Catalog
(Updated June 12, 2018)

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FAQS

1. How do I purchase a Harp Guitar?
   What’s currently available, ready for immediate shipping and what’s coming is on this page.

2. What form of payment do you accept?

3. Will there be additional shipping charges, import duties, etc.?
   There should be none. The instruments come with full documentation and passport. Duties are pre-paid at the time of shipping.

4. What is your return policy?
   The same as eBay, 14 days money back and buyer pays the return shipping fees to USA office in St Louis, MO.

5. Is there a warranty?
   Yes, one year to the original purchaser on parts and workmanship. Any modifications to the instrument after leaving the shop void the warranty.

6. Is there a tracking number. Is the instrument insured when shipped?
   Yes

7. How long does it take to ship a guitar?
   We use EMS express service. ETA is around 8-10 days providing there are no major national holidays.

8. What are the shipping charges?
   $100 flat rate to all destinations

9. Are the harp guitars set up before shipping?
   Yes. When a new instrument reaches completion it is gradually brought up to pitch and then watch if for a few days as the strings and instrument “settle in” and make minor adjustments as necessary. The harp guitars are shipped with the strings slacked slightly. The harp strings are generally good for a couple years. The guitars strings, of course, will need to be changed like a standard guitar.

10. What is the difference between the 12 String and 13 String Harp Guitars?
    The 12 string harp guitar is based on the early 20th century “Dyer” style design and is a standard that other harp guitars are measured. The 12 string has a strong bass with a larger arm. The 13 string has several improvements for the 21st century guitarist:
    - There are 7 sub-basses with sharpening levers giving you a full chromatic octave in the bass.
    - The sub-bass use guitar machines, not banjo tuners.
    - The 13 string is available as a fanned fret or straight fret. Fanned Frets are important for dropped tunings, tapping and percussive finger style.
    - The bass arm is more balanced to the body.
    - The top bracing uses an “x” braced “fan” that will work for either steel or nylon strings.
    - It is a cutaway
    - The guitar neck is attached at both ends; the body and bass arm. This increases the sustain and harmonic phase between the guitar and bass.

11. Is the 21 string harp guitar difficult to tune, keep in tune and play?
    Once the guitar has a little time to open up, the strings hold their tune. It’s not difficult to tune but it does take longer than a six string guitar. The harp strings are tuned diatonically (white keys on the piano) so, there are no bad notes. Flip the sharpening levers to match the key of your arrangement and start playing. If you don’t look at the strings, it’s easier to interpret and see the
music and strings in your mind. The only thing that I find takes getting used to with the 21 string is holding it; there is no waist to rest on your leg. You may need a device, like a neck-up guitar support. I personally like to play with a strap, sitting or standing.

12. Can special features be added like an arm bevel, sound port, etc.?
   What you see in this catalog is what's available. If it's not listed, then it's not available.
13. I have more questions that are not listed here, how can I contact you?

   On this page.
21 String Harp Guitar

There are two 21 String Harp Guitar models in production, the “21SE” and the “21SEN”. The “SE” is referenced to the original body and head stock design of the 20 String “Sullivan/Elliot” from the early 1980’s by Jeff Elliot (built by John Sullivan).

The 21SE is the standard model with 7 nylon sub-basses (with sharping levers), 6 steel strings on the guitar neck and 8 steel super trebles (with sharping levers).

The 21SEN is the Nylon string version. It is essentially the same harp guitar with these exceptions:
- The nut is 51mm (2 inch) Classical Guitar style.
- The finger board is flat with no inlays (Classical Guitar style)
- The bracing and top are lighter to be responsive to nylon strings
- The bridge is a tie-on nylon Classical Guitar style
- All of the strings are nylon including the Super-trebles

Available tone woods for the back & sides are Mahogany, Bocote, Claro Walnut, Flamed Maple and Cocobolo Rosewood. Available top plates are Carpathian Spruce, Sitka Spruce, Bear Claw Sitka Spruce, Sinker Redwood, Western Red Cedar and Curly Sequoia Redwood.

The base price of the 21 String Harp Guitar (Sapele) is $3495 (Dealer/Artist Discounts are available in the Newsletter).

