10 Week Guitar Exam Planner

Page 1: your exam and the 10 week countdown. For Rockschool Electric Guitar exams through AMEB.

1. My exam

Exam type	Grade	Exam or submission date	Enrolment closing date	Notification received
Grade Exam / Graded Cert / Perf Cert				

Piece 1	Piece 2	Piece 3	Unseen test choice (Debut to Grade 5)
			Sight reading / Improvisation

2. The 10 week countdown

Write the dates in, set a tempo target for each piece every week, and tick each section the day you practise it. Rotate all sections every week. Mock exams in weeks 5 and 8.

Wk	Dates	Focus	P1 bpm	P2 bpm	P3 bpm	Tech	Unseen	Ear	GMQ
1		Choose pieces, print the technical list, baseline recording							
2		Hardest sections slowly; technique with a click							
3		Pieces with backing tracks; start daily unseen practice							
4		Ear tests from the grade book sample tests							
5		**MOCK EXAM 1 in real order; pick 3 weak spots**							
6		Fix weak spots; musicianship question terms							
7		Full tempo with backing tracks; technique in random order							
8		**MOCK EXAM 2 with someone as examiner**							
9		Final fixes only; check your notification							
10		Exam week: short run throughs, rest, pack the checklist							

Honest note: this is a practice plan from Maxim's Guitar Workshop, not official RSL or AMEB advice, and no plan can promise a pass. Follow the syllabus for your grade.

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Page 2: mock exam run sheet in real exam order, and your exam day checklist.

3. Mock exam run sheet (Grade Exam order)

#	Section	What happens	Mock 1 notes	Mock 2 notes
1	Start	Examiner asks: pieces or technical exercises first? Decide in advance.		
2	Sound check	First few bars of your first piece with the backing track (first piece only).		
3	Pieces	Three pieces with backing tracks (20 marks each).		
4	Technical exercises	Exercises chosen by the examiner (15 marks).		
5	Unseen test	Sight reading: 90 s to prepare. Improvisation: 30 s, a practice run, then examined. Quick study piece (Gr 6 to 8): 3 min to study (10 marks).		
6	Ear tests	Two tests: melodic and rhythmic recall to Grade 3, melodic and harmonic recall from Grade 4 (10 marks).		
7	Musicianship questions	Five questions on music knowledge and your guitar, based on one of your pieces (5 marks).		

4. Rate each piece on the four criteria

Criterion	Piece 1	Piece 2	Piece 3	What to fix
Command of instrument				
Sync or pulse				
Accuracy and understanding				
Style and expression				

5. Exam day checklist

Check	Tick	Check	Tick
Exam notification: date, time, venue		Grade book (your own notes allowed)	
Travel planned to arrive early		Photocopies for page turns (hand in at the end)	
Guitar tuned, spare strings, picks, lead		Gear needs checked with AMEB	
Water and a light meal		Short warm up: scales and opening bars	
Video exam: charged phone, free storage		Video exam: closing date in your calendar	

Certificates: for a Graded Certificate, mock the three pieces plus every technical exercise on the submission list, each after an audible four click count in. For a Performance Certificate, mock all five pieces in your chosen order.

Marks from the RSL Awards Electric Guitar syllabus specification (last updated 5 June 2025): pass 60%, merit 74%, distinction 90% for Grade Exams. Check the current syllabus and AMEB SA and NT dates before you enrol.