

Teacher Benefits

- Easy to implement, simple to teach
- Uses an easily comprehensible one-line staff (see Ex. 1)
- Pieces lend themselves to a group setting, perfectly compatible with Modern Band
- Good for teaching form & structure
- Worksheets are available to help the students with memorization and some musical concepts
- Easy to teach by rote
- Makes for great concert repertoire
- Develops understanding of the mechanics of the instrument
- Innovative approach, easily adaptable
- Makes learning Standard Music Notation (SMN) and chords easier

Student Benefits

- Spacious and uncluttered
- Encourages creativity
- Play-Along Tracks available in three tempos (Slow, Medium, Fast) for free online
- 12 songs per book make learning all the songs an attractive goal

What is the Single String TAB Method?

Problem:

Beginner guitar students often struggle with the complexity of notation even with traditional six-line tablature. Some students are even so put off by how difficult or boring traditional method books can seem to be that they give up before they even get to the fun stuff.

Solution:

The Single String TAB Method offers a way to have fun playing the guitar very quickly without posing technical barriers that can get in the way and hinder joy.

Mission:

Empower aspiring beginner guitarists everywhere to enjoy the initial stages of practice so much that they build confidence in themselves and grow in affection towards their instrument leading to their continuing their guitar journey.



Single String TAB Method (SSTM)

A fun and simple way to engage beginners quickly, enjoyably and sustainably while building a solid foundation in guitar playing.

Tie Your Shoe

II

||:0 2 4|

Tie Your Shoe

0 2 4

Why don't you?

2 2 2 2 | 0 0 0 0 |

Be - fore you fall, why don't you just

0 2 0 :||

Tie your shoe?

Ex. 1 *Tie Your Shoe* (above) exemplifies the typical layout of a song notated using the Single String TAB Method (SSTM)

History

In the early 2000's guitar teacher and composer John Henry Sheridan recognized that he was facing a common scenario again and again with his students. Namely, that teaching traditional method books tended to fall flat on well over half of his students.

So he had an idea. He began notating simple melodies such as "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star" and "Mary Had a Little Lamb" on a single string. The kids tended to respond well to this and he also noticed that their ability to stick with the guitar also increased as well as his enjoyment of teaching it!

Before long he had developed a repertoire of single string songs that he would use for the early stages of beginner guitar development. While he long-considered to publish a book of popular songs notated on a single string, he always put it off due to concern over copyright issues. And so the idea of creating a large repertoire of original single string songbooks was born.

It is now not only a method enjoyed by many private guitar students but it has since been successfully incorporated into American public school classrooms.

Is it only a product for sale?

No. The Single String TAB Method is really a philosophy and a guitar teaching approach. The principles can be used and incorporated by any music teacher with a little time and creativity.

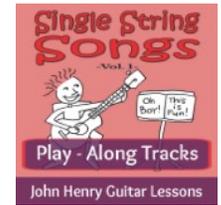
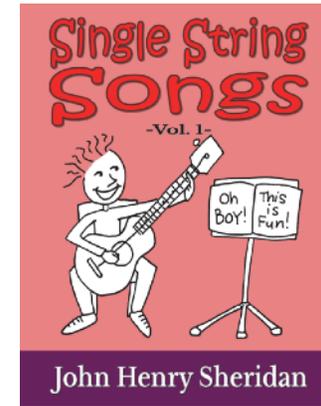
The Approach

- 1) Provide students with simple and fun songs that are playable on a single string
- 2) Encourage them to learn, memorize and play them in position as much as possible
- 3) Accompany them either live or with play-along tracks that provide a fun musical setting
- 4) Reward them with stickers for memorization and for their ability to play to play-along tracks
- 5) After memorizing a whole book (or reaching some other notable goal) perhaps offer guitar picks or small items as a reward.
- 6) Have fun, be quite flexible, challenge them to create their own pieces using pre-existing pieces as a model (by copying the rhythm of one piece and substituting the fret numbers for example)
- 7) As student develops and looks ready for more, begin to drizzle in more complicated things such as chords, Standard Music Notation and playing on multiple strings

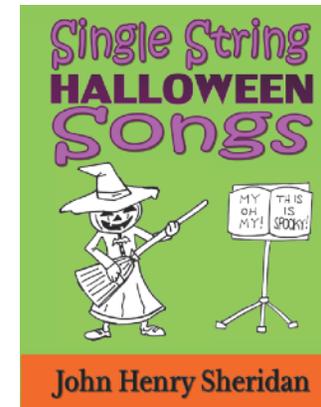
Sign the Mailing List

- 1) Receive a free PDF eBook *Single String Songs Sampler* to try with your students.
- 2) Keep updated on the evolution of single string materials and the method.

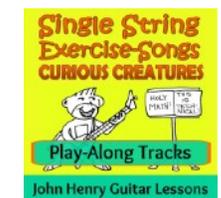
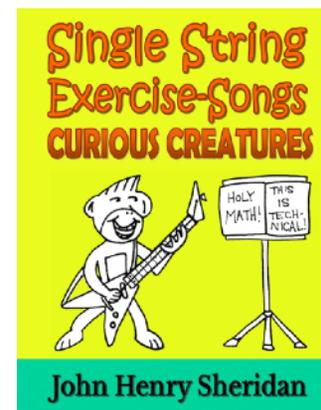
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**Single String Songs
Vol. 1** - the entry level book / early beginner



**Single String
Halloween Songs**
Upper beginner / early intermediate



**Single String
Exercise-Songs -
Curious Creatures** -
Upper beginner / early intermediate