

London College of Music Examinations

Rock Guitar

Requirements for Recorded Exams:
Steps & Grades 1-8

Valid from:
Spring 2020 until further notice

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1. Overview

In response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, London College of Music Examinations is offering recorded alternatives in order to assess the work candidates have prepared.

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. Entry Details

Candidates entered for a face-to-face exam may choose to switch to a recorded exam at no additional cost. Once candidates have recorded their exams, they can be uploaded via the LCME website. Please see *submission guidelines* (**page 5**) for details.

3 Recorded Exam Requirements

3.1 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.

3.2 Grades 1-8

A recorded submission alternative for candidates who have entered for graded exams (grades 1-8).

Component 1: Prepared Performances

(50 marks)

Candidates perform two of the pieces listed below or two pieces from the set list for the equivalent grade syllabus of another accredited exam board. The pieces below are provided in the publication *Graded Guitar*

Songs: 9 Rock Classics Carefully Arranged for Beginning-Level Guitarists (Hal Leonard).

- o Sunshine of Your Love: Cream
- o Smoke on the Water: Deep Purple
- o Smells Like Teen Spirit: Nirvana

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 <https://downloadsforguitar.com/rock-guitar.php>

Component 3: Additional Performance OR Additional Improvisation

(25 marks)

Candidates can choose to perform an additional free choice piece 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.