

D'Pergo[®]
CUSTOM GUITARS



Tone For Those Who Know
distinctive handcrafted electric guitars
made in New Hampshire

"I own several exceptional vintage instruments yet this is the guitar I am drawn to play most often. It has the tonal complexity of a great old guitar with enhanced stability and playability."

Julien Kasper



At D'Pergo Custom Guitars, we design and build original handmade instruments, each a refined reflection of a timeless classic. Our guitars consistently deliver effortless playability while achieving extraordinary three dimensional vintage tone, the likes of which have eluded builders of new instruments for decades. The combination of rare materials and innovative methods and designs, along with extensive research and development of our own tone centered components, yields unparalleled acoustic resonance and enveloping tone.

Start with the extraordinary and build from there

We use tone woods unlike any being used in instrument building today. As distinguished from guitars made from new growth wood, D'Pergo guitars are made from tonally superior, certified old growth tone woods that possess remarkable acoustic resonance, enhanced stability, and increased velocity of sound. These old growth woods, some of which approach 1,200 years old, are commercially unavailable on the global timber market, but are exclusively available to us through our partnership with Rare Materials, Inc., and its founder, Jim Lorette.

A rare partnership

Jim is one of the world's leading authorities on wood, rare materials, and environmental history, and consults for renowned institutions including the Smithsonian, the Louvre, various foreign governments, and universities. Our partnership is a monumental differentiator in terms of having access to certain rare materials and proprietary drying methods specifically developed for our tone woods.

The expert treatment of our materials is as important as the materials themselves. In concert with Jim Lorette, D'Pergo Guitars adheres to proven yet unconventional methods in the recovery and preparation of our tone woods. We use a proprietary combination of air-drying and low temperature humidification that preserves

the stability and integrity of our wood. Further, while harvesting our materials, we take every measure to protect delicate ecosystems and safeguard the environment.

Our ability to treat exceptionally rare materials with innovative preparation techniques translates into a perceptible advantage for the discerning musician. Our old growth maple necks are a D'Pergo signature. The necks are built with an intentionally relaxed truss rod which increases string energy transfer, and are a testament to the stability of our guitars. Innovations in our neck construction reflect precision craftsmanship, and despite drastic changes in temperature and humidity, our necks do not shift or fluctuate despite the climate.

Decoding vintage tone

Each and every component on a D'Pergo guitar has been deliberately developed and selected for tonal contributions, utility, and stability. We custom design and fabricate nearly every component on our guitars. From bridge assemblies to pickups, from string trees to springs, each piece is hand made from alloys that are specifically chosen for their chemical make up and tonal contribution. Our parts are precision-milled to tolerances that improve performance and stability while maintaining an authentic vintage tone, feel, and vibe.

Our guitars have a wide range of vibrant acoustic qualities like those found in only a few of the finest vintage instruments. They have a piano-like clarity on the low end and a rich smooth mid range, while the top end has sparkling clarity without sounding brittle or harsh.

Our obsession with tonal perfection extends beyond component design and into the science of materials composition. We continuously experiment with various alloys, raw metals, treatments, and techniques, searching for the optimal balance of sustain, and note definition while reducing string friction. To the seasoned player, our devotion to researching

and implementing these components will be immediately apparent in the benefits of overall stability, tone, reduced wear, precision tuning and intonation.

Where materials meet artistry

One look at a D'Pergo guitar and it is immediately apparent that this is not a "parts guitar" or reproduction. While we use some state-



of-the-art technology for universal applications and consistency, it is the staggering amount of handwork that distinguishes a D'Pergo and transforms it into an instrument beyond compare. Neck profiles and body contours are shaped by hand to create comfortable and ergonomically friendly instruments. Our unique vintage offset neck profiles enable the player to navigate a larger neck than otherwise possible. Finish work includes a labor-intensive proprietary grain-filling technique that enhances vibration while at the same time creates a base for a "glass-like"

authentic nitrocellulose finish. This extensive handwork gives each guitar its own personality and character.

Tone for those who know

Often, one of the most overlooked tools in building exceptional sounding instruments is the builder's ear. When you combine harmonic awareness with science, skill, passion, and attention to detail, the result is unquestionable tone. Great guitar tone begins with a critical, ultra-discerning ear. Musicians who are recognized for their ability to identify and create ideal tone rely upon D'Pergo founder, Stefan Dapergolas, to equip them with

instruments that have the tone for which they are known. With over twenty years of playing and building experience, Stefan's unwillingness to compromise or settle is what drives the constant pursuit of excellence.

Pure American craftsmanship

D'Pergo Custom Guitars is located in Windham, New Hampshire. We are dedicated to designing and building extraordinary electric guitars. The shop consists of an elite team of talented craftsmen each with extensive experience and outstanding skills. We build entirely handcrafted instruments, synergistically designed with the finest old growth tone woods, custom components, and proprietary innovations. Every D'Pergo carries with it the tradition of American craftsmanship, years of research and innovation, and a commitment to create unsurpassed tone.

