CULTEQ

Guitar Study Companion

User guide & practice handbook

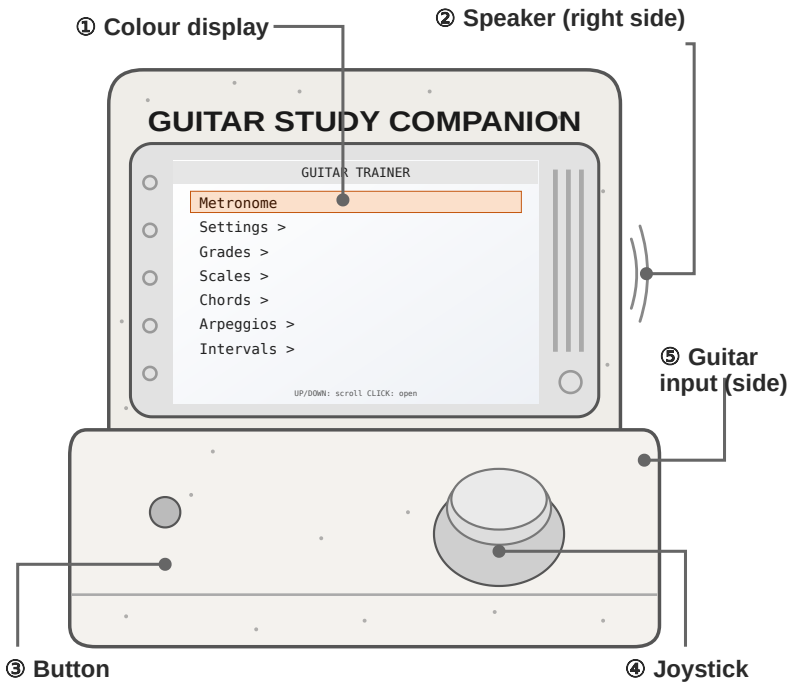
Learn · Play · Listen · Grow



Model GSC-1
Made in Greece · CultEQ
FCC SDoC · Part 15 Class B · see page 10

01 Meet your device

A pocket practice studio: it shows you what to play, plays along with you, and listens back to tell you how you did.

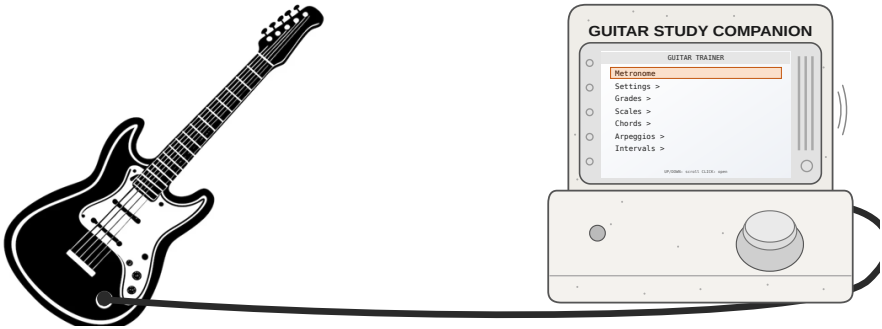


Front view

Part	What it does
① Display	Menus, chord & scale diagrams, chord charts, staff notation and test results.
② Speaker	Built in; the sound comes out of the right side of the cabinet.
③ Button	Power on / off.
④ Joystick	Your only navigation control: push up/down/left, or click (press down).
⑤ Guitar input	Standard ¼" jack on the right side. Plug your guitar in so the device can hear you.

02 Getting started

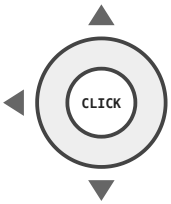
Three steps and you are practising.



Connect your guitar with an ordinary instrument (jack) cable

1. **Plug in your guitar.** Use a standard instrument cable into the jack on the right side. Turn your guitar's volume knob fully up; the neck pickup gives the most reliable note detection.
2. **Power it** by USB-C or with 4 × AA batteries (not included), then **switch on** with the button. The main menu **GUITAR TRAINER** appears.
3. **Set your sound** in **Settings** (page 6), then open **Grades** and choose your level.

