

# The Plan: Making Dreams Come True

I WONDER IF  
I COULD LEARN TO  
PLAY THE GUITAR.

YES, I'VE  
ALWAYS WANTED  
TO DO THAT!



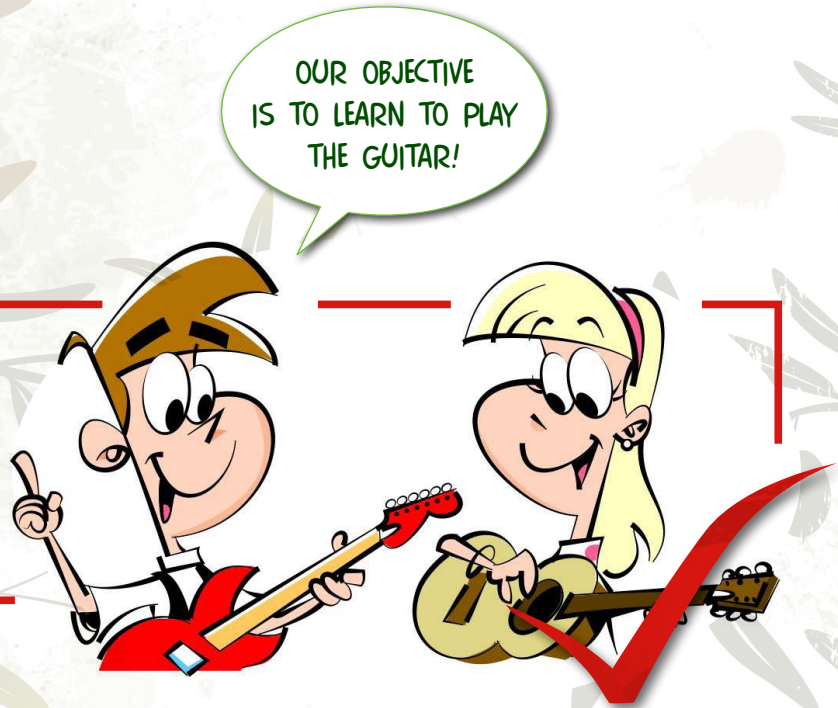
Do you want to be able to...

- ⇒ bake and decorate delicious treats?
- ⇒ learn to play the guitar?
- ⇒ learn another language?
- ⇒ master some dance moves?
- ⇒ help others through your prayers?
- ⇒ be more outgoing and confident?
- ⇒ learn to play a new sport?
- ⇒ make a new friend?
- ⇒ learn to touch type?
- ⇒ draw caricatures?
- ⇒ learn a certain computer program?
- ⇒ learn basic photography?
- ⇒ make macrame jewelry?
- ⇒ write stories?

**While these are different skills, they all have one thing in common: they are objectives, which can be reached through planning and setting goals, and then taking steps to reach them! Planning is vital for acquiring and developing new skills in your life.**

# Here's how to plan to make your dream a reality:

**1. Determine your objective.** Take some time to think and plan for what you want to accomplish or achieve.



LET'S SEE ...  
THERE ARE SEVEN  
MAJOR CHORDS, THEN  
THE MINOR CHORDS, 7THS  
DIMINISHED, 7THS  
SUSPENDED,  
6THS...

I THINK IT MIGHT  
BE EASIER IF WE WERE TO  
PICK TWO TO THREE SONGS  
AND WORK ON THOSE ONE  
AT A TIME.



**2. Create short-term goals to reach your objective.** Short-term goals are the steppingstones that will get you to the final destination of your objective.

**3. Identify any obstacles.** Think about any obstacles, cons, or things that might stand in the way of achieving the results you're after. This is helpful because, if you assess potential roadblocks, you can then think and pray about ways to work through them.

MY FINGERS  
HURT!

YOU JUST FINISHED  
YOUR SWIMMING CLASS, SO  
YOUR FINGERS ARE SOFT. WE'D  
BETTER CHANGE OUR PRACTICE  
TIME TO AFTER DINNER.



I THINK WE  
COULD WORK ON ONE  
SONG PER MONTH.

GOOD IDEA! SOME  
OF THE CHORDS ARE THE  
SAME SO IT WOULD REINFORCE  
WHAT WE LEARN.



**4. Set dates for achieving  
your short-term goals or steps.**

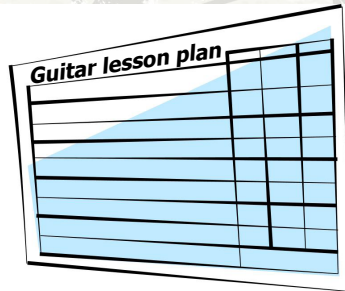
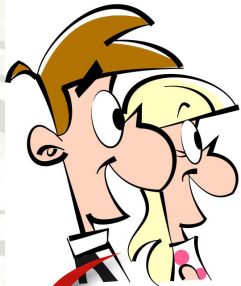
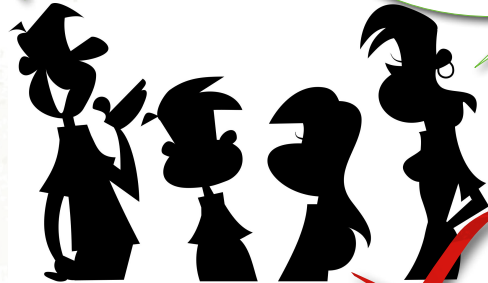
**Having dates for completion of  
your short-term goals will help  
keep you focused and moving  
forward.**



YOUR PLAN  
IS GOOD!

AND IF  
YOU'RE CONSISTENT,  
YOU SHOULD SEE  
PROGRESS.

**5. Confirm your plans with your parents and with the Lord.** It's also wise to check in with the Lord at regular intervals, to give Him a chance to advise you and guide you as you go about enacting your plans.



**6. Document the plan.** It's important to clearly document your plan, so that you're clear on the overall objectives, how you're going to reach them, and how you're going to hold yourself responsible. Make a chart of what you want to achieve and the steps you need to take to get there, so that nothing is forgotten or left undone. Ask your parents, a peer, or a mentor to help you with this.



**7. Put your plan into action. Put up reminders to help you follow through and stick with what you've committed to doing in order to reach your goals.**



HOW DID  
THAT SOUND?

SUPER,  
SWEETHEART! I JUST  
HAVE ONE TIP. ...



**8. Ask for feedback.** Take time every now and then to ask others what they think of the progress you've made, or for tips to help you do better or to boost your progress.







**9. And finally, don't forget to celebrate your success in reaching your goals!**

## **Try It!**

**Think of one objective that you'd like to accomplish, counsel and confirm your plan with your parents and the Lord, and then go through the steps outlined above!**