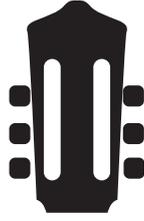


Classical  
**GUITAR**  
METHOD

*Wissam Abboud*





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**WISSAM  
ABBOUD**  
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# Instrument

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## Tuning

Starting from Grade I, candidates are responsible for the tuning of their instruments. The teacher or examiner may assist with tuning. From Grade II and above, candidates are expected to tune or adjust their instrument without assistance.

## Classical Guitar

- This syllabus is designed for hollow-bodied classical guitars strung in nylon. Acoustic guitars with six steel strings and electric guitars are not appropriate for this syllabus and should not be used.
- Classical guitars with cutaways are acceptable.
- To promote good posture candidates are expected to use a footstool or similar support.

# Pieces

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## Musical Instructions

- All pieces should be prepared in full unless otherwise stated.  
Repeats of more than a few bars should not be played unless instructed otherwise in the syllabus.
- All tempo and performance markings should be observed (e.g. Allegro, rall., crescendo).
- Metronome marks are given as a guide.

## Playing From Memory

- Candidates **should** perform all their pieces from memory, which will improve note security and confidence. However, no separate or additional marks are given specifically for memorization.
- All scales, arpeggios, and chords are to be performed from memory and should be played legato.

# Tempi for Scales and Arpeggios



Grade	Scales	Arpeggios	Scales in 3 <sup>rds</sup>	Range	Value
Debut	♩ = 120	—	—	1 & 2 octaves	♩
Preparatory	♩ = 80	—	—	2 octaves	♪
Grade I	♩ = 100	♩ = 90	—	2 octaves	♪
Grade II	♩ = 120	♩ = 100	—	2 octaves	♪
Grade III	♩ = 80	♩ = 70	♩ = 50	3 octaves	♩♩♩
Grade IV	♩ = 100	♩ = 90	♩ = 65	3 octaves	♩♩♩

# Supporting Tests

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## Sight Reading

Sight Reading tests are set at the level of a piece prescribed approximately two grades lower than the grade undertaken; for instance, Grade 5 candidates will be given a piece of about Grade 3 level.

Candidates will be allowed 30 seconds to study the test before they attempt it. During this time they may practice and try out the music. The examiner will then invite the candidate to perform the test for assessment.

## Musical Knowledge

The examiner will ask Preparatory candidates two to four questions in the exam, which test their understanding of the pieces played, their knowledge of the notation and their instrument.

Questions will cover the following:

- String names & Order
- Note duration and Names
- Note names in the Anglo-Saxon system.
- Musical terms and signs (ex. Treble Clef, Da Capo,..)

# Performance Assessment

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<b>Aspect</b>	<b>Grade</b>
Pieces	60
Technical Work	20
Sight Reading	10
Musical Knowledge	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>



# Requirements Debut

## **Method**

- Classical Guitar Method - Debut – Wissam Abboud

## **Pieces:**

- Three Free choice pieces

## **Sight Reading:** *(Optional)*

- Level 1 (1–30) – Sight Reading for the Classical Guitar - Robert Benedict



# Exam Debut

## A - Technical Requirements

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Technical Exercises

No. 12 & 13

## B - Pieces:

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### List A

1 – Etude 1 – Op. 60	F. Sor
2 – Etude 2 – Op. 60	F. Sor
3 – Etude 3 – Op. 60	F. Sor

### List B

1 – Minuet (no.60)	W. Abboud
2 – Minuet (no.62)	W. Abboud
3 – Autumn Waltz	L. Gingras

### List C

1 – Carrousel	C. Gagnon
2 – Romance	Anonym
3 – Moderato	W. Abboud

## C - Supporting Tests (*see p. 5*)

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# Requirements Preparatory

## **Scales:** (*1 & 2 octaves*)

- Major: C, G, D, A, F
- Minor: Am, Em, Bm, Dm

## **Chords:**

- Open Chords (Major, Minor, and Dominant 7th)

## **Method**

- Classical Guitar Method - Preparatory – Wissam Abboud

## **Pieces:**

- Three Free choice pieces

## **Sight Reading:** (*Optional*)

- Level 1 (30–42) – Sight Reading for the Classical Guitar - Robert Benedict
- Level 2 (1–20) – Sight Reading for the Classical Guitar - Robert Benedict



# Exam Preparatory

## A - Technical Requirements

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**Minor Scales**

Em

**Major Scales**

G

**Chord Progressions**

All Open Chords

- Scales must be played on one octave using *i-m* free stroke or rest stroke
- Chords must be strummed without using a pick

## B - Pieces:

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### List A

- |                           |             |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| 1 – Allegretto (no.14)    | F. Carulli  |
| 2 – Andante Op.59 (no.16) | M. Carcassi |
| 3 – Andante (no.17)       | F. Carulli  |

### List B

- |                      |              |
|----------------------|--------------|
| 1 – Minuet (no.37)   | J.P. Krieger |
| 2 – Minuet (no.38)   | J. Haydn     |
| 2 – Moderato (no.40) | M. Giuliani  |