Using the joystick

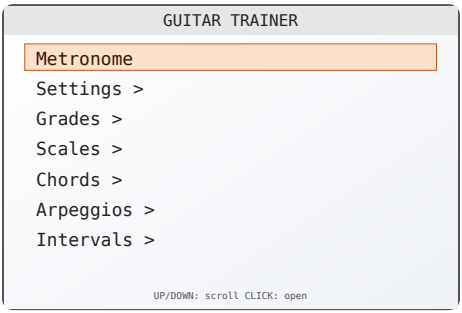


UP / DOWN	Scroll a list, select a button, or browse to the next diagram
CLICK (press)	Open an item, toggle a setting, start an action
LEFT	Go back one level

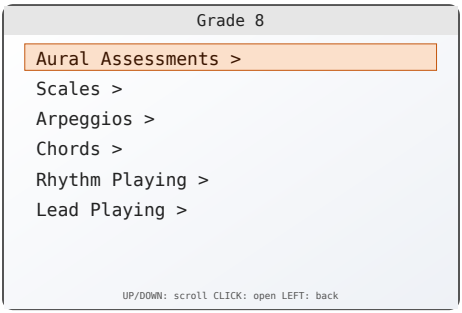
TIP · You never need to memorise controls: the bottom line of every screen, e.g. `UP/DOWN: scroll CLICK: open LEFT: back` , tells you what the joystick does there. And tune your guitar before every session!

03 Finding your way

Everything is organised by **Grade** (1–8). Each grade has the same six sections, getting more demanding as you climb. The same material is also available as open libraries from the main menu.



Main menu



Inside a grade

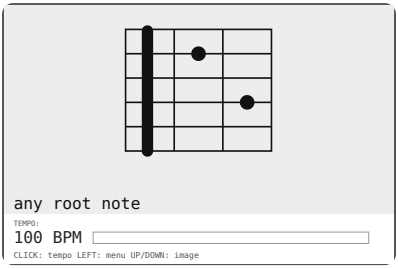
Main menu	What you find there
Metronome	A plain click for any practice.
Settings	Sounds and volumes (page 6).
Grades	The graded course: Aural Assessments, Scales, Arpeggios, Chords, Rhythm Playing, Lead Playing.
Scales	Basic Patterns, Modal, Blues & Bluegrass, Melodic & Harmonic Minor, Diminished, Whole Tone.
Chords · Arpeggios	Major, Minor, Dominant, Diminished, Augmented, Sus and more.
Intervals	Every interval, shown on the fretboard.

Which grade should I start with?

Never played, or know a few chords	**Grade 1**
Open chords and a pentatonic shape	**Grade 2–3**
Barre chords, several scale positions	**Grade 4–5**
Read music and study harmony	**Grade 6–8**

04 Reading the diagrams

Scales, arpeggios, chords and intervals appear as fretboard pictures, as if you were looking at the neck face-on, headstock to the left.



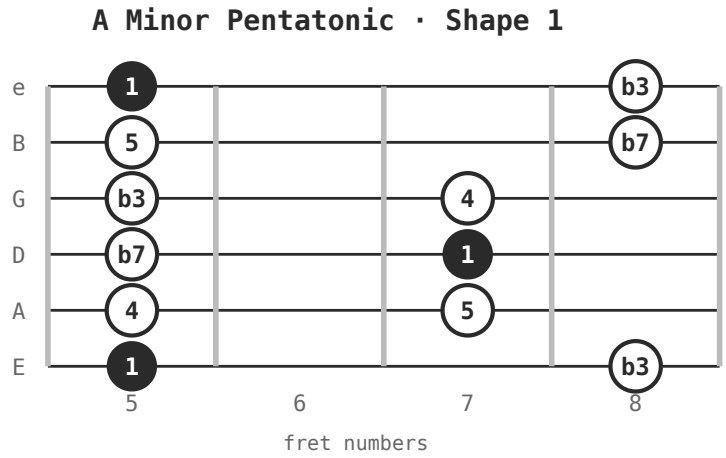
A chord shape on screen

UP / DOWN steps through the next / previous diagram of the same group.

CLICK starts the metronome at the tempo shown, so you can practise the shape in time.

LEFT returns to the menu.

"*any root note*" means the shape is **movable**: slide it anywhere on the neck.



