

Guitar Pedagogy, SFCM Setting Up a Private Studio

Plan for private or group lessons or both

Studio location

- Home or private studio
- Traveling guitar teacher (house calls)
- Close proximity to students
- Studio equipment

How to obtain students

- Locate in an area of children because adults will also be present.
- Join music teacher associations
- Give your own recitals as well as student recitals
- Mail out information about your private practice
- Advertise in print by an information letter or advertisement flyer

Interview prospective students

- Obtain their name, age, address and telephone number
- How long have they played?
- What are they working on?
- How much note reading or theory knowledge to they have?
- Define what you are going to teach the student
- Give what your expectations are
- Find out what are their expectations are
- Have the student play if they are not a beginner
- Explain how much your lesson rate is and when you expect to be paid

Have a studio policy statement ready for hand out with the following information:

- Your teaching calendar
- Fees
- Payment of fees
- Policy for missed lessons
- Policy for cancelled lessons
- Lesson times

How to schedule lessons

- Early morning (before school or work)
- After school or after work hours
- During the day (college age or preschool students)
- Weekends
- Teaching in the Summer

Length of lesson time

- Thirty-minutes, forty-five minutes, 1 hour lesson

Group lessons or combination private and group lessons

Lesson fees

- Background of teacher
- Income bracket of the community
- Length of lesson
- Type of lesson (private and/or group)

Bookkeeping procedures

Tax deductions