REC

RECORDED DIGITAL EXAMS

NOW ROLLIN'!

ACOUSTIC GUITAR 2026 GRADED CERTIFICATES DEBUT-G8

RSL Awarding the Contemporary Arts

Acoustic Guitar 2026 Graded Certificates DEBUT-G5

Technical Exercise submission list

- Playing along to metronome is **compulsory** when indicated in the grade book.
- Exercises should commence after a 4-click metronome count in.
- Please ensure this is audible on the video recording.

For chord exercises which are stipulated as being directed by the examiner, candidates must present all chords/voicings in all key centres. Candidates do not need to play these to click, but must be mindful of producing the chords clearly with minimal hesitancy between each.

Note: Candidate should play all listed scales, arpeggios and chords in the key centres and positions shown (if specified).

Debut

Group A
Scales (65 bpm)

1. C major
2. E minor pentatonic
3. A minor pentatonic

Group B
Chords

Open position chords (play all)

Group C
Acoustic Riff

To be played to backing track

Grade 1

Group A
Scales (70 bpm)

1. C major
2. A natural minor
3. E minor pentatonic
4. A minor pentatonic
5. G major pentatonic

Group B
Chords (70 bpm)

1. Powerchords
2. Major Chords (play all)
3. Minor Chords (play all)

Group C
Acoustic Riff

To be played to backing track

Grade 2

Group A
Scales (80 bpm)

1. C major
2. G Major
3. E natural minor
4. A natural minor
5. G minor pentatonic
6. G major pentatonic
7. C minor pentatonic
8. C major pentatonic

Group B
Chords (80 bpm)

1. Powerchords
2. Major and minor Chords (play all)
3. Minor 7th Chords (play all)
4. Major 7th Chords (play all)

Group C
Acoustic Riff

To be played to backing track

Grade 3

Group A
Scales (90 bpm)

Candidates must play each scale **once.** Each starting note must be used at least once.

Prepared on starting notes **G, A and B.**

1. Major
2. Natural minor
3. Minor pentatonic
4. Major pentatonic
5. Blues

Group B
Arpeggios (90 bpm)

Candidates must play **both** arpeggio types listed, and from **each** of the three starting notes G, A and B (6 in total)

1. Major arpeggio
2. Minor arpeggio

Group C
Chords

1. Major and minor partial barred chords
2. Dominant 7th chords (play all)

Group D
Acoustic Riff

To be played to backing track

Grade 4

Group A
Scales (80 bpm)

Candidates must play each scale **twice, once for each fingering position.**

Candidates must use each of the four starting notes at least once: **A, Bb, B and C on the E string.**

Both fingerings should be represented.

1. Major (both fingerings)
2. Natural minor (both fingerings)
3. Minor pentatonic (both fingerings)
4. Major pentatonic (both fingerings)
5. Blues (both fingerings)

(10 scales in total including both fingering positions)

Group B
Arpeggios (80 bpm)

Candidates must play each arpeggio **once**, each from a different starting note (**A, Bb, B or C on the E string**)

1. Major 7th
2. Minor 7th
3. Dominant 7th

Group C
Chords

1. Major and minor chords
2. 7th chords

Group D
Acoustic Riff

To be played to backing track

Grade 5

Group A
Scales (80 bpm)

Candidates must play each scale **twice:**

Once starting from F, G, or A on the E string, and **once** starting from B, C or D on the A string)

Candidates **must** use each starting note at least once in this group.

1. Major
2. Natural minor
3. Harmonic minor
4. Minor pentatonic
5. Major pentatonic
6. Blues

(12 scales in total including both starting notes)

Group B
Arpeggios (80 bpm)

Candidates must play each arpeggio **twice:**

Once starting from F, G, or A on the E string, and **once** starting from B, C or D on the A string)

Candidates **must** use each starting note at least once in this group.

1. Major
2. Minor

(4 arpeggios in total including both starting notes)

Group C
Chords (80 bpm)

Major and minor triads

Group D
Acoustic Riff

To be played to backing track

Acoustic Guitar 2026 Graded Certificates G6-8

Technical Exercise submission list

Notes

- Playing along to metronome is compulsory when indicated by a tempo.
- Exercises should commence after a 4-click metronome count in.
- Please make sure this is audible on the video recording.
- The candidate may choose one technical study to perform.

