

London College of Music Examinations

# Rock Guitar

**Requirements for Recorded Exams:**  
Steps, Grades 1-8 and Recital Grades

**Valid from:**  
Spring 2020 until further notice

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# **1. Overview**

The following exam alternatives provide the opportunity for the assessment of musical performance, whereby candidates upload a video file of their performance, rather than attending an examination venue. Performances are assessed by trained LCME examiners, using the same standards and criteria as are used for face-to-face, live exams. This offers candidates a reliable, independent, regulated assessment of their performance standard, while benefitting from the flexibility allowed by the submission process.

## 2. Recorded Exam Requirements

### 2.1. Pre-grade 1

A recorded submission alternative for candidates who have entered for Step exams

#### Step 1

##### Component 1: Prepared Performances

Candidates perform two pieces:

- one piece from Group A **50 marks**
- one piece from Group B **50 marks**

These are provided in the LCME Rock Guitar Handbook: Step 1 (from 2019) in standard notation and tablature. Performances are to be over the backing tracks supplied with the handbook.

#### Step 2

##### Component 1: Prepared Performances

Candidates perform three pieces:

- one piece from Group A **40 marks**
- one piece from Group B **30 marks**
- one piece from Group C **30 marks**

These are provided in the LCME Rock Guitar Handbook: Step 1 (from 2019) in standard notation and tablature. Performances are to be over the backing tracks supplied with the handbook.

#### Weighting for examination components

Prepared Performance
100 %

#### Assessment

Performances are assessed according to the same standards and criteria as for LCME's face-to-face exams. Refer to the details listed under Performance, in the section *How marks are awarded* in the relevant syllabus.

#### Submission

Please see *submission guidelines for recorded exams* on the LCME website.

## 2.2. Grades 1-8

A recorded submission alternative for graded exams (grades 1-8).

### Component 1: Prepared Performances

(50 marks)

#### Grades 1-3

Candidates perform 2 pieces listed for the grade in the LCME syllabus

#### Grades 4&5

Candidates perform 2 pieces. At least one piece must be listed for the grade in the LCME syllabus

#### Grades 6-8

Candidates perform 3 pieces according to the instructions for the grade in the LCME syllabus

### Component 2: Prepared Improvisation

(25 marks)

Candidates choose and prepare one improvisation from the LCME Rock Guitar Handbook. This will be played through five times. The first verse is used to listen to the chord progression. During the second and third verse, candidates will improvise a lead guitar solo. During the fourth and fifth verse candidates will improvise a rhythm guitar part. The range of chords that will appear at this level, and the recommended scales which candidates will need to base their improvisation on, can be found in the LCME Rock Guitar Syllabus 2019. Backing tracks for the improvisations can be purchased at [lcmebooks.org](http://lcmebooks.org).

### Component 3: Additional Performance OR Additional Improvisation

(25 marks)

Candidates can choose to perform an additional free choice piece of a similar standard or an additional prepared improvisation (as for component 2).

### Weighting for examination components

Prepared Performance	Prepared Improvisation	Additional Prepared Performance/ Prepared Improvisation
50 %	25 %	25 %

### Assessment

Performances are assessed according to the same standards and criteria as for LCME's graded exams. Refer to the details listed under Performance, in the section *How marks are awarded* in the relevant syllabus.

### Regulation

LCME's recorded exams are regulated in England by Ofqual, and by the corresponding authorities in Wales (Qualifications Wales) and Northern Ireland (CCEA). They have been placed on the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) at Levels 1, 2 and 3.

### Submission

Please see *submission guidelines for recorded exams* on the LCME website.

## 2.3. Recital Grades

The requirements for each exam component are the same as for the equivalent graded exam unless specified otherwise below.

### Component 1: Prepared Performances

(100 marks)

#### Steps 1 and 2, Grades 1-5

Candidates perform three prepared pieces, at least one of which must be chosen from those listed for the equivalent grades. Any own choice pieces must be of a similar standard to the listed pieces. Own choice pieces should not exceed 5 minutes each.

#### Grades 6-8

Candidates perform four prepared pieces. Any own choice pieces must be of a similar standard to the suggested arrangements for the grade. The total duration of the performances (including gaps between pieces) should be as follows:

Grade 6: 12–24 minutes

Grade 7: 14–28 minutes

Grade 8: 15–30 minutes

### Weighting for examination components

	Performance 1	Performance 2	Performance 3	Performance 4
Steps and Grades 1-5	30 %	30 %	40 %	-
Grades 6-8	25 %	25 %	25 %	25 %

### Regulation

Recital Grades in Rock Guitar are not currently regulated by Ofqual.

### Submission

Please see *submission guidelines for recorded exams* on the LCME website.