Example: A minor pentatonic across all six strings, frets 5–8

How to read it

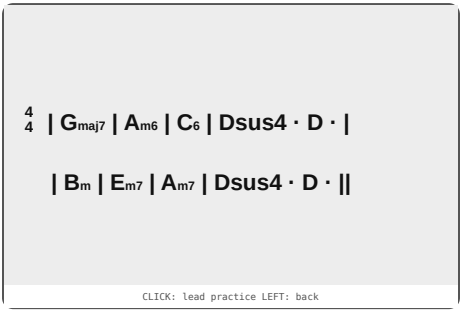
- **Horizontal lines** are strings: high *e* on top, low *E* at the bottom.
- **Vertical lines** are frets; a thick bar means a barre.
- **Dark dots** are the root (1), your "home" note.

The numbers inside

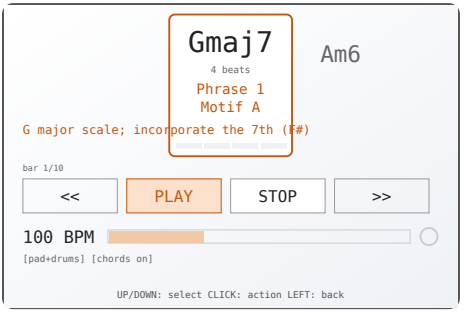
Each dot shows its **scale degree**: **1** root, **b3** minor third, **5** fifth… Learning degrees, not just shapes, lets you use a pattern in any key and understand *why* a note sounds as it does.

05 Playing along

In **Rhythm Playing** and **Lead Playing** the device becomes your band: drums and chord pads play a progression while the screen tells you what comes next.



1 · Read the chart, then CLICK



2 · Play along with the band

On the player: UP/DOWN selects **<< PLAY STOP >>** or the tempo bar; CLICK activates it. The big box is the current chord with its beats; the next chord waits on the right. In Lead Playing you also get the phrase, the motif and a **focus instruction** (e.g. "G major scale; incorporate the 7th").

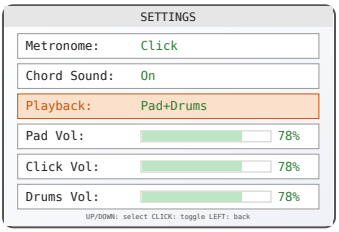
RHYTHM PLAYING

Strum the progression in time. Aim for clean changes *on* beat 1: prepare the next shape during beat 4.

LEAD PLAYING

Improvise following the on-screen focus. Land on a chord tone (1, 3, 5) at the start of each bar; answer one phrase with the next.

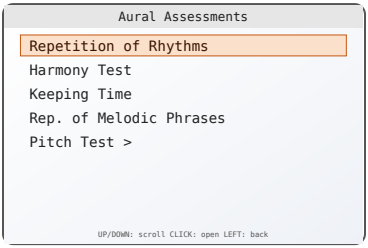
Settings: shape your band

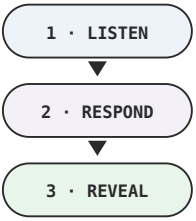


- **Metronome**: click sound style.
- **Chord Sound**: harmony on / off.
- **Playback**: e.g. Pad+Drums.
- **Pad / Click / Drums Vol**: balance the mix so you still hear yourself.

06 Training your ear

Every grade has its own **Aural Assessments**, matched to that level. The device plays; you respond; then it reveals the answer.





Test	You…	What it trains
Repetition of Rhythms	play it back; the device **scores your timing**	Hearing a rhythm once and reproducing it accurately.
Keeping Time	play in time; the device **scores your timing**	A steady inner pulse, without rushing or dragging.
Pitch Test	choose the answer	Recognising intervals, chords, arpeggios and scales by ear; answer then shown on the staff.
Harmony Test	choose the answer	Hearing chord qualities and how chords move.
Repetition of Melodic Phrases	listen, find it on the guitar, **check yourself**	Playing by ear. The device plays a short melody; you work it out, then compare with the notation it reveals. Honest self-marking is part of the exercise.

> **For accurate timing scores:** play **short and clear (staccato)**: the device listens for when each note *starts*. Mute strings you're not playing and don't touch the cable while playing.

