

## **Lesson 1: The Three Reasons Why You're Not Progressing**

Before jumping in, we have to come clean and address a painful issue. So, let's start by talking directly about 'what hurts' the most.

Are you making progress right now?

The typical answer is "kind of". With close to two decades of teaching experience, I can tell you with a cruel accuracy the three main reasons why you're not making progress right now. It's pretty simple, in fact. And, in this course, we'll explore just how easy it is to work around these obstacles.

**So, first**, the usual culprit is that you don't have a plan. Let's think of building a house for example, this would mean that you don't even know you want to build a house in the first place. Lots of guitarists practice like this: they grab the guitar and play whatever first comes to their mind. Blues, songs, chords, whatever ... While this is a nice hobby, playing like this night after night won't get you very far.

**The second reason** you might fail to improve despite having a plan is the lack of a vision for your playing. You have stuff you want to practice, but no vision as to where these materials fits in the big picture of your musical evolution. Your practice regimen might be overcrowded, focusing on too many things at once, or generally suffering from musical ADD.

Heck, you may even practice everything you come across on the Internet! So, in this case, you want to build a house, and you start building a wall in the empty. Then start hammering the roof, then a corner of the floor. Then you wonder why it doesn't hold together. And don't even get me started with plumbing issues ...

And the last and third reason jazz guitarists can't move forward is because they're not making the necessary time sacrifices. You may have a good blueprint, but you cannot replicate the results you've heard other house builders get. And perhaps you need to invest more time holding a hammer, instead of looking at the plan.

There might be other ways to think about "not making progress", but I believe 9 jazz guitarists out of 10 fall in one of those three categories. So, to wrap up, -1- No plan, -2- No vision, -3- Not enough time invested.

Ok, so now that we've been completely honest (and sort-of depressing) with all of this, let's look on the bright side. This is the first day of your musical transformation. You'll look back in 6 months and you won't even believe how far you've come musically.

We will work from wherever you are now and get all your stuff together. All you're required to do is watch the videos, read the lessons and go through the steps with diligence.

Good luck to you, I'm looking forward to hear about your new jazz guitar skills (and your new approach to making steady progress!)