Guitar Checklist

By Jake R Brady

	Choosing a Guitar	
		Decide whether you want an acoustic or an electric guitar.
		Decide whether you buy a new or used guitar.
		Go to guitar shops.
		Don't be swayed by popular brand names.
		For acoustic guitars, a spruce or cedar top is ideal.
		A cheap, badly made guitar is no fun to play.
		When you sit down with the guitar in a normal playing position, you should be able to reach the soundhole easily.
		The strings should be at a comfortable height from the frets.
		The frets should be even, and none of them should stick out more than the others.
		If you have thick fingers, a wider neck will make it easier for you to play.
		If you have small hands, a narrow neck is more comfortable.
		On an electric guitar, all the switches and knobs should work smoothly.
		In a electric guitar the controls should be in a convenient place.
		Good electric guitars are usually heavy as a result.
		Have someone else play the guitar for you before buying one.
		If you buy a good guitar and you never play it, you can always sell it.
	Essentials	
		A flight case or hardshell case.
		A strap.
		Something to tune with.
		Strings.
		Picks.
		Book of songs with simple chord diagrams.