

How to Tune Your Guitar

Buy a tuner or find a free guitar tuner app or website.

Remember the trick for what notes the strings are from low (thick) to high (thin):

Eddie Ate Dynamite, GoodBye Eddie

Start with the low (thick) E string. Pluck the string to check the tuning. First of all, make sure the tuner is saying that it is an E and not some other note. If it is a note lower than E (D, C, etc.), you will need to raise the pitch by tightening the string quite a bit. If it is a note higher than E (F, G, etc.), you will need to lower the pitch by loosening the string quite a bit. When you are tuning a string always keep plucking the string so that you can constantly check the changes you are making to the pitch. If you don't keep checking the pitch by constantly plucking the string, it is likely that you will overshoot the note and just end up on a wrong note in the opposite direction. Once the tuner says the string is an E, you will probably still have to make small adjustments. If the needle/line is to the left, then the note is flat or low and needs to go up in pitch by tightening the string.

Remember to constantly pluck the string, and this time, turn the tuning peg very slowly, because you are only making a small change. If the needle/line is to the right, then the note is sharp or high and needs to go down in pitch by loosening the string. Again, remember to constantly pluck the string, and turn the tuning peg very slowly, because you are only making a small change. When the needle is in the middle, then the string is in tune.

Repeat this process with the A, D, G, B, and high (thin) E strings.

After tuning all six strings you may find that your guitar still isn't perfectly in tune (this can happen if the guitar hasn't been tuned in a while, because of weather, etc.), so you'll need to repeat the whole process. In general, the more often you tune your guitar, the less time it will take to tune it.