

How to Play the Guitar and Sing at the Same Time

Method 1

1. **Learn how to play guitar.** You can start with basic chords, or find a song and look up the tabs. find something you think you can sing to
2. **Learn the words to the song.** Practice your singing technique.
3. **Learn how to play while tapping your foot in 4/4 time.** It would sound like 1 2 3 4 if you don't know how to count 4/4 time. A metronome can help you to keep time and is available inexpensively at most music stores.(There are also many online metronomes that are free)
4. **Start counting out loud** "1 and 2 and 3 and 4 and" while playing.(Make sure you say the AND every single time it'll keep tempo the best.)
5. Once you feel comfortable enough with the rhythm, **no longer count aloud**, just tap along.
6. **Start adding in words.**
7. Its also very important to **remember** sometimes guitarists go months to years without keeping a steady tempo; using a metronome will help a lot.

Method 2

1. **Pick a cool song**, learn how to play it, and also learn how to sing it.
2. **Play the song with the record** and try to at least hum the lyrics.
3. **Keep practicing** the song until you can play it without the record and with your eyes closed.
 - o Your brain uses alpha waves and beta waves (conscious/sub-conscious). You use alpha waves when you concentrate and focus on something and use beta waves when you can just "do it" without "thinking about it". Once you have the song down to this point, you're ready for the final step.
4. **Play the song**, but DO NOT think about the chords, fingerings, or anything else; just play. Now sing the song and let the playing fall to the background. Your conscious will be concentrating on the singing, but your sub-conscious will be playing the song. This can feel a little like an out of body experience where half your brain is actually playing the guitar and the singer in you is using the other half. It's weird at first, but very exciting and fun once you got it down.
 - o Finally, you will be able, with practice, to change roles back and forth (did I hit that chord right? yes, OK the next vocal line goes like...).
 - o Note: it is quite rare for guitar solos and singing parts to occur at the same time (that is by design) don't try and change that when you go to write a song(easier on you anyway).
5. Well, **practice this and have fun!**

Method 3

1. Once you **have the basics of guitar playing**, try to come up with a few runs or chord progressions (or just use them from other songs if you're only going to play covers.)
2. **Practice these until you can play them easily.**
3. Now **sit in front of the TV** and watch it whilst playing them (It's important not to stop playing)
4. After a while, **you should notice** that you are playing fine but also managing to follow what's going on on TV. This is the first step in developing independence.
5. Next, **try reading something** whilst playing (try reading off a computer screen if you can't hold a book open.) This will keep your mind more active than watching TV and playing.
6. **Try reading out loud** in a droning voice (A common problem is only being able to sing the notes you're playing)
7. **Keep doing this** and eventually you should be able to sing and play almost completely different things.

Tips

- This will take some time, don't get frustrated if you can't do it at first just keep trying.
- Practice on acoustic songs, especially ones where you strum repetitive chords.
- Try jamming, play a steady chord, a random chord, and start talking, you will develop the singing/playing at the same time ability.

Things You'll Need

- Guitar
- Metronome
- Patience
- Music