### List C

- |                   |            |
|-------------------|------------|
| 1 – Rondo (no.31) | F. Carulli |
| 2 – Rondo (no.32) | F. Carulli |

## C - Supporting Tests (*see p. 5*)

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# Requirements Grade I

## **Scales:** (*2 octaves*)

- Major: C, D, E
- Chromatic: E& A

## **Chords:** (*Barre Chords*)

- All Barre Chords (Major, Minor, & Dominant 7<sup>th</sup>)

## **Method**

- Classical Guitar Method - Grade 1 – Wissam Abboud

## **Pieces:**

- Three Free choice pieces

## **Sight Reading:** (*Optional*)

- Level 2 (21–44) – Sight Reading for the Classical Guitar - Robert Benedict
- Level 3 (1–10) – Sight Reading for the Classical Guitar - Robert Benedict



# Exam Grade I

## A - Technical Requirements

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<b>Major Scales</b>	D
<b>Chromatic Scales</b>	E
<b>Chord Progressions</b>	Cycle of fifth with using barre chords

- Scales must be played on two octaves using *i-m* free stroke or rest stroke
- All Chords are barre chords
- Chords must be strummed without using a pick

## B - Pieces:

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### List A

1 – Allegretto (no.17)	M. Carcassi
2 – Andante Op. 31 (no.18)	F. Sor
3 – Study in F	M. Carcassi

### List B

1 – Waltz Op. 10 (no.32)	M. Carcassi
2 – Study 7 (no.33)	F. Tarrega
3 – Bourree (no.35)	R. Visee

### List C

1 – Rondo (no.21)	F. Carulli
2 – Rondo (no.26)	F. Carulli

## C - Supporting Tests (*see p. 5*)

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# Requirements Grade II

## **Scales:** (*2 octaves*)

- All Major Scales (*transpositional patterns*)
- All Minor Scales (*transpositional patterns*)
- Chromatic: C

## **Arpeggios:** (*Major and Minor*)

- Major: D, A, E
- Minor: Dm, Am, Em

## **Chords:** (*Dominant 7th*)

- Minor 7th, Major 7th, Diminished, and Half-Diminished Chords

## **Method**

- Classical Guitar Method - Grade 2 – Wissam Abboud

## **Pieces:**

- Three Free choice pieces

## **Sight Reading:** (*Optional*)

- Level 3 (11–60) – Sight Reading for the Classical Guitar - Robert Benedict



# Exam Grade II

## A - Technical Requirements

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<b>Minor Scales</b>	G#
<b>Major Scales</b>	C#m
<b>Chromatic Scales</b>	C
<b>Arpeggios</b>	Dm & A
<b>Chord Progressions</b>	No.3 page 66 & any II-V-I progression from page 27

- Scales must be played on two octaves using *i-m* free stroke or rest stroke
- Arpeggios must be played on two octaves
- Chords must be strummed without using a pick

## B - Pieces:

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### List A

1 – Etude Op. 24 (no.17)	F. Sor
2 – Etude Op. 139 (no.23)	M. Giuliani

### List B

1 – Sonata Op.71 (one movement)	M. Giuliani
2 – March Op. 10 (no.25)	M. Carcassi
2 – Etude en Re Majeur (no.28)	M. Giuliani

### List C

1 – Etude Op. 51 (no.29)	M. Giuliani
2 – Study Op. 100 (no.30)	M. Giuliani

### List D

1 – Study in B Minor	F. Sor
2 – Sonata	F. Carulli

## C - Supporting Tests (*see p. 5*)

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# The Publications of Wissam Abboud

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## Released Publications:

**Classical Guitar Method - Debut** (WA 101)  
**Classical Guitar Method - Preparatory** (WA 102)  
**Classical Guitar Method - Grade I** (WA 103)  
**Classical Guitar Method - Grade II** (WA 104)

**Piano Sonata in C** (WA 105)

**Missa Brevis for SATB Choir** (WA 106)

**Acoustic Duo Song Book** (WA 100)

## Scheduled Publications:

**Classical Guitar Method - Grade III** (WA 107)  
**Classical Guitar Method - Grade IV** (WA 108)

**Music Theory Workbook - Levels 1, 2 & 3**

### *Publications under Mel Bay Inc.:*

**Mastering the Classical Guitar 1A** (30683M)  
**Mastering the Classical Guitar 1B** (30684M)  
**Mastering the Classical Guitar 2A** (30685M)  
**Mastering the Classical Guitar 2B** (30686M)

## About the Author

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Wissam Abboud is an accomplished Lebanese guitarist, composer and instructor who always strives for perfection. He graduated from Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) with a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Arts in Musicology. He also earned a Bachelor of Arts in Music - Classical Guitar Performance and Baccalaureate Diplomas in Theoretical Studies and Sight Singing from the Lebanese National Higher Conservatory of Music.

Wissam is currently a Guitar, Theory and Sight Singing instructor at the School of Music of Antonine and Notre Dame Universities.

**For more information about Wissam Abboud and his music please visit:**

[www.WissamAbboud.com](http://www.WissamAbboud.com)

