

the Soprano, Alto, Requinto, Bass and Contrabass guitar family

Derek Hasted's Guitar Ensemble School

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🎵 You are in [Derek Hasted](#) > [Third Floor](#) > [Orchestra Pit](#) > 2nd Movement

2nd Movement - Variations

In this section we'll see the variety of instruments

Contents

- Meet The Guitars - 2
 - [Soprano](#)
 - [Alto](#)
 - [Requinto](#)
 - [Prime](#)
 - [Bass](#)
 - [Contra Bass](#)

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Meet The Guitars - 2

Soprano Guitar (sometimes called Piccolo or Octave Guitar)

Scale Length	Typically 400mm
Tuning	E A D G B E - One octave above the classical
Suitable strings	Hannabach 835
Notation	Plays in the same key as the Classical Guitar

What is
Scale Length?



Pluck this



To hear this



To hear this



Pluck this

Alto Guitar

Scale Length	Typically 530mm
Tuning	B E A D F# B - One fifth above the classical
Suitable strings	Hannabach 836
Notation	Plays in the key with one less sharp/one more flat than the Classical Guitar



Pluck this



To hear this



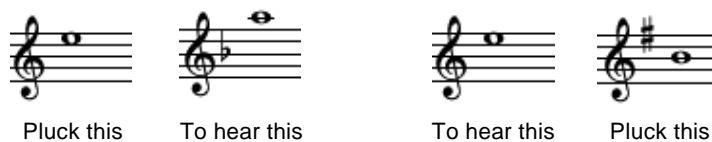
To hear this



Pluck this

Requinto

Scale Length	Typically 530mm
Tuning	A D G C E A - One fourth above the classical
Suitable strings	Suitable strings - La Bella. Hannabach 839 - quint - will also suffice
Notation	Plays in the key with one more sharp/one less flat than the Classical Guitar



As you can see, the Requinto guitar and Alto guitar differ essentially only in their strings and the pitch to which those strings are tuned.

Prime (the ordinary Classical Guitar)

Well, you all know this one, I hope! But the scale length varies, like all the others - typically 650mm

Bass Guitar (sometimes called Baritone or Quint Bass Guitar)

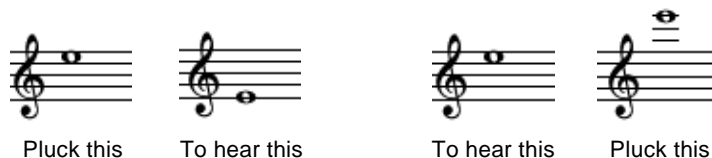
Scale Length	Typically 700mm
Tuning	B E A D F# B - One fourth below the classical
Suitable strings	Hannabach 840 - four are wound
Notation	Plays in the key with one less sharp/one more flat than the Classical Guitar



The Bass offers the same bass notes as a 7-string guitar, but has a slightly larger body and a deeper front-to-back dimension that adds depth and power to the lower register.

ContraBass or Contra Guitar (sometimes called Bass or Double Bass Guitar)

Scale Length	Typically 750mm
Tuning	E A D G B E - One octave below the classical
Suitable strings	Hannabach 841 -all are wound
Notation	Plays in the key with one less sharp/one more flat than the Classical Guitar



Don't confuse the Contrabass Guitar with the acoustic version of the electric bass guitar, which has only four strings, a much longer scale, and much higher tension strings.

Indeed, don't confuse it with the 6-string electric bass, which is tuned very differently - B E A D G C - in perfect fourths, with an extra string above and below the normal four-string electric bass.

[Back to top](#)