



Parlor Guitars

The term “Parlor guitar” dates back to the days before recorded music, where entertainment was conducted live and often in the parlors of those who were lucky enough to have them. Today, the term describes a size and style of guitar. Parlor guitars have smaller bodies than dreadnaughts and often are smaller than even classical guitars.

Contrary to popular assumption, their reduced size isn’t intended to accommodate smaller players but, rather to provide for a more even-frequency-response. In other words, bass, treble and all of the frequencies in between are the same volume. In an acoustically near perfect environment like a “parlor” or concert hall, this even frequency response is a must if the music isn’t to be overwhelmed with bass.

Often (in fact, usually), the neck of a Parlor guitar is wider than that of a Dreadnaught. Parlor guitars are often the choice of fingerstyle players. The wider neck better accommodates this style of player giving him/her more room to get individual fingers between the strings.

Anyone looking for a guitar would be well served to consider a good Parlor style guitar. The mid frequencies of these guitars are punchy and pleasing making these instruments a good choice for all but the classical or flamenco player

The Avian Dove is designed by Colorado based luthier Michael Bashkin. The Dove is a parlor model with 12 frets to the body, a short scale and the familiar slim rounded curves of the parlor tradition.

The Dove’s top is Sitka spruce, with the back and sides available in choice of mahogany, maple or rosewood. The neck is mahogany and has the maple ‘skunk stripe’ down the centre and the profile is a comfortable C.

The fingerboard is ebony with pale marbling down its length. There are no position markers on the face of the fretboard and it tapers away as it approaches the sound hole. It’s a distinctive design feature that sets the Dove apart from other parlor models on the market.

The Dove comes with a fully adjustable neck which is a feature throughout the Avian acoustic line. Fine tuning of the action can make playing a little easier for the fingers. This sort of refinement is unusual on contemporary acoustics. The distinctive look is accented by an ebony bridge with pyramids on either side of the bone saddle.



The optional B-Band T55 electronics can be used to accentuate the tonal qualities of this beautiful guitar.

A parlor guitar with an understated flourish. It has a tonal range that is capable of tackling any musical style and is as comfortable to play as any on the market.