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America's Guitar

Since 1833, C. F. Martin & Co. has been a permanent part of the American experience: The oldest, most respected, most innovative guitar in American history.

Blending hand craftsmanship with state-of-the-art technology, Martin guitars remain unsurpassed in quality, tone, playability and enduring value.

⁶⁶The guitars we're building today, I believe, are among the best in our company's history – models for every taste and playing style from the traditional to the most modern. When future generations look back at what we've done, I want them to see how much of our great tradition we have sustained and, at the same time, to see how boldly we have moved into the future.⁹⁹

- Christian Frederick Martin IV

Chairman of the Board and CEO

Chris has inherited the honor of six generations of guitar building, making it one of the longest held family businesses in America.

Over 175 Years Old

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In 2004 we reached a milestone in our Company's history — The 1,000,000th Martin Guitar. Never to be sold, this priceless instrument with many rare jewels and precious metals inlaid in the finest traditional tonewoods, celebrates this achievement.

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and Still Perfectly In Tune



C. F. Martin & Co. is grounded in tradition, going back more than 175 years to young Christian Frederick Martin's apprenticeship in Vienna.

As demand for guitars has risen, we've risen, building more and better guitars at superior quality. Today we offer over 120 models of various sizes, styles and affordability. In addition to our famous Dreadnoughts and other Martin traditional styles, we regularly introduce models that address changing player preferences – cutaway models, acoustic electric models, alternative and sustainable wood models, mini and travel guitars and scores of Limited Editions and Artist Signature models.

At Martin we've never been shackled by the past. We continually search for the best traditional tone woods, as well as alternative materials and sustainable woods. We build our guitars to closer tolerances. Utilize computer-assisted carving machines for greater accuracy and consistency. Apply traditional lacquer finishes as well as high-tech finishes with a mind for beauty, protection and sound enhancement. At the same time, we still bring a great deal of hand craftsmanship to every step of the building process. Today's Martin guitars are a unique product of the latest technology and the human touch, which is how it has always been. Even our founder, C. F. Martin, Sr., continually sought ways to build more and better guitars to meet the needs of his customers.

In an age of change and intense competition, C. F. Martin remains America's leading guitar builder for a very basic reason: We're still in tune with what players want and the quality they expect.

> The **D-45** was formally introduced in 1938. In 1968, Style "45" appointments were reissued by popular demand, featuring hexagon fingerboard inlays and C. F. Martin inlaid headplate.

The **Stauffer-style Martin** from the 1840s features an elaborate gear mechanism that was expensive for C. F. Martin to import. This may have prompted Martin to simplify the necks of his guitars to the refined, elegant style we know today.

The Martin Factory Tour is ranked among the most popular in America. Our daily tour provides an up-close and personal view of how the world's finest steel-string guitars are built. Our legacy of tone and quality follows a process that can last 3 to 6 months, requiring as many as 300 separate steps. Using a combination of hand craftsmanship and state-of-the-art machine technology, Martin craftspeople build our guitars slowly and carefully, with a great deal of pride. What starts as rough lumber, leaves Nazareth as a legend.

Free tours are conducted weekdays. For more information, directions or group reservations, call 610-759-2837 or visit martinguitar.com.

Renowned for Quality, Tone and Playability.

At Martin, quality begins with guitar design. Since C. F. Martin, Sr. invented the classic X-bracing in the 1850s, our designs have constantly evolved to enhance tone and playability and now include both X-bracing as well as a number of patented hybrid bracing patterns.

We're sticklers for quality. Perhaps no other guitar receives more quality checks, at every stage of construction, than a Martin. When the guitar finally reaches the player, it is ready to play and comfortable for

most playing styles. Right out of the case.

Tradition, knowledge of acoustics, premium tonewoods, bracing, glues, woodworking techniques and leading-edge technology all combine to create a tone that is uniquely Martin – clear, resonant and loud with distinct separation between bass and treble. Although many have tried to duplicate our tone – no other guitar sounds like a Martin.

Today's standard Martin neck, the slim, low-profile shape, is the ultimate in playability, providing easy action at all fingerboard positions. It's also adjustable to allow for the proper amount of neck relief, depending on playing style

and string gauge.

Quality. You can see it, feel it and, above all, hear it in every Martin guitar we build.

Quality, tone and playability are very closely connected because how well a guitar is made determines how well it sounds and plays.



For those who refuse to compromise

Our traditional models are built with premium solid tonewoods – such as rosewood, mahogany, koa, ebony and spruce – as well as exotic varieties within these species in limited quantities. Many of these instruments include one-of-a-kind designs and highly faithful replicas of classic Martin models and require a great deal of hand craftsmanship.