Back/Side Options:
- Sapele: included
- Walnut: +$75
- Bubinga: +$75
- Flamed Maple: +$225
- Bocote: +$250
- Cocobolo: +$500

Top Options:
- Carpathian Spruce: included
- Cedar top: +$100 - $150 (approximate - depends on what’s available and the supplier)
- Sitka or Bear Claw: +$100-150 (approximate - depends on what’s available and the supplier)

Other:
- Left-handed: +$100
- K&K Trinity Pickup installed (pickup only): Market price varies around $450-500
- Flight case: Gator makes a keyboard case that fits the harp guitar. The price may be around $300 or so.
It’s not necessary for shipping. The guitar is shipped in a crate.

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21SE Mahogany

Top: Carpathian Spruce  
Back & Sides: Mahogany  
Neck: Mahogany  
Finger Board: Macassar Ebony (Radiused)  
Bridge: Macassar Ebony  
Nut: Bone (44.5mm)  
Saddle: Bone  
Binding: Black/White/Black  
Finish: Satin  
Tuners: Black  
Sharping Levers: Black (15)  
Bass Strings: Nylon (7)  
Guitar Strings: Acoustic Light Gauge (6)  
Treble Strings: Plain steel (8)  
Strap buttons: Two  
Case: Heavy padded gig bag
Top: Carpathian Spruce
Back & Sides: Bubinga
Neck: Bubinga
Finger Board: Macassar Ebony (Radiused)
Bridge: Macassar Ebony
Nut: Bone (44.5mm)
Saddle: Bone
Binding: Black/White/Black
Finish: Satin/Mat
Tuners: Chrome
Sharpening Levers: Black (15)
Bass Strings: Nylon (7)
Treble Strings: Plain steel (8)
Strap buttons: Two
Case: Heavy padded gig bag

21SE Flamed Maple
Top: Carpathian Spruce
Back & Sides: Flamed Maple
Neck: Maple
Finger Board: Macassar Ebony (Radiused)
Bridge: Macassar Ebony
Nut: Bone (44.5mm)
Saddle: Bone
Binding: Black/White/Black
Finish: Satin/Mat
Tuners: Black
Sharpening Levers: Black (15)
Bass Strings: Nylon (7)
Guitar Strings: Acoustic Light Gauge (6)
Treble Strings: Plain steel (8)
Strap buttons: Two
Case: Heavy padded gig bag
Top: Carpathian Spruce  
Back & Sides: Cocobolo Rosewood  
Neck: Mahogany  
Finger Board: Macassar Ebony (Radiused)  
Bridge: Macassar Ebony  
Nut: Bone (44.5mm)  
Saddle: Bone  
Binding: Black/White/Black  
Finish: Satin/Mat  
Tuners: Black  
Sharpening Levers: Black (15)  
Bass Strings: Nylon (7)  
Strap buttons: Two  
Case: Heavy padded gig bag

21SEN Claro Walnut(Nylon/Classical)
**Top:** Sinker Redwood (or Curly Redwood or Cedar)
**Back & Sides:** Marble Claro Walnut
**Neck:** Mahogany
**Finger Board:** Macassar Ebony (Classical Flat)
**Bridge:** Rosewood
**Nut:** Bone (44.5mm)
**Saddle:** Bone
**Binding:** Black/White/Black
**Finish:** Satin/Mat
**Tuners:** Black
**Sharping Levers:** Black (15)
**Bass Strings:** Nylon (7)
**Guitar Strings:** Nylon (6)
**Treble Strings:** Nylon (8)
**Case:** Heavy padded gig bag
Dimension Details 21SE (Steel String)
Scale Length: 650mm
Overall length: 1023mm
Body length not including heel cap: 501.5mm
Upper bout width: 289mm
Waist width: 252mm
Lower bout width: 400mm
Body depth:
@ heel: 98mm
@ waist: 102mm
@ end block: 109mm
Top arch: 1.5mm
Top thickness:
• 3mm at bridge position
• graded to 2.5mm at bass periphery
• graded to 2.7mm at treble periphery
• Sub-bass chamber 2.5mm
Sound hole diameter: 96mm
Neck body joint to sound hole center: 157mm
Sub-bass sound hole diameter: 44mm
Back arch: 3mm
Back thickness: 2.2mm
Side thickness: 2.2mm
Head: 26mm thickness
Head length: 300mm
Nut width: 48mm
String spacing at nut: 40.5mm
Neck thickness: 21mm to 23mm 1st to 9th frets
Neck width at 12th fret (neck/body juncture): 58mm
Bridge length: 300mm
Bridge width: 35mm

