

Lesson Policy 2026-2027

Please read this document thoroughly and ask questions if needed.

Lesson Time & Date

Your lesson time is set aside for you in your assigned time slot. Lessons occur weekly on your regularly scheduled day.

Holidays

If your regularly scheduled lesson falls on a holiday, I won't reschedule that lesson. I will discuss holiday schedules individually, but I always take a week off for Thanksgiving and two weeks off around Christmas/New Year's.

Cancellations

The flat monthly tuition assumes 44 lessons per year. This allows for 8 weeks of missed lessons during the year for holidays, snow days, sickness, and scheduling conflicts. This helps to keep rescheduling to a minimum.

If I have to cancel a lesson, I will reschedule or make up the time by doing a couple of longer lessons when it's convenient for both of us. If I'm not feeling well, but can still teach, I reserve the right to teach the lesson over Zoom rather than in person. This works well for the occasional lesson. I may also opt to discount a future monthly payment by an appropriate amount for my absence.

I won't reschedule or credit a missed lesson by the student, but you can inquire about scheduling a longer lesson one day or come in on a Friday, which is my 'studio day'. I can only accommodate a couple of people at a time, so I may not offer this every week. Please inquire to set up a time.

Not practicing is not an acceptable excuse for canceling a lesson. We can use some of your lesson time for supervised practice, and you will definitely learn something. It's much better to show up even if you don't feel as prepared as you'd like.

If you are sick or feel you may have been in contact with someone who is sick, I can do a Zoom lesson at your normal time if you're feeling well enough. I can also schedule the Zoom lesson for later in the week, if possible. Otherwise, I will treat the lesson like any other cancellation.

Billing, etc.

I only offer weekly lessons. You should work with a teacher regularly to achieve the best results.

Tuition is due on the first lesson of the month. You may pay by cash, check, or a few online methods (please inquire).

Since lessons are taught monthly, I require a month's notice to terminate lessons. This gives me time to open your spot for a new student.

For questions, please email me at jamesstephensguitar@gmail.com