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The Unsurpassed

For those seeking a highly innovative and cost effective alternative

These instruments utilize solid and laminated woods in varying degrees, depending on the model, as well as patented high-pressure laminates (HPL). Equally important, these instruments provide an ecologically-responsible approach to building guitars of alternative materials, natural and synthetic. Martin offers more than 120 models to meet virtually every playing style, genre of music, budget, aesthetic and ecological sensibility. No matter which model you choose, each one is indisputably a Martin.





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Instruments of Martin Guitar



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Through the Martin Custom Shop, you can design that one-of-a-kind Martin you've always dreamed of owning. Just about anything is possible. Select your favorite combination of traditional Martin body sizes and tonewoods, from spectacular pearl-inlaid models to simple, elegant models with unique, personal "touches." Our Custom Shop guitars reflect the ultimate in Martin craftsmanship.

Custom Martin guitars can only be ordered and purchased through an authorized Martin dealer. To locate a dealer nearest you, visit our website at martinguitar.com

The Martin Custom Shop



Limited Editions

Our LIMITED EDITION SERIES includes unique and highly collectable instruments. Each year Martin unveils stunning signature models honoring artists who have made significant contributions to music. Successful collaborations with scores of musicians include Eric Clapton, Stephen Stills, John Mayer, Johnny Cash, Sting, Paul Simon, and others – as well as commemorative models, vintage recreations and Martin employee and CEO-designed models.



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Authentic, Golden Era & Marquis

At Martin we often hear "They sure don't make Martins like they used to." Actually, we do make Martins like we used to – Authentic, Golden Era and Marquis series guitars are all built with close attention to original details and specifications.

AUTHENTIC SERIES – Each guitar is constructed with hide glue, t-shaped neck reinforcement bar, Adirondack red spruce top and bracing, original shape and color pickguard and more. Virtually hand-built, these instruments go beyond the Golden Era series in faithfully replicating Martin pre-war specifications, materials and construction methods. GOLDEN ERA SERIES – This prestigious series of guitars replicates select pre-war models built during Martin's first 1930s "Golden Era" of legendary quality and originality. Features include genuine mahogany backs and sides and CITES certified Brazilian rosewood headplates finished in the original lacquer, Adirondack spruce tops, '30s style forward-shifted X-bracing, ivoroid bindings, cloth side strips, '30s style logo and V-neck profiles.

MARQUIS SERIES – The utilization of East Indian or Madagascar rosewood backs, sides and headplates makes the Marquis Series a more affordable Martin Golden Era recreation. Modern improvements such as adjustable truss rods and modified V-shape necks are married with Golden Era construction and appointments.



OM-28 Marquis Madagascar

D-28 Marquis Sunburst

D-18 Authentic



Special Editions

SPECIAL EDITIONS are just that: specially-designed guitars built for specific playing styles or designed with special features inspired by well-known artists, luthiers, dealers and collectors.

These instruments are unique and often built with special woods and appointments that do not "fit" our Standard Series or other distinct instrument groupings. Special Editions are not limited in quantity or specified time availability.

The CF-1 American Archtop, D-28 Clarence White, OMJM John Mayer and Ditson Dreadnaught 111 models are prime examples of this very creative group of instruments.

Ditson Dreadnaught 111

OMJM John Mayer

D-28 Clarence White

CF-1 Sunburst



Vintage Series

Our VINTAGE SERIES instruments combine the look and feel of classic, pre-World War II Martins with modern improvements and materials. The result: instruments of extraordinary elegance, power and playability.

Such vintage features as grained ivoroid binding, herringbone trim, old-style squared headstock, scalloped forward-shifted Dreadnought "X" bracing, modified V-shaped neck, period fingerboard inlays, old-style long or through saddles, aging toner finish and vintage-style tuning machines are used extensively. Necks are hand fit using a wood-to-wood dovetail attachment for best tone. Guitars are constructed of solid premium woods, including East Indian rosewood, genuine mahogany, select quarter-sawn Sitka spruce and ebony.

While these instruments are built on original patterns from the '30s, they benefit from over a half a century of continual advances in guitar design and construction. All feature Martin's adjustable truss rod and modified V-shape neck. Vintage Series guitars include vintage Geib style cases.







Standard Series

The STANDARD SERIES is really the foundation of the entire line of Martin guitars. Historically every instrument we build today has evolved, in some degree, from these classic Martin designs, especially the Dreadnought.

The large "Dreadnought" sized body, originated by Frank H. Martin and Oliver Hunt in 1916, is the most widely imitated guitar model in the world. Since its introduction in 1931, the Martin D-28 has remained the standard by which all large-bodied, steel-stringed acoustic guitars are measured.

Standard Series guitars feature solid wood top, back and sides, polished gloss finish and hand-fit dovetail neck attachment.