GRADE 6

Group A
Scales
Tempo: 100 bpm

1. F# minor pentatonic exercise
2. F# major pentatonic exercise
3. B minor pentatonic exercise
4. B major pentatonic exercise

(4 exercises in total including both positions)

Group B
Modes
Tempo: 100 bpm

Candidates must play each mode in two positions:
Once starting on the E string from the starting note G, Ab, A, Bb or B.
Once starting on the A string from the starting note C, Db, D, Eb or E

1. Dorian
2. Mixolydian

(4 modes in total including both positions)

Group C
Arpeggios
Tempo: 100 bpm

Candidates must perform each arpeggio in two positions.
Once starting on the E string from the starting note G, Ab, A, Bb or B.
Once starting on the A string from the starting note C, Db, D, Eb or E

1. Major7
2. Minor7
3. Dominant7

(6 arpeggios in total including both positions)

Group D
Chord Voicings

Candidates must perform each chord in two positions.
Once starting on the E string from the starting note G, Ab, A, Bb or B.
Once starting on the A string from the starting note C, Db, D, Eb or E

1. Minor7b5
2. Diminished7

(4 chords in total including both positions)

Group E
Technical Studies
(played to backing track)

Candidates to perform one technical study from the list below:

Example 1 – Rock and Pop
Example 2 – Blues and Country
Example 3 – Acoustic Specialist

Grade 7

Group A
Scales and Modes
Tempo: 100 bpm

Candidates must play each scale in **two** positions:
Once starting on the E string from the starting note G, Ab, A, Bb or B.
Once starting on the A string from the starting note C, Db, D, Eb or E

1. Lydian
2. Phrygian
3. Jazz melodic minor

(6 scales/modes in total including both positions)

Group B
Arpeggios
Tempo: 100 bpm

Candidates must play each arpeggio in **two** positions:
Once starting on the E string from the starting note G, Ab, A, Bb or B.
Once starting on the A string from the starting note C, Db, D, Eb or E

1. Major9
2. Minor9
3. Dominant9

(6 arpeggios in total including both positions)

Group C
Chord Voicings

Candidates must play each chord in **two** positions:
Once starting on the E string from the starting note G, Ab, A, Bb or B.
Once starting on the A string from the starting note C, Db, D, Eb or E

1. Major9
2. Minor9
3. Dominant9

(6 chords in total including both positions)

Group D
Technical Studies
(played to backing track)

Candidates to perform one technical study from the list below:

Example 1 –
Rock and Pop
Example 2 –
Blues and Country
Example 3 –
Acoustic Specialist

Grade 8

Group A
Scales
Tempo: 100 bpm

Candidates must play each scale in **two** positions:
Once starting on the E string from the starting note G, Ab, A, Bb or B.
Once starting on the A string from the starting note C, Db, D, Eb or E

1. Whole tone
2. Diminished
3. Altered

(6 scales/modes in total including both positions)

Group B
Arpeggios
Tempo: 100 bpm

Candidates must play each arpeggio in **two** positions:
Once starting on the E string from the starting note G, Ab, A, Bb or B.
Once starting on the A string from the starting note C, Db, D, Eb or E

1. Dominant7#5 arpeggio
2. Dominant7b5 arpeggio
3. Minor7b5 arpeggio
4. Dominant7#9 arpeggio
5. Dominant7b9 arpeggio
6. Diminished arpeggio

(12 arpeggios in total including both positions)

Group C
Chord Voicings

Candidates must play each chord in **two** positions:
Once starting on the E string from the starting note G, Ab, A, Bb or B.
Once starting on the A string from the starting note C, Db, D, Eb or E

1. Dominant7#5
2. Dominant7b5
3. Dominant7#9
4. Dominant7b9

(8 chords in total including both positions)

Group D
Technical Studies
(played to backing track)

Candidates to perform one technical study from the list below:

Example 1 – Rock and Pop
Example 2 – Blues and Country
Example 3 – Acoustic Specialist