07 A daily practice plan

Tune	Scales	Chords	Play along	Ear
2 min	6 min	6 min	6 min	5 min

≈ 25 minutes a day beats a long session once a week

1. **One grade at a time.** Work through all six sections before moving on.
2. **Connect the sections.** A grade's scales and arpeggios fit its progressions: learn them, then use them in Lead Playing the same day.
3. **Ear every day.** Five minutes of Aural Assessments daily.
4. **Move up** when the timing tests feel comfortable three days in a row.

08 Care & troubleshooting

Problem	Try this
Menu doesn't appear	Switch off, check the microSD card is seated, switch on again.
Notes not detected	Guitar volume fully up, check the cable, play firmly and staccato.
Extra notes counted	Mute unused strings; keep the cable still; move away from chargers and power supplies.
Can't hear myself	Lower Pad / Drums volume in Settings.

Keep the device dry, away from direct sun and heat. Don't remove the microSD card while the device is on.

09 Safety, batteries & disposal

A few simple rules keep you and your device safe.

Using your device

- Indoor, dry use only. Keep it away from water, direct sun and heat.
- Power it from a USB-C power supply (5 V DC), or with 4 × AA batteries in the battery case (batteries are not included). Use a good-quality, certified charger or power bank.
- There are no user-serviceable parts inside. Do not open the enclosure.
- Clean with a dry or slightly damp soft cloth. No solvents or sprays.
- Not a toy. Keep the microSD card and other small parts away from young children.

Batteries

- Insert them with the correct polarity (+ / –). Do not mix old and new batteries, or different types.
- Never try to recharge non-rechargeable batteries.
- Remove the batteries if the device will not be used for a long time, and immediately if they leak.

Disposal



Do not throw this product or its batteries in the household bin. Take them to a collection point for waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) and batteries, so that materials can be recovered and the environment protected. Questions about returning your device? Write to us (last page).

10 FCC Compliance Information

Supplier's Declaration of Conformity (SDoC) · for customers in the United States of America.

Product	CultEQ Guitar Study Companion
Model	GSC-1
Rules	47 CFR Part 15, Subpart B · Class B digital device
Procedure	Supplier's Declaration of Conformity (SDoC)

SDoC DECLARATION

CultEQ declares under its sole responsibility that the product identified above complies with 47 CFR Part 15, Subpart B, for Class B digital devices.

FCC COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause harmful interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

NOTE

This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference in a residential installation. If this equipment causes interference to radio or television reception (which can be checked by turning it off and on), try moving it farther away from the receiver or consult an experienced radio/TV technician.

Modifications. Changes or modifications not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

MANUFACTURER · PARTY RESPONSIBLE FOR COMPLIANCE

CultEQ
Ionias 35, 17121 Nea Smirni, Athens, Greece
galliard1981@hotmail.com

11 EU Declaration of Conformity

CE

1	**Product:** Guitar Study Companion, model GSC-1 (electronic music practice device, USB-C / battery powered).
2	**Manufacturer:** CultEQ, Ionias 35, 17121 Nea Smirni, Athens, Greece · galliard1981@hotmail.com
3	This declaration of conformity is issued under the sole responsibility of the manufacturer.
4	The object of the declaration described above is in conformity with the relevant Union harmonisation legislation: · Directive 2014/30/EU (Electromagnetic Compatibility) · Directive 2011/65/EU (RoHS), as amended by (EU) 2015/863
5	**Conformity assessment:** internal production control (Module A). Emissions and immunity (including electrostatic discharge on the enclosure, joystick and ports, and a nearby mobile phone) were checked by the manufacturer and found to be within satisfactory levels. **Standards applied:** EN 55032 (emissions, Class B) · EN 55035 (immunity) · EN IEC 63000 (RoHS technical documentation).
6	The technical documentation is held by the manufacturer at the address above.

SIGNED FOR AND ON BEHALF OF CULTEQ

Michael Andritsopoulos, Founder, CultEQ

Place and date of issue: Athens, Greece, 28 September 2026



Signature

The CE marking on this guide and on the device indicates the manufacturer's declaration of conformity with the legislation above.

CULTEQ

Culture + EQ · Educational instruments for musicians

CONTACT US

Questions, feedback or support

galliard1981@hotmail.com

MANUFACTURER

CultEQ
Ionias 35, 17121 Nea Smirni, Athens, Greece
galliard1981@hotmail.com

CE

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