

# Master the Exotic: Unleash the Mystic Charms of Balkan and Middle Eastern Music on Your Guitar!

Are you tired of playing the same old tunes on your guitar? Do you yearn to explore new and exotic sounds that will set your playing apart from the rest? Look no further, as we dive into the enchanting world of Balkan and Middle Eastern music, and how you can incorporate its mesmerizing techniques into your guitar playing. Brace yourself for a musical journey like no other!

## Understanding Balkan and Middle Eastern music

Balkan and Middle Eastern music encompass an incredible blend of cultural influences, with a rich history spanning centuries. These regions have witnessed a myriad of influences from the Ottoman Empire, Roman, Greek, Persian, and Byzantine civilizations. As you delve deeper into this musical tradition, you'll find diverse scales, rhythms, melodies, and tonalities that will captivate your senses.

## Unleash the mystic charm of ancient scales

The most distinguishable characteristic of Balkan and Middle Eastern music lies within their exotic scales. Traditional scales such as the Byzantine scale, Phrygian dominant scale, and Hijaz scale carry a unique tonality that exudes a mystical ambiance. By incorporating these scales into your guitar playing, you'll unlock an entirely new dimension of musical expression.

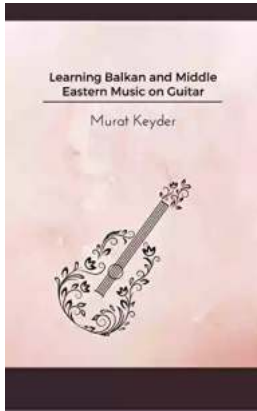
## Learning Balkan and Middle Eastern music on guitar

by Murat Keyder (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English

File size : 14654 KB



Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting	: Enabled
Word Wise	: Enabled
Print length	: 75 pages
Lending	: Enabled



Take the Phrygian dominant scale as an example - its dark and haunting nature will transport your listeners to the heart of the Middle East. Experiment with different positions on the guitar neck to find the ideal fingerings for these scales, allowing you to smoothly navigate their mesmerizing intervals.

## **Mesmerizing rhythms that will get your fingers dancing**

Balkan and Middle Eastern music overflow with captivating rhythms that will ignite a fire in your playing. Mastering odd time signatures such as 5/8, 7/8, and 9/8 will allow you to delve into intricate rhythmic patterns that will leave your audience spellbound.

Start by immersing yourself in traditional folk dances like the Bulgarian Rachenitsa or the Turkish Roman Havasi. Embrace their energetic and complex rhythms, and gradually incorporate them into your guitar playing. With practice, your fingers will effortlessly groove to these enchanting beats, creating a rhythmic tapestry that will mesmerize both you and your listeners.

## **Techniques to emulate the authentic Balkan and Middle Eastern sound**

## **Fingerstyle mastery for a touch of authenticity**

When it comes to capturing the true essence of Balkan and Middle Eastern music on your guitar, fingerstyle playing is essential. This technique allows you to emulate the unique timbres and ornamentations found in traditional instruments like the oud and saz.

Develop fingerpicking patterns that incorporate the use of open strings, trills, slides, and hammer-ons, to replicate the distinctive embellishments of Middle Eastern melodies. Experiment with different finger combinations to achieve the desired articulation and tone, ensuring every note resonates with the spirit of the region.

## **Use of microtonal intervals for an authentic touch**

Balkan and Middle Eastern music embrace microtonal intervals, which delve into the spaces between the twelve semitones of Western music. Incorporating these microtonal nuances into your guitar playing will add an extra layer of authenticity to your sound.

Adjust your guitar's setup to accommodate microtonal intervals by incorporating additional frets or using a slide, allowing you to explore these expressive and evocative sounds. Unlock the hidden beauty of quarter-tones, and witness how they transform your playing, making it resonate with the soul of Balkan and Middle Eastern music.

## **Unleash your creativity: Fusion and experimentation**

Now that you have delved into the captivating world of Balkan and Middle Eastern music, it's time to merge these influences with your own unique voice.

Experiment with different genres, such as rock, jazz, or blues, infusing their harmonic structures with the exotic scales and rhythms you have discovered.

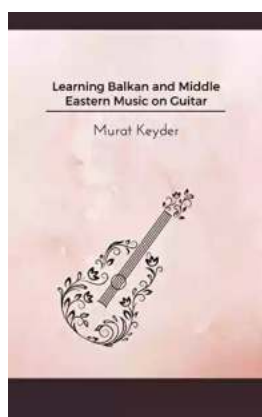
Embrace the fusion of cultures, and let your creativity soar. Combine the sound of a distorted electric guitar with the hypnotic patterns of the Phrygian dominant scale; blend the complexities of odd-time signatures with the raw energy of rock music. The possibilities are endless, and your playing will reach new heights of originality that will captivate your audience.

## Embark on a musical journey like no other

Learning Balkan and Middle Eastern music on the guitar is a transformative experience. It takes you on a captivating journey through centuries of cultural amalgamation, delving into unique tonalities, mesmerizing rhythms, and enchanting scales.

Unleash your musical prowess by mastering the fingerstyle techniques, exploring microtonal intervals, and embracing the fusion of genres. Let the mystic charms of Balkan and Middle Eastern music shape your playing, and watch as your guitar becomes a gateway to new sonic worlds.

Embark on this musical adventure today, and let the ancient melodies weave their magic through your fingertips. The guitar has the power to transcend boundaries, and there's no better way to showcase this than by mastering the mesmerizing sounds of Balkan and Middle Eastern music.



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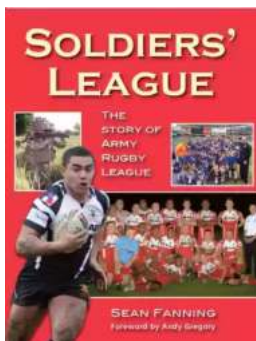


This book is an to playing the music of the Balkans and the Middle East on guitar. It's divided into three sections.

The first section explains several of the key scales used in this music, both as they would be played on a fretless instrument and on guitar. The second sections explains the most common rhythms used throughout the Balkans and the Middle East, and gives several exercises to help learn them. The third sections has simple tab arrangements for 15 folk songs across the region, covering Turkish, Greek, Arab, Macedonian, Bulgarian, and Armenian songs.

This book should be easy to follow for people at any level. There is no notation and everything is written in tab form. Understanding music theory will make it easier to follow, but you can always just skip ahead and go right to the tabs.

Enjoy!



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