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## Derek's Diabolical Definitions - a Gargantuan Glossary of Groans

Thought you understood Guitar terminology? Groan away at these!

Over 145 truly awful definitions.

Apologies for those that only make the British laugh - all real UK and guitar musical terms.  
All with a bizarre viewpoint....

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### Recent arrivals

Albinoni Possessed of an unusually white region of leg  
Clapton Welcomed to the stage with warm applause  
Crossing parts The arms, or, more with men than women, the legs  
Cor Anglais The cry of a Frenchman seeing the White Cliffs of Dover  
Descant An insect that lives on a shared music stand  
Hornpipe The raw material for brass instruments  
Plain song UK tourists' entertainment, flying home from Spain.  
Up beat Unusually confident about starting the music  
Refrain Don't do it (except in music, when it means do it again)  
Triangle Menage a trois. Not to be confused with phallic cymbal  
Contra Instrument of choice for the counter-revolutionary  
Overwound Fitting instructions for bandage

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### On the Rudiments of Music

Chromatic Very shiny room in the roof  
Doh Current American Paper Money  
Fah A versatile singer. "That singer will go 'Fah'"  
Italian Sixth Small part of a town. Smaller than the Chinese quarter....  
Major Compulsion. As in "That major look, didn't it"  
Minor Small and insignificant. As in "Minor smaller than yours are"  
Pulse Essential ingredient in Vegetarian music  
Quarter Note Obsolete American Paper Money  
Soh Lah Powered by the sun  
Suspension A bouncy A-Frame  
Shake An Arabian trill  
Unison A male child with no siblings

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### On Music Notation

Cresc Childcare provision  
Crescendo Cessation of childcare provision  
Forte Where life begins  
Accent Integral part of foreign music  
Pause Marks Cats' footprints  
Espressivo Served with Coffee  
Con Brio Served with French Cheese  
Con Spirito Served with Brandy  
Slurred Triplets Three brothers after an evening Con Spirito  
Perfect Pitch Throwing the ball straight  
Double flat Two punctures at once  
C flat Good boating weather  
D Scale Remove chalky deposits from the kettle (no, not a kettle drum!)  
Repeat To add more compost  
March Time Early Spring (joke not suitable for those in Southern Hemisphere)  
Full Score The end-of-play football result  
Page Turn The part of the wedding when the small boy tells jokes

From the top Instruction to hairdresser on where to trim the most hair....

piu Church Choirstalls

rit Committed to paper

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## On Music Theory

Equitempered Having the patience of a horse  
Two Time Music for the double-crossing lover  
Three-in-a-bar Particularly hackneyed opening to a Scotsman, Englishman and Irishman joke  
Sub Dominant Under the wife's thumb (from someone who knows....)  
Interrupted Cadence Primitive and rather unsatisfactory family planning  
Relative Major An uncle in the Army  
Minor Interval About ten minutes  
Transposition Preferring clothes of the opposite sex  
Harmonic Minor Member of a Welsh Male Voice Choir  
Notate The next thing after note seven  
Syncopated Irregular. A High-Fibre diet is recommended  
Laissez Play the 5th string more quietly  
Andante Daughter of Mr & Mrs Inferno  
Diatonic A slimming mixer for the serious Gin drinker  
Passing Notes Exchanging information in the back row of an orchestra  
Ascending Scales Elevator Music  
Descending Scales Successful dieting

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## On Orchestral and Other Music

Conduct (Italian) - literally "With the large pipe" - ie accompanied by a tuba  
Recordings of this style are rare, apart from the famous Duct Tape  
Divisions upon a ground Walls. A musical term, since walls have ears...  
Serial Music Music played at breakfast time  
Concertize Opera Glasses  
Suite Boiled confectionery eaten noisily at a Concert  
Rehearse To take to a funeral a second time  
Binary Form Music stored digitally  
Motet Small waterway round a castle  
Sightread Espy the top part of a clarinet  
Romantic Practical joke played only in Italy  
Bass Line A device for catching sea-going fish  
Bass Viol Sea-going fish that's gone off  
Early Music Practising before going to work  
Violin Entry point for the Tenor Viol  
Opera Popular audience-based entertainment. Featuring Ms Winfrey  
Tenor Parts of a deck of cards - the tenor spades, the tenor hearts...  
Oboe Player 'Omeless Actor  
Wind band Flatulence prohibited  
Playing A Round Sleeping with the orchestra. See also "Triangle"  
Pachelbel's Canon Sound effects in Pachelbel's little-known and forward-looking "1812 Overture"

