Welcome to the First Act Discovery®, Quick Start Guide for Guitar. This booklet will help you change strings and tune your instrument. Keeping your guitar in good working order will give you many years of enjoyment with your instrument. Let’s get started.

Changing Strings

Strings should be replaced when they become dirty, discolored, or produce a dull sound. Change one string at a time to maintain the string tension on the neck. Strings should always be changed by an adult. You can change your guitar strings in three easy steps:

1. Loosen all tension from the string to be replaced. If it is already broken, move on to step 2.

2. Open the First Act® string post cover, exposing the string wrapped around the tuning post. Remove the end of the string from the tuning post. Remove the entire string by pulling it out by the ball end, through the hole in the bridge.

3. Make sure the new string is the correct gauge. The gauge and name of the string are indicated on its envelope. Thread the string through the hole in the bridge, along the finger board, and through the hole in the tuning post. Leaving some slack, turn the tuning post repeatedly (“top” three, lightest strings counterclockwise, “bottom” three, heaviest strings clockwise) until the string winds around the post three to four times.

When the string is wound enough to secure itself to the string post, refer to the tuning section of this guide for adequate tension of the string. Once it is in tune, trim the excess with wire cutters and close the First Act® string post covers. Please be sure that string ends are capped under the string post covers to protect little fingers.

There are three ways to tune your guitar:

1. Use a piano keyboard. Play the keys one at a time, and tune each corresponding string.

2. Use an electronic tuner. An electronic tuner listens to each string, one at a time, and indicates graphically if the pitch is too high or too low.

3. Tune the guitar to itself: relative tuning.

- String: First, tune the 6th string to an E on a piano or a keyboard, or any other instrument that is already in tune.
- String: Press the 6th string behind the 5th fret and tune the open 5th string to it by turning the 5th tuning key until the two strings sound the same.
- String: Press the 5th string behind the 5th fret and tune the open 4th string to it by turning the 4th tuning key.
- String: Press the 4th string behind the 5th fret and tune the open 3rd string to it by turning the 3rd tuning key.
- String: Press the 3rd string behind the 4th fret and tune the open 2nd string to it by turning the 2nd tuning key.
- String: Press the 2nd string behind the 5th fret and tune the open 1st string (high) to it by turning the 1st tuning key.