my repair guy. He looked at it for 5 seconds and said "It's dried out, put a humidifier in it and it'll be back to playing as it should in 2-3 weeks". Apparently the top is dried out so the guitar is out of whack and affecting the neck. So, I've had it in the case with a humidifier for 5 weeks. Refilling the humidifier every few days. There has been no change. It's just as bad as it was 5 weeks ago. Will the guitar ever go back to normal just by humidifying it? Or do I need something more drastic done?

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I have several stringed instruments which are currently stored in cases. I'd like to hang them on the wall in our family room, both as eye candy and for practical reasons: I'm far more likely to play them if they are in sight but I'm worried that hanging them by the neck long term might cause damage from warping or other reasons I know nothing about. The room is reasonably climate-controlled and our area doesn't fluctuate much in relative humidity. The room doesn't receive direct sunlight, being on the shaded north side of our house. With these factors in mind, is it safe to hang my guitars by the neck?

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I recently got one of my guitars out of its case to find the frets covered in green stuff, and small patches of rust on a few of them. I plugged it in and it was very crackly, which it wasn't before. I checked my other guitar that I don't play regularly and found it to be in a similar condition. Both guitars have been kept in their cases - one in a hard fur lined hiscox case, and other in a gig bag. The room they're stored in isn't damp - I don't have central heating in my house, however the room the guitars are stored in does have a storage heater and is the only room in the house kept at a decent temperature. The room is next to the bathroom, though. How can I prevent things like this from happening? Would a de-humidifier help? Does the rust on my guitars frets indicate the end of its life? If not, how can I treat the frets? And am I better leaving the guitar out of its case?

- **Possible injury from guitar playing**

I've been playing guitar quite a bit lately, but the problem is I've been having a pain in my back at my right shoulder blade! I was wondering if anyone else has had this and what did you do to stop it?

- **Wish to learn guitar but afraid that injuries in both hands may affect**

Okay, I'm 50 and have long wanted to learn to play the guitar. Not only is this something I've long hoped to do but I'm coming off surgery on both hands (for Dupuytren's) and both my doc and my hand therapist think guitar will be great for my hands. My dexterity is fine but my range of motion is about 90% with the bizarre curse of Dupuytren's which will blight me for the rest of my days. Still, I'm heartened by tales of four-fingered guitarists who do just fine. My 14 year old daughter has been going to lessons with a teacher who impressed me. So, I signed up to join her. Has anyone else learnt the guitar (or any instrument) later in life and does that make it any more difficult? What progress can I expect with ,say, a lesson a week and a half hour practice five days a week?