

Quality Craftsmanship. Quality Sound. Quality People.

*Takamine*

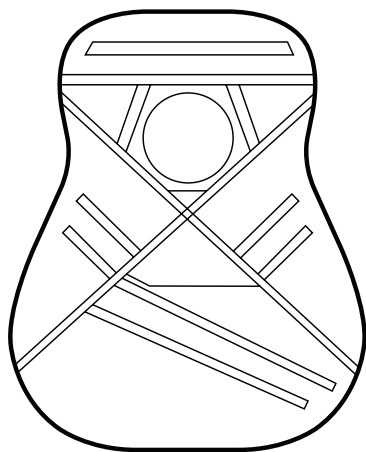
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# Body Shapes

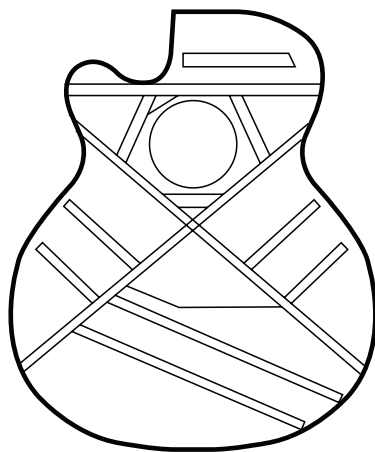
# Craftsmanship



Dreadnought

The most popular body shape of the past half century, the Dreadnought delivers a strong low end with plenty of volume.

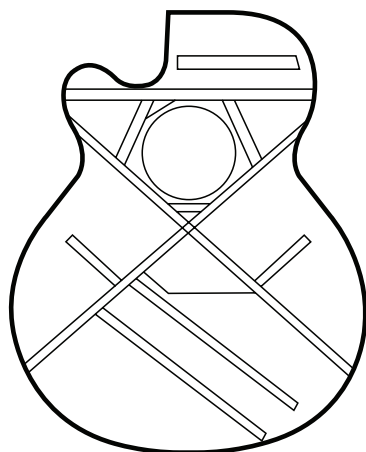
Length	20 1/16" (51cm)
Depth	4 15/16" (12.5cm)
Upper bout	11 1/8" (30cm)
Lower bout	15 3/4" (40cm)



NEX/GRAND Auditorium

This original Takamine body is a scaled-down Jumbo at heart. The NEX has a silky balance to the tone that supports vocals beautifully.

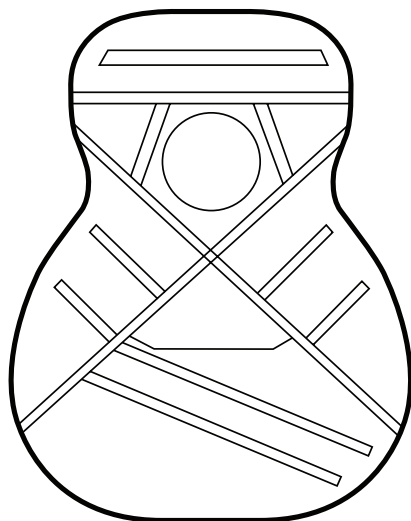
Length	20 1/16" (51cm)
Depth	4 5/16" (11cm)
Upper bout	11 1/4" (28.5cm)
Lower bout	5 3/4" (40cm)



FXC

The FXC is very close to traditional Grand Concert proportions. Excellent feedback control with a true and warm acoustic tone.

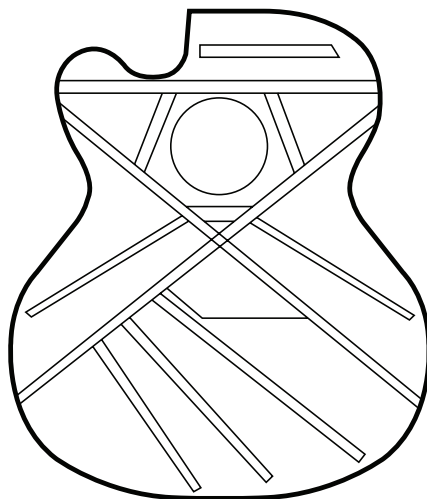
Length	19 1/8" (48.5cm)
Depth	4" (10cm)
Upper bout	11" (28cm)
Lower bout	14 3/4" (37.5cm)



OM

The Orchestra Model shape, with its strong lower midrange and versatile dynamics, is enjoying a resurgence.

