

## BASIC SELF-ANALYSIS

Name:

Date:

1. How long have you been playing your instrument?
2. Do you play other instruments?      If so, how long?
3. Do you read tablature?      Chord charts?
4. Do you read standard notation?
5. About how many songs can you play from memory?
6. How would you rate your:
  - A. Lead or solo playing?
  - B. Backup playing?
  - C. Sense of time and rhythm?
  - D. Song arranging?
  - E. Composition skills?
7. Can you play these chords: (and how many different ways?)
  - A. major chords
  - B. minor chords
  - C. Dominant 7th chords
  - D. Other chords such a 6th chords, minor 7th, augmented, etc.
8. Do you know the notes of the chromatic scale?
9. Do you know how to create a major scale from any note?
10. Do you know how to create a major or minor chord from a major scale?
11. Do you know what chords are found in a key?
12. Do you know how to transpose?
13. Can you play in keys other than G, C, D and A?
14. How good are you are playing melodies by ear?      Can you figure out chords progressions without asking for help?
15. Do you know what syncopation is?

16. Do you know what dynamics in music are?
17. How would you rate your skills at dynamics?
18. Do you know how to describe chord progressions as Roman numerals?
19. Do you participate in open jam sessions?                      How often?
20. How would you rate your success at jam sessions?
21. Do you play in a band?                                              Do you want to?
22. How do your skills compare to the other band members or jammers?
23. What made you decide to learn to play this instrument?
24. What are your short and long term goals?
25. How do you rate your instrument in terms of sound and playability?

## **Notes**

I devised this for my new private lesson students. I would talk about it at their first lesson and let them take it home to bring back the following week. Then we would discuss their answers. It helped me formulate a better plan for how and what to teach them.

It is a good idea to revisit this self-analysis every six months or so. As you grow as a musician your evaluation will change over time. Knowing more about yourself will help guide you in the areas which need improvement or which are interesting.