Central six string guitar (high to low)
Elixir light gauge with polyweb coating
1 - .012 – e’
2 - .016 – b’
3 - .024 – g
4 - .032 – d
5 - .042 – a
6 - .053 – E

Sub-basses (high to low)
Nylon silver-plated copper-wound classical
1 - .054 – D
2 - .056 – C
3 - .058 – B
4 - .060 – A
5 - .062 – G1
6 - .064 – F1
7 - .065 – E1

Replacement bass strings are available directly from the LaBella web site

Sub-bass String Length:
Longest 821mm
Shortest 776mm

Super Treble string Length:
Longest 319mm
Shortest 180mm
13 String *Fanned Fret* Harp Guitar

The 13 String Harp Guitar is the very latest harp guitar release! It is a variation of the 21 String Harp Guitar. The super trebles have been replaced with a standard waist and Florentine cutaway. This is a *Fanned Fret Harp Guitar* (Straight frets are also available). There are two models, the **13SE** (steel string) and the **13SEN** (Nylon/Classical String). The sub-basses are nylon with sharping levers (replacement bass strings are available from the [LaBella web site](http://www.labella.com)). The “SE” is referenced to the original body and head stock design of the 20 String “Sullivan/Elliot” from the early 1980’s by Jeff Elliot (built by John Sullivan).

The **13SE** is the standard model with 7 nylon sub-basses (with sharping levers) and 6 steel strings on the guitar neck. The fanned scale is 635mm (25 inches) to 686mm (27 inches) with a 44.5mm (1 ¾ inch) nut.

The **13SEN** is the *Nylon Classical* string version. It is essentially the same harp guitar with these exceptions:

- The nut is 51mm (2 inch) Classical Guitar style.
- The finger board is flat with no inlays (Classical Guitar style)
- The bracing and top are lighter to be responsive to nylon strings
- The bridge is a tie-on nylon Classical Guitar style
- All of the strings are nylon
- Fanned Fret or Straight Frets

Available tone woods for the **back & sides** are Sapele, Bubinga, Bocote, Flamed Maple and Cocobolo Rosewood. Available **top plates** are Carpathian Spruce, Sitka Spruce, Bear Claw Sitka Spruce, Western Red Cedar, Alaska Yellow Cedar. Finger board, bridge and bindings are Macassar Ebony. Bone nut and saddle. Gold or Black machines/levers.

The base price for the 13 String Harp Guitar (Sapele, Carpathian Spruce) is **$3495**

**Back/Side Options:**
- Sapele: included
- Bubinga: +$75
- Flamed Maple: +$225
- Bocote: +$250
- Cocobolo: +$500

**Top Options:**
- Carpathian Spruce: included
- Cedar top: +$100 - $150 (depends on what’s available and the supplier)
- Sitka or Bear Claw: +$100-150 (depends on what’s available and the supplier)

**Other:**
- Left-handed: +$100
- Snakewood: Bindings and trim +$100
- K&K Trinity Pickup installed (pickup only): Market price varies around $450-500
- Flight case: Gator makes a keyboard case that fits the harp guitar. The price may be around $300 or so. It’s not necessary for shipping. The guitar is shipped in a [crate](http://www.labella.com).
Click on the photos for the full photos set.

