

# Vigilant

## 2 Day MAOA Guitar Building Workshop



# Objectives

Vigilant Guitar's building workshop is designed to introduce participants to the world of luthiery by building one of the industries' two most prolific guitar models: a **Stratocaster** or a **Telecaster**. Using templates and techniques based on the style of these iconic instruments, participants of the workshop will build their guitar of choice from scratch and in doing so, gain insight into several skills including:

- Fretwork
- Electronics
- Finishing
- Wood Selection
- Structural Design
- Guitar Assembly/Physics

## *Guarantee*

Vigilant Guitar will guarantee the best tools, advice and instruction possible to ensure that each participant walks away with a quality instrument they can be proud of. Vigilant will take every precaution to provide each participant with the best quality timber. However, due to the unpredictability of wood, some material may feature small discolourations or inclusions. If an inclusion compromises the guitar's structure, Vigilant will replace the timber or offer an alternative material.

This workshop does **not guarantee** the participant a premium instrument. This workshop is designed to be **educational** in nature and focus on the building process. As such, some custom features will not be available. Because our approach has the participant engage in most of the building process on their instrument, many skills will be relatively new and may result in a finished product that differs from those of iconic commercial brands.

# Dress Code

While this workshop will not require the use of many power tools, some may be intermittently required. The use of power tools can be dangerous for those unfamiliar with their use; so to meet each day's necessary checkpoints, participants are required to meet a basic dress code and use the tool under Trevor Woodland's supervision or consent. Inability or unwillingness to adhere to the dress code will result in the suspension of the workshop until the participant replaces or removes an inadequate item.

Item	Inadequate 🙅	Adequate 👍
Close Toed Shoes. Comfortable for standing on concrete floors for extended periods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sandals</li> <li>• Slippers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSA Approved Steel Toed Boots</li> <li>• Hiking Boots</li> <li>• Hightop Boots with Leather Exterior</li> </ul>
Fitted Cotton Pants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shorts</li> <li>• Skirts</li> <li>• Baggy, Low hanging pants</li> <li>• Nylon track pants</li> <li>• Sweatpants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jeans</li> <li>• Carharts</li> <li>• Dakota pants</li> <li>• Cotton pants</li> </ul>
Cotton Shirt (Long/Short Sleeve)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• baggy shirts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cotton T shirt</li> <li>• Cotton Long Sleeve Shirt</li> </ul>
Overcoats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coats with baggy sleeves</li> <li>• Hoodies with long drawstrings</li> <li>• Jackets with <b>metal buttons/ zippers</b> close to sleeves</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tight hoodie</li> <li>• Tight cotton jacket</li> <li>• Flannel Jacket</li> <li>• Jacket with <b>plastic buttons</b> on sleeves</li> <li>• Overcoats where sleeves can be rolled up</li> </ul>
Jewelry/Accessories	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Watches</li> <li>• Bracelets</li> <li>• Pronounced Rings</li> <li>• Fake Nails</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tight Fitting Rings</li> </ul>

# *Safety*

Vigilant Guitars takes the safety of its customers, employees, subcontractors and equipment very seriously. Vigilant will take every precaution to make sure that all operations and materials used in the guitar building process are in accordance with CSA guidelines, the tool manufacturer's recommendations and WorkSafe's industrial construction guidelines. Adequate first aid, eye wash and fire suppression systems will be in place and check for expiration. All participants of the guitar building workshop will be given instruction as to the whereabouts of fire suppression, first aid and points of egress during the site orientation. Vigilant Guitars will provide ample instruction and supervision to all participants using Vigilant's equipment during the building process; regardless of the participant's experience with said tool(s), the purpose of the instruction is to familiarize participants with the specific operations and potential modifications of the tool to complete the guitar building process. The first failure to follow Vigilant's instruction will warrant a verbal warning and reiteration of the correct procedure. The second failure will have the participant move to an observer role. **A third unsafe attempt will give Vigilant the discretion to remove the participant from further use of the tool or end the workshop entirely without refund.**

# *Prefabrication*

Prior to the start date of the workshop, each participant will need to specify their desired specifications and any extra exotic timbers or hardware. Any extras will come at the expense of the participant. Should a participant choose to bring their own hardware or provide their own timber, the item in question should be on order or in Trevor's possession at least 4 weeks prior to the beginning of the workshop. Refunds will not be provided should a participant "change their mind" on any major items (neck, fretboard, frets, body, specs) 4 weeks prior to the workshop's start date and any minor items (electronics, pots, pickups, tuners, bridge, screws) 2 weeks out.

The following items/duties will arrive completed at the beginning of the 2 day workshop:

- Body jointed, sanded and routed for the participant's hardware
- Neck cut, chamfered, fret slots cut, 80% frets installed
- Neck pocket, controls and pickup cavities routed
- Body finish sanded
- Neck pilot holes drilled
- Body/Arm bevels cut and sanded.
- Inlays installed and finish sanded
- Body Oiled (3-4) coats

With these prefabrications in mind, the workshop will focus on using hand tools to complete 4 main tasks:

1. Carve and finish sand the neck profile
2. Level, crown and polish the frets
3. Wire and assemble the guitar
4. Perform a basic set-up.

# Day 1 (Saturday)

9am-12pm	Group introductions/course outline
	Drill through cavity connections
	Hammer in remaining frets
	Trim file and bevel frets
	Drill index for tuners
	Ream Tuner Holes
	Sand Headstock
	Plan Neck Profile
12pm-12:30pm	Lunch
12:30 - 4pm	Questions/ afternoon overview
	Draw volute and heel
	Hand rasp, card scraper
	Use profile cards.
	Neck and Heel Profile
	Taper and Scrape
	Finish Sanding
	Apply Oil
Trevor Only	Cleanup, store gear and prep for Day 2

## Day 2 (Sunday)

9am - 12pm	Question period, overview of day 2
	Tape Fretboard
	Mark frets
	Level with beams
	Fret Rockers
	Profile Frets
	Bevel Frets
12pm-12:30pm	Lunch
12:30 - 4pm	Questions/ afternoon overview
	Add Ground wire and Solder for output jack
	Test controls, switching, etc...
	Assemble body, bridge, pic guard, knobs etc...
	Add neck
	Add the nut
	Adjust nut slots
	String up
	Set intonation
	Group/ Individual photo
Trevor Only	Clean out