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## On Luthiery

French Polish Having dual nationality  
Fingerboard Tired of left hand exercises  
Bridge End A town in Wales  
Nut An obsessive Guitar owner  
Hard case A particularly obsessive Guitar owner  
Cedar To be aware of, as in "I didn't cedar repeat mark"  
Fan strutting To walk about with an air-cooler  
Tuning Peg A two-pronged wooden device for tuning guitars. Now replaced by the all-metal Tuning Fork and relegated to holding up laundry  
Major Scale 660mm  
Lateral Braces A Trouser Belt  
Polished top Bald (or follically disadvantaged, as I believe it's called now...)

Mahogany The mother of the Hogany kids  
D'Addario The father of the Dario kids

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## On Musicians

Bach The part of the tree which is discarded when making a guitar  
Borodin On long-term loan. Often seen in Programmes - Borodin 1833  
Bream The sound of an arpeggiated chord  
Byrd See Cage  
Handel Part of a clockwork guitar - unnecessary on the newer, electric, guitar.  
Howells Awful singer who gave rise to the expression Howells of Derision  
Kreisler Musician born into a family of car mechanics  
Mahler The elderly mother of Mr Ler  
Russell A noisy Page Turn (qv) - "Have you heard David Russell?"  
Sor The fingers after excessive practising  
Weiss A deadly sin

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## On The Guitar, Crime and Punishment

Axe Murderer Particularly poor Guitarist  
Gavotte Pizzicato - (That is, to choke with a string)  
Compound Time Serving jail sentences concurrently  
Steel Guitar Acquire an instrument without paying for it

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## On Other Instruments

Baton Directive to the English Cricket Team. Again...  
Bow tie The special knot which holds the horses' hair onto a violin bow  
Organ stop Sermon about to start  
Keyboard Sick of playing in two sharps  
Piano Large shipping line  
Sackbut Insult directed at someone with bulbous hips  
Banjo Anyone called Joseph is not allowed  
Trumpet Win a hand of whist by not following suit.  
Soloist Game of cards for one  
Tambourine Tasty small orange fruit  
Cymbals Suggestive ornaments - as in phallic cymbals  
Sax Large bags full of music  
Concertina Origami Bagpipes  
Concertino Female Bagpipes - caution, keep away from Male Bagpipes!  
Piccolo Suitable for an Alto, as in "I'll piccolo key for the singer"  
Clavichord Instrument made out of old collar bones

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## On Guitar Repertoire

Baroque Music Music for badgers  
Guitarist Carpal Tunnel Syndrome following excessive practice  
Whole Tone Music Tunes which are unrefined (cf WholeMeal flour)  
Flamenco A large pink bird found in Spain  
Courante With power. An electric guitar requires an electric courante  
Top part Clothing worn above the waist  
Chorale Famous Ranch. OK?  
Partita Diner who never clears their plate  
Free stroke Golfing penalty  
Chord A thick string  
Major Chord A *seriously* thick string  
Index finger The digit with which you scan the contents page of a book  
Ring Finger The digit that dials the phone  
Solo Very deep - "That Bass Line (qv) is Solo"  
Harmonica First overtone on the fifth string  
Electronic Tuner Tamagotchi Pet Fish  
Footstool A chair exactly 12 inches off the ground  
Full Bar Popular Drinking Haunt

Plucked Devoid of feathers. (Electric Guitarists may notice some residual fuzz)  
Fingernails See Thumbtacks  
Higher Positions Vacancies fulfilled by rented personnel

Hope you enjoy!

Use these freely to win admiring looks at parties and increase your social standing among your peers, but please also be kind enough to mention that you stole them in a heartless fashion from an impoverished guitar teacher who is now broken by your cavalier attitude in taking only the free bits...



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