

Rockschool Acoustic Debut Grade Technical Exercises

With you having already learned some performance pieces over the last term, now is an excellent time in the current situation to learn the Technical Exercises associated with the Debut grade.

I have broken down all of the Technical Exercises required for the grade into manageable amounts for an individual lesson. The exercises for this week are as follows:

Scales

- C Major Scale
- E Minor Pentatonic Scale

The most important thing is to follow the suggested finger options written underneath the notes and try and keep your fretting hand near to the fretboard.

When you are learning the scales, maybe take a string at a time and then link up, for example – C Major Scale – do the first note on the fifth string then add the notes on the next string. Play those notes up and down until you feel comfortable and then add the next string and repeat the process through the whole scale until you can play it ascending and descending. Take each scale one at a time until you play through them all securely.

Remember to play through slowly when you first attempt them, speed will come naturally after accuracy.

Chords

- C
- Em

Look at the chord shape and check how many strings you should be playing either by looking at the x and o at the top of the diagram – x don't play, o play open string. Or use the TAB numbers underneath.

Doing scale and chord exercises like these further enhance the synchronisation between your two hands and will make your performances smoother.