

Grade 1 Exam

The Grade 1 Acoustic exam is for candidates who have been typically learning for six months to one year. They have mastered the key basic debut level skills and have since acquired greater use of technique, rhythms, co-ordination and musical understanding. There is also an opportunity to build on basic improvisation. There are two types of exam available at Grade 1, either a Grade Exam or Performance Certificate. (Refer to the Introduction for an explanation of the differences).

Grade Exams

Prepared work:

Candidates are required to play three performance pieces and Technical exercises which cover scales, chords and acoustic riffs.

Unprepared:

Candidates are required to complete either a Sight Reading or an Improvisation & Interpretation test, and two Ear Tests that continue to develop melodic and rhythmic sense and the final part of the exam is a set of five simple questions based on the candidate's choice of piece. These are designed to explore theory and instrument knowledge.

Exam Structure

The Grade 1 exam lasts 20 minutes and is taken in the following order:

- **Performance Pieces***
- **Technical exercises***
- **Sight reading or improvisation & Interpretation**
- **Ear Tests**
- **General Musicians Questions**

**these elements can be taken first or second at the candidate's request.*

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

