

Build a Shuitar. Easy.

1 Get any acoustic guitar. A used one is best. The world doesn't need more junk. Spend \$0-50 at most.



2 Buy any jingle stick online with a flat handle. Drill a 1/4" hole in the end of the handle. Drill a 1/4" hole through third fret of the guitar (offset to the right of the neck). Put a 1/4" bolt through the neck. Use a washer on both sides of the jingle stick handle, fit over the bolt. Put two nuts on the end of the bolt and tighten them together snugly (two wrenches). This allows the jingle stick to swing freely.

3 Drill a small hole in the side of the guitar near the end of the jingle stick. Cut an elastic hair tie. Tie one end to a washer. Put your hand inside the guitar and run the loose end of the elastic through the hole you drilled. Tie this loose end to the end of the jingle stick. The hair tie should be very taut. **Play the jingle stick with your left thumb for cymbal hits, open hi-hat, accents.**

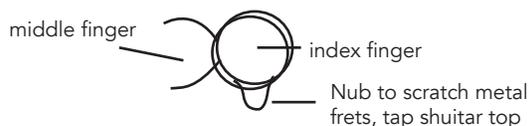
4 Cut a rectangle of wood for a bridge riser: 1/4"-1/2" thick, 5-6" long, 1 1/2-2" wide. Place the top half of this wood over the guitar bridge. Drill two 1/8" holes that pierce the riser and the guitar bridge simultaneously (red dots pictured). Start a wood screw in each hole that will reach to the inside of the guitar. (You will finish this piece in step 5.) **Play the bridge riser with the whole weight of your right hand. Don't tap, this is the bass drum.**

5 Bother a guitar shop or a friend for 3-4 used guitar strings (original length, not cut). The bottom strings of a guitar or the smaller strings of a bass work well. You can buy new strings but likely in bulk to get four of the same string. Wind the strings around the three or four tuning machines on the left of the guitar. Place the loose ends of the strings just past the guitar bridge. With the two screws, tighten down the bridge riser (step 4) over the strings to secure. The brass circle on the guitar string hanging off the bridge edge, under the riser, will keep the string in place after you tighten them. Tighten the strings a bit until just before you would hear a tone. **Play these loose strings with your right thumb. This is your hi-hat. Practice hard to gain skill between your right thumb and your right fingers (bass drum).**

6 Get a thick ring. Place it on the middle or ring finger of your left hand. You will hit the side of the guitar firmly with this ring. The ring should hit the middle of the guitar side in the hollow-sounding sweet spot. **This is your snare drum.**

7 Other things: Place a "scrunchie" hair tie or the soft side of a string of velcro around the neck to mute the strings. Place a chunk of foam inside of the guitar when using a mic on the hole with a PA system to stop feedback.

8 Make a scratch ring (10" long wire coat hanger). With pliers and by wrapping around a broomstick, shape into the design below. Wear on right index and middle finger together. Play the frets like a washboard.



9 Type "Shuitar 1" at Youtube. Hold the shuitar like a cello. Play along with records for 100 hours.