(Bocote 13SE on the bench waiting for bass strings and sharping levers)
Fanned Fret Guitars

There are currently four Fanned Fret Guitar models available; 6 and 7 String, Standard and Baritone. All have the Grand Auditorium body style with a Florentine cutaway. They are hand crafted with all-solid premium tone woods, reasonably priced and move quickly from the work bench to the shipping department. The standard models that we keep in stock are below. The price includes a deluxe hard shell case. Depending on availability, top woods can vary between Carpathian Spruce, Sitka, Adirondack, Engelmann, Cedar and Redwood. No two guitars look the same; each set of tone wood has its unique figure and grain. From time to time, other species are available as I can locate and secure lumber at a good price. If you need a pickup the K&K Trinity System (pickup only) is excellent. It is $300 installed. The newsletter has the latest information; what’s on the bench, what’s coming and approximate ETA.

Pricing (all models):
Maple (Vintage or Black): $995
Sapele: $995
Bubinga: $1095
Koa: $1295
Walnut Flamed: $1395
Cocobolo: $1495

**Standard Dimensions:**
- Nut width: 44.5mm (1 ¾ inches)
- “Fan” scale: 635mm (25 inches) to 686mm (27 inches)
- Total length: 1067mm (42 inches)
- Lower Bout: 419mm (16 ½ inches)
- Waist: 249mm (9 7/8 inches)
- Depth: 107mm (4 3/8 inches) to 83 (3 ¼ inches)

**Baritone Dimensions:**
- Nut width: 48mm
- Scale length: 680mm (26.75 inches) to 743mm (29.25 inches)
- Total length: 1067mm (42 inches)
- Lower Bout: 419mm (16 ½ inches)
- Waist: 249mm (9 7/8 inches)
- Depth: 107mm (4 3/8 inches) to 83 (3 ¼ inches)

**Finger board:** Macassar Ebony
**Bridge:** Macassar Ebony
**Binding:** Macassar Ebony
**Nut & Saddle:** Bone
**Truss rod:** Adjustable
**Neck:** Dovetail joint
**Case:** Hard shell
**Pickup (optional):** K&K Trinity installed. Market price varies around $450-500
**Shipping:** $100 worldwide
Koa

Koa Baritone
Cocobolo (Mexican) & Sitka Spruce

Cocobolo (Mexican) & Curly Quilted Redwood
Cocobolo (Central America) & Adirondack Spruce

Maple Vintage Standard
Maple Vintage Baritone

Maple Black Gloss
Maple Black Gloss Baritone

Bubinga (6-String Standard)
Bubinga (7-String Baritone)
12 String Harp Guitar

The 12 String Harp Guitar is a familiar, early 20th century design with the classic "cloud" sub-bass headstock. Price: $1295.

The top is all-solid Carpathian Spruce
The back, sides are all-solid Maple
The neck will match the back/sides tone woods
The fingerboard and bridge are Macassar Ebony
The nut and saddle are bone
Abalone appointments
Chrome Tuners
Right or Left Handed
Satin or Gloss finish
The neck has an adjustable truss rod that is joined to the body with a tongue and groove joint.

Overall length: 1044 mm (top of the "cloud" to the very bottom)
Lower bout width: 404 mm
Waist width: 272 mm
Side Thickness at the bottom: 105 mm
Side Thickness at the end of the bass arm: 75 mm

The guitar strings are gauges 0.2794 mm to 1.3208 mm (.011” - .052” inches) for the first six
The gauges of the sub-bass strings are (high to low): 1st – 1.143 mm (.045”), 2nd – 1.27mm (.050”), 3rd – 1.397 mm (.055”), 4th – 1.524 mm (.060”), 5th – 1.651 mm (.065”), 6th – 1.778 mm (.070”)
Length of the sub-bass strings are: 1 – 715 mm, 2 - 740 mm, 3 – 763 mm, 4 – 785 mm, 5 – 810 mm, 6 – 830 mm
Carpathian and Maple 12-String Harp Guitar (2017 model)

Click here for the full photo set.
Harp Ukulele

This instrument is based on a Tenor size Ukulele. It has the bass arm similar to the Dyer-style harp guitar. The Uke strings are a standard Tenor set with either high or low G. The six sub-bass strings are Classical Guitar strings, low E, A and D. The tuning of the basses depends on your style and arrangements. A typical tuning would be A, B, C, D, E, F then it would flow into the G, fourth string on the Ukulele.

