

# 6 TIPS FOR LEARNING TO READ MUSIC

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1. Have a regular practice schedule. It's important to have regularity in the process of learning to read music. Try to spend at least twenty minutes a day practicing.
2. Of course, you'll need one of our books, "The Guitarist's Link to Sight Reading", "The Bassist's Link to Sight Reading", or "The Drummer's Link to Sight Reading".
3. You will need a well-lit area.
4. A music stand is essential. You'll have much more fun if you are not trying to prop the book in a strange place and contort yourself to try to read it. It also helps to have a clothespin or clamp of some kind to keep the book open to the current page.
5. As your skills develop, write charts of your song ideas for your friends to play, and they can do the same for you. The more you are exposed to written music, the better. Also, you'll be developing a better way for your band to communicate at rehearsals.
6. For guitar or bass, if you're in the habit of reading tablature books, try looking upward from the tab every once in a while and read the actual notation on the staff (usually found above the Tablature line). You can use what you have learned about rhythm to understand the timing. You can also try reading the actual pitches, although they may be played in a position you're not familiar with.