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Standard Series Continued







16 Series

Style "16" guitars were first introduced in 1961 to provide an affordable, high-quality Martin instrument with understated appointments. Later they were the first production Martins to utilize sustainable, native woods such as ash and walnut, as well as the first to implement hybrid A-frame "X" bracing. Today the innovative 16 SERIES guitars are offered in a variety of sizes, gloss and satin finishes, cutaway and standard models, onboard electronics and premium solid woods including mahogany, East Indian rosewood, koa, sapele and maple.





15 & Road Series

Martin has long recognized the excellent tonal qualities of mahogany – bright, clear trebles and a warm mid-range. As early as 1917 and up to the '40s, many Martin guitars were built with tops, sides and backs of mahogany. Today the 15 SERIES continues this tradition with solid, all mahogany (or sapele, a close relative) construction. Among our most affordable solid wood guitars, 15 Series guitars are also our most visually distinctive and innovative. Features include herringbone rosette, rich satin finish, patented neck mortise and A-frame "X" bracing for enhanced tone. ROAD SERIES guitars were originally designed for working guitarists who require extra durability for road use without sacrificing the legendary Martin sound, look and feel. Road guitars are constructed of laminated, 3-ply sapele sides and backs, providing the sides added strength as well as support for on-board electronics. Other features include solid spruce top with specially designed top braces and shaped back braces for enhanced tone and sustain. So affordably priced, you can have one for the road and home.







X Series

Martin has always made prudent use of natural resources, especially rare or endangered tonewoods. At the same time, we're committed to building guitars of superior tone and playability that are affordable to every guitarist. The X SERIES more than meets both of these criteria. Backs and sides are constructed of patented high-pressure laminate (HPL) and then joined to a solid Sitka spruce or HPL top. The result: great sounding and playing guitars, environmentally friendly, and one of our best values ever.







Vern Tejas scaled Mount Everest with his Little Martin strapped to his backpack (bare, no case). Even above 29,000 feet, it plays and sounds great!

Travel and

Little Martin®

While the LITTLE MARTIN is our smallest guitar, it's very big on tone, quality and versatility. It's ideal for travel, student practice or for just playing around the house or the campfire. With the exception of the LX1 and LX1E, which feature a solid wood top, Little Martin models are built of durable patented high-pressure laminate (HPL) and other state-of-the-art synthetics. The LXME and LX1E are equipped with Fishman® Mini Q electronics. Supplied with a rugged, padded gig bag with backpack straps.

Backpacker[®]

With a BACKPACKER, the sky's the limit for portability. Literally. This great little all-wood instrument has been played aboard a NASA Shuttle flight as well as on the tops of some of the world's highest mountain peaks. Backpackers are light, durable, easy to play (and tune) and shaped to fit into the smallest spaces. Take them anywhere. Available in steel string, nylon string and mandolin versions. Optional on-board pickup available on most models.

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Backpacker[®] Guitars

LXK2

Classical Backpacker

S-O Uke

S-O Ukulele

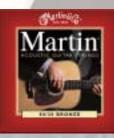
Since 1916, Martin has crafted high-quality, all-mahogany ukuleles. The S-O Ukulele is our standard "O" size, a favorite among players with its easy playability, warm satin finish and very affordable price. Comes with padded carrying bag.

High quality strings are critical to a Martin guitar's tone and playability. They bring to life all the power, nuance and unique Martin "voice" we carefully craft into every one of our guitars. What's more, a carefully gauged and balanced set of strings will greatly enhance the style of playing and facilitate technique.

That's why we make Martin strings ourselves. Like our guitars, each string is made carefully, precisely, using only premium materials. You'll find Martin strings in many different types and gauges to fit any style of playing, acoustic or electric – from standard guitar to fingerstyle, bluegrass, classical, banjo, mandolin and ukulele. Available in 80/20 bronze and phosphor bronze.

For more information about C. F. Martin & Co.'s entire string line, visit martinstrings.com.

Martin Strings



Martin[®] The Standard For Daily Play





Martin SP[®] Studio and Stage Performance





The lobby of the Visitors Center houses the entrance to the museum, 1833 Shop and a gallery wall of famous Martin owners.

Guests are also invited to visit the **Pickin' Parlor** to play some of Martin's best known and top-selling guitars.



The **1833 Shop** offers a dazzling selection of Martin clothing, souvenirs and collectibles.

For factory tour and museum information or directions, call 610-759-2837 or visit martinguitar.com.

Martin Guitar Museum and Visitors Center

Nazareth, Pennsylvania







The Martin Guitar Museum showcases Martin's impressive history with photo murals, timelines and unique instrument displays. The museum's collection features Martin guitars from the early 1800s to today's latest designs, including unusual and one-of-a-kind instruments.







America's Guitar

Each generation needs its own way to express its view, its feelings, its hope.

For over 175 years Martin guitars have played the anthems of change – cultural, political and musical. You come up with the words and music; we'll come up with the right guitar to express it. It's your turn.

