

# Josh Robins Policies

Version 2013-Adult students

## The student's two basic rules of taking guitar lessons from me:

1. Play your instrument every day – even if it's just for 5 minutes!
2. Use your ears more than your eyes – if it sounds good, it is good!

## Be ready for each lesson:

1. Come to every lesson on time, prepared, and in a mental state conducive to the work involved.
2. Bring your instrument and any necessary accessories (strap, pick, cables, amplifier, etc.) to every lesson.
3. Bring previous practice sheets, and music (if applicable) to every lesson.
4. Practice and Listen Every Day!

## The Value of Practice

I can't make you practice. As an adult, developing the discipline to actually put the tools I give you to use is your responsibility. I recommend dedicating at least 30 minutes daily to focused guitar practice – meaning no distractions. Not always possible in our busy lives.

If you follow this advice, it doesn't mean you will make progress in leaps and bounds – it'll be slow, especially for beginners. Give yourself the time to develop the skills necessary to play the instrument. It will not be instantaneous and it will certainly not happen if you only play guitar during lessons or are distracted during at-home practice.

If lessons are to be conducted at your location, I will need a room free of distraction and noise in order to instruct.

## Rates and Payment

	Weekly/Bi-Weekly	
My Studio:		Your Location*
1 hour - \$35		1 hour - \$40
½ hour - \$25		½ hour - \$35
	At Random	
My Studio:		Your Location*
1 hour - \$50		1 hour - \$60
½ hour - \$35		½ hour - \$50

\*This rate is always subject to change with fluctuating fuel costs. I also reserve the right to increase the rate if your location is more than 10 miles (one way) from my studio.

Payment is due at the beginning of the month for which lessons will occur. For At Random students, payment is due at the beginning of each lesson.

## Schedule

### At Random Students

In general, I prefer to schedule At Random students 1 week in advance. However, this is called At Random for a reason and my schedule is sometimes free and I may be able to accommodate you. Please call me at 512-656-0357.

### Weekly/Bi-Weekly Students

For weekly lessons, we must choose and keep a regular day and time. There will always be exceptions, emergencies, etc. and I'm happy to reschedule within reason and I will be sympathetic to things like spring break, summer trips and holidays. However, please know that my time is often limited and rescheduling can be stressful for everyone involved.

#### *Holidays:*

If your lesson time falls on a holiday that is nationally recognized as a day off (like Thanksgiving), we will simply skip that week's lesson unless you are interested in scheduling a make-up lesson and our schedules permit. You will not be charged for a holiday off. If you go on an extended trip, we will not be charged for any lessons we miss.

#### *Cancellations and Rescheduling*

Occasionally we will have to cancel due to illness, weather or emergencies (either mine or yours). In these cases, you will simply be credited for a missed day. You may use that credit to schedule a make-up lesson for a different open day/time OR simply apply it toward your next month's regular lessons.

Please let me know ASAP if you need to cancel a lesson. Before cancelling, remember that your payment is a reservation of my time and last minute cancellations essentially waste that time unless I have at least a day's notice. I will not charge for the occasional cancellation but if it happens repeatedly, I will charge you with less than 24 hours notice. If you need to cancel, call me at 512-656-0357.

Constant cancellation tells me that our schedule isn't working for whatever reason. I find this is usually a priority issue – the student isn't practicing or other activities/issues keep bumping guitar lessons down on the priority list. Some conflicts are unforeseeable... but I have found that most aren't. If cancellations happen with frequency, I will suggest rescheduling or even terminating lessons suspending lessons.

### **Termination**

As unthinkable as it may seem, our time together will come to an end at some point. Regardless of the reason, call me at 512-656-0357 to discuss.

I look forward to helping you reach your musical goals!

**Josh Robins**

**512-656-0357**

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