The base price (maple/spruce) is $995

- Curly Redwood Top +$100
- Padauk back/sides/neck +$75
- Bocote back/sides/neck +$100
- Koa +$200 (top/back/sides)
- Cocobolo back/sides +$200

- Aloha Twin K&K Pickup installed +$150
- LEFT-handed +$50

(Ziricote and Wenge have been discontinued)

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Maple & Spruce
Curly Redwood & Padauk
Bocote & Spruce
Curly Redwood & Ziricote
Curly Redwood & Wenge
Tone Woods

Each tone wood has its unique voice. Below are list of characteristics, tone, volume, warmth and stability of each that we use to build our Fanned Fret Harp Guitars.

Warmth: 1 very warm – 10 very bright
Volume: 1 lowest – 10 highest
Stability: 1 tendency to shrink and crack – 10 very stable
Weight: 1 light – 10 heavy

Back and Sides

Sapele

Similar to Mahogany but a little brighter on the top end. Tonally, it does everything that mahogany does, with a little extra treble zing. Best for steel string guitars.

Warmth: 3
Volume: 6
Stability: 10
Weight: 3

Bubinga

A very strong stiff wood with amazing sustain. Bright midrange and a thick, well defined bottom. It’s very similar to Rosewood with a little more brightness.

Warmth: 7
Volume: 8
Stability: 6
Weight: 6

Padauk

When Padauk is first cut, the sawdust looks like paprika; a vivid, bright orange that will oxidize to a more burgundy reddish brown. It is very close in tone to East Indian Rosewood with great mids and attack. Medium/Heavy wood.

Warmth: 6
Volume: 8
Stability: 6
Weight: 6
**Maple**

Hard, dense material and very bright. Every note is focused and clear like a bell. There’s no discernable difference in tone between non-figured maple and curly maple.

Warmth: 10  
Volume: 8  
Stability: 6  
Weight: 4

**Koa**

Koa's tone blends the midrange of mahogany with the top end of maple. Due to its density, a new koa guitar tends to start out sounding a little bright and tight, somewhat like maple. But the more a koa guitar is played, the more the sound opens up, expanding the midrange and rewarding the player with a richer, sweeter, more resonant tone. A common mistake is when a bright player buys a koa guitar in part for its visual beauty, finds it to be too bright, and doesn't play it enough to allow the wood to warm up. Koa is a standard tone wood for the Fanned Fret Guitars. Larger material for Harp Guitars is available from time to time.

Warmth: 4  
Volume: 8  
Stability: 7  
Weight: 4

**Bocote**

This is the “Goldilocks” tone wood; not too heavy, not too bright, stable... it’s just right! If you put all of the tone woods in a blender the result would be: Bocote. It’s perfect in every way and fits every application, steel string and nylon. It’s not too expensive, plentiful, no international restrictions, great sustain, loud, attractive grain... it’s the Goldilocks!

Warmth: 5  
Volume: 8  
Stability: 7  
Weight: 5
**Cocobolo Rosewood**

The tone of Cocobolo is every color of the rainbow, Brazillian Rosewood’s “little brother”. It’s very balanced with more focus on the low end, moderate note decay. Its full potential doesn’t surface immediately; it needs to be played for some time to let it “open up”. Excellent recording instrument. Very heavy. Excellent choice for nylon string, classical style. Available for Fanned Fret Guitars and Harp Guitars.

Warmth: 6  
Volume: 8  
Stability: 5  
Weight: 9

**Ziricote**

This is a very unusual material. It's the most responsive of all the tone woods, like driving a high end sports car. It’s every bit as good as any rosewood, with spider webbing grain, like Brazilian but with grays, greens and blacks. The tap tone is like a Tibetan Gong. The tone a bit brighter than Cocobolo with amazing bass, sustain. It’s the loudest unamplified guitar you will every play. The only negative with Ziricote is that it’s prone to cracking. Avoid extremes in humidity or temperature. Keep it humidified. Not available for Harp Guitars.

Warmth: 6  
Volume: 10  
Stability: 1  
Weight: 9

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Shipping

Shipping is $100 for any instrument to anywhere in the world.