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How To Connect A Guitar To A Computer

By Brad Finley

So many players want to record guitar playing on their computer. Digital recording is more popular

than ever for pros and amateurs alike. But there are some things to be considered when you connect a guitar to a computer; mostly how you want to connect the instrument, and the quality of the recording you hope to capture. The type of guitar computer interface you choose will greatly affect the sound of the electric guitar through the computer and the overall recording you can expect.

While it is possible to play guitar through a PC just by plugging it in, this basic approach is likely to be fine for most though many players don't like sacrificing a good sound for the ease of quick setup. Electric players need a 'high impedance' input to get their electric guitar to connect to a computer, and though most computer soundcards come with high impedance inputs, these inputs are usually not strong enough to get a good guitar signal or in the long run, for recording guitar effects for PC. This lower 'impedance' can cause noise problems too. A player can avoid all this of course by plugging the guitar into a 'line-in' jack, instead of the 'mic-in', but then the all-important preamp is needed.

Almost any one attempting to connect a guitar through their computer or familiar with recording a guitar into a mixing console should be familiar with a preamp. The preamp does exactly what its name implies, it "amps" the signal before it goes into the plug-in. Therefore your guitar's signal will get that extra boost it needs when you record guitar on a pc or into any other device that is not an amp. There are plenty of external interfaces that combine computer soundcards with a preamp. Or if you like more components to your set-up you can always buy a preamp separate from your sound card. There are a lot of stand-alone vintage preamps out there that will not only boost your signal, but warm your sound before it goes into the 'cooler' digital domain of your pc.

It's not only the pristine quality of digital that makes recording guitar on a pc so much fun, it is also portability. With very little equipment you can put down a riff (or an entire song actually) into a laptop! And added to all this wonderful technology is the fact that there are so many recording guitar effects for pc now on the market, a player can access different amp sounds and settings, effects. Well after you have wrestled with how to connect a guitar to your pc and have recorded a strong signal, you can call record guitar effects with pc during recording or in post-production.

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Of course information about how to connect your guitar to a pc and the wonderful wide world of effects is available through an on–line pc guitar tutor and websites devoted to digital recording. You can even purchase a computer guitar tuner (some programs include a free computer guitar tuner) so everything you will ever need is self–contained in your rockin' pc! Some players are even recording parts, then downloading and sending these pieces of tunes to musician's half–way across the world.

The possibilities really are unlimited for the guitar player who says: "I want to connect a guitar to my pc"; he or she will be amazed at the varied and easy results they can achieve when they simply start recording guitar on a pc.

Brad Finley is senior editor of MyGuitarWorkshop.com – Free Guitar Lessons. Website provides guitar lessons, instructions and music theory for all level guitar players. Please also visit

<http://www.MyGuitarWorkshop.com>

for free music theory lessons.

Tips On Buying An Electric Guitar

By Phil Morris

The electric guitar is the cornerstone of an exhilarating musical experience. A good guitar will enhance the musical experience. If you love all kinds of music then your electric guitar should be able to play all the genres of music well. But if you want to play a specific type of music like jazz or rock, choose an electric guitar that allows you to play only that type. If you are interested in purchasing an electric guitar, here are some useful tips to make your purchasing easier. It will give you a good idea about the things you should look for while buying the electric guitar.

Before purchasing the electric guitar, consider the following points:

- Decide on your budget: A good electric guitar can cost anywhere from \$99 to more than \$20,000. Hence you need to fix your budget before you start visiting the shop or going online to buy the product. Since the price range of the good electric guitar is high, once you fix your budget, it makes your task easier.
- Choose the sound you want: One of the vital aspects of buying an electric guitar is choosing the right sound you want. Some guitars are better capable of switching from blues to jazz to rock without anyone noticing a change. Others are meant for one type of music, so you cannot change the sound immediately. Before purchasing, listen to the guitar sounds of your choice. Consult a music expert to determine the type of guitar used in the recording. He will be able to help you determine the type of guitar that will help you achieve the same result as in the recording. Besides, you should be aware of the type of music you want to play to help you in the selection process.
- Get the feel of the electric guitar: If the guitar doesn't excite you when you hold it, it is not the right choice for you. Look around in other shops both online as well as in the market before settling on the

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perfect guitar for you.

For other great articles about guitars and electric guitars please check out

<http://www.bassguitarsadvice.info>

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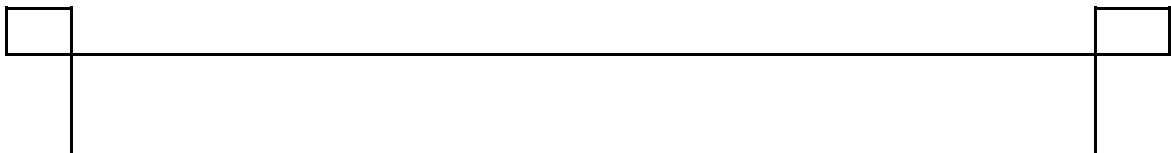
notes about a wide variety of general interest topics go to

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