

Concerning Guitar Strings 8/2021

Buying Guitar Strings

Part of the registration fee that WSSSchool students are charged goes to providing them new strings twice year. If you would like to change strings more frequently than that (new strings always bring the best out of your guitar), I suggest you use the Strings By Mail website: <https://www.stringsbymail.com/>

You can also just separately order sets of bass strings (strings 4, 5, and 6), as the treble strings way outlast the basses. Additional full sets of strings can of course be purchased at this website and also locally at Jackson's music store.

If you buy strings on your own, I suggest you follow this guide:

1. For full sized through 3/4 sized guitars, purchase the Augustine Blue hard tension strings: <https://www.stringsbymail.com/classical-guitar-strings-1/augustine-64/classic-65/classic-blue-264/>
2. For 1/2 and 1/8 sized guitars, purchase the appropriately sized Hannabach Kinder strings: <https://www.stringsbymail.com/classical-guitar-strings-1/hannabach-57/kinder-strings-129/>

If you'd like to shop and compare, there are three other brands I'm aware of that have good reputation – but as with guitars, you probably get what you pay for:

a. Savarez Prodiges Strings (similarly priced to the Hannabach strings) which claim to cover sizes 35-55cm sized guitars:

<https://www.stringsbymail.com/savarez-prodige-540cxs-fractional-guitar-strings-38-55-cm-full-set-8157.html>

b. and the less expensive RC Kinder Strings:

https://www.stringsbymail.com/search/results.html?inc_subcat=1&search_in_description=1&categories_id=0&keyword=RC+Kinder&x=0&y=0

c. and the much less expensive LaBella Fractional Size Strings:

https://www.stringsbymail.com/search/results.html?inc_subcat=1&search_in_description=1&categories_id=0&keyword=LaBella+fractional+size+strings&x=0&y=0

If you are wondering about the size category for your guitar, guitars fall into these general size categories (the length given in cm is the length of the string that vibrates):

8/8 Full Sized = 65cm

7/8 Sized = 60cm-64cm (range of 4cm)

3/4 Sized = 53cm -59cm (range of 6cm)

1/2 Sized = 48cm -53cm (range of 5cm)

1/4 Sized = 40cm -48cm (range of 8cm)

1/8 Sized = 35cm-40cm (range of 5cm)

Changing Your Guitar Strings

Below is a useful video showing you how to change guitar strings. If you'd rather, we can change your strings during your lessons, one string at a time over six lessons, so that you'll have six opportunities to learn how to do this.

https://video.search.yahoo.com/yhs/search?fr=yhs-SGMedia-sgmedia_maps&hsimp=yhs-sgmedia_maps&hspart=SGMedia&p=how+to+change+classical+guitar+strings#id=1&vid=afc4a675ce8d233543fa495caedc0bb7&action=click

Additional information:

A final creative way of dealing with strings for the very smallest guitars (and the various kinds of guitar-ukuleles which sometime play out of tune with standard guitar strings) is to buy a set of regular full sized low-tension strings, put the B on as a first string, and tune it to E; G becomes B, D becomes G, etc. An additional E string can be used for the 6th string.