

Playing with  
**Feel**  
BY CHRIS **BUCK**

# Self- Assessment

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Before diving into the course, take some time to reflect on where you are as a guitarist today. This self-assessment will help you establish your goals, recognize your influences, and identify areas for improvement. It will also serve as a snapshot you can return to at the end of the course to measure your growth.

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## 1. Influences & Inspiration

- Who are your biggest musical influences (guitarists or non-guitarists)?
  
- What draws you to their playing? (tone, phrasing, feel, technique, creativity, etc.)
  
- Is there a specific sound or style you'd love to develop in your own playing?

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## 2. Strengths & Weaknesses

- What do you consider your biggest strengths on the guitar right now?

- What aspects of your playing do other people compliment you on?
  
- What do you consider your biggest weaknesses?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- What aspects of your playing frustrate you the most?

### **3. Skills & Priorities**

**Rate your current confidence in the following areas (1 = weak, 5 = strong):**

- Rhythm playing & timing: \_\_\_\_\_
- Chord knowledge & vocabulary: \_\_\_\_\_
- Soloing & improvisation: \_\_\_\_\_
- Technique (speed, accuracy, articulation): \_\_\_\_\_
- Tone control & dynamics: \_\_\_\_\_
- Ear training & playing by ear: \_\_\_\_\_
- Music theory understanding: \_\_\_\_\_
- Song repertoire & memorization: \_\_\_\_\_
- Creativity & composition: \_\_\_\_\_
- Performance confidence: \_\_\_\_\_

**Which of the above skills are your top three priorities to improve right now?**

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## 4. Goals

- What are your short-term goals (next 3–6 months)?
  
- What are your long-term goals (1–3 years)?
  
- Do you want to focus more on technical mastery, creativity, performance, or something else?
  
- If you could achieve only one big thing with your guitar playing in the next year, what would it be?

## 5. Build Your “Frankenstein Guitarist”

If you could combine the best elements of different players into one ultimate guitarist, who would you take them from and why?

- Vibrato: \_\_\_\_\_
- Bending: \_\_\_\_\_
- Tone: \_\_\_\_\_
- Picking: \_\_\_\_\_
- Timefeel: \_\_\_\_\_
- Melodic Sense: \_\_\_\_\_
- Chordal/Rhythm Guitar Skills: \_\_\_\_\_
- Phrasing: \_\_\_\_\_

## 6. Self-Reflection

- Why do you play guitar — what does it give you?
- What kind of guitarist do you ultimately want to become?
- How do you want others to describe your playing?