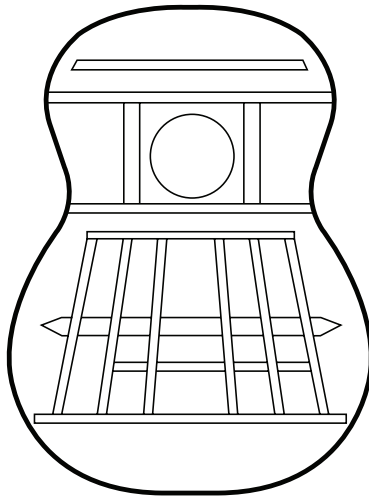
Length	19 1/2" (49.5cm)
Depth	4 1/4" (11cm)
Upper bout	11" (28cm)
Lower bout	15 3/8" (39cm)



JUMBO

The Jumbo excels as a rhythm guitar - big, meaty chords, plenty of volume and outstanding balance.

Length	20 7/8" (53cm)
Depth	4 15/16" (12.5cm)
Upper bout 1	2 9/16" (32cm)
Lower bout	17 1/8" (43.5cm)



Classic

Takamine classic guitars respect tradition. The fan bracing and body shape deliver a clear tone and a strong voice.

Length	19 5/16" (49cm)
Depth	4" (10cm)
Upper bout	11 7/16" (29cm)
Lower bout	14 9/16" (37cm)

## The delicate soundboard balance

Spruce and cedar soundboards have been used for well over a millennium, and the modern bracing system has been around for at least 150 years. We use a traditional 'X' bracing pattern on our steel strings, differently voiced for each application. Rather than take a radical departure, we make many small changes that add up to a significant difference in volume, balance and richness. Takamine soundboards are braced and voiced by hand. By tapping each top, a skilled luthier knows just how to shape the braces for the best possible response.

## The fret secret

Most makers don't give frets enough credit - or attention. A good fret job can help a player reach new heights. Examine the frets on a Takamine Tradesman. What you see is the work of a laser-guided fret finishing system that levels and crowns each fret to within 0.0001" of dead-on. Fret a note. Notice how the string contacts the centerline of the fret perfectly. And hear the clarity when you play. A good fret job can be the difference between a nice guitar and a great guitar.

## Appointments by deluxe

Takamine pioneered the use of uncommonly artistic and complex inlays on guitars for the common man. We have developed the art of design and the craft of precise inlay work far beyond the capability of most other guitar makers. Look closely at Takamine rosettes and inlays. This meticulous handwork is a highly visible reminder of our commitment to excellence on every part of our guitars.

## Body talk

A guitar body, with its many curves, accommodates a wide range of frequencies. Different body shapes favor different frequencies giving them a distinct character. Dreadnoughts are typically louder, with stronger lows. Smaller bodies, like our NEX, tend to be more balanced. A thinner body may project less, but sound more pleasing to the player. Play as many sizes as you can with comfort and sound in mind. Your choice is very personal what sounds and feels best to you.

## Is there a perfect neck shape?

A hundred years ago, the wide classical shape with a flat fingerboard was the only shape considered 'proper', but we've become more open-minded since then. Some players feel you can never be too thin, while others feel it's phat to be fat. It's that personal taste thing again. Takamine necks have an 'asymmetrical 'C' shape' - an ergonomic contour that's slightly thinner on the treble side of the neck so that it fits the natural shape of your hand. Overall, it's thin from front to back, medium in width, with a gentle fingerboard arch. Perfectly comfortable.

## Skin deep and more

Your Takamine is beautiful on the outside, but beauty is more than skin deep. Look inside and see for yourself. Finely sanded braces and meticulously cut linings display a level of hand craftsmanship that's fast disappearing from modern guitars. There's a century-old phrase from the Arts & Crafts movement: 'Anything worth doing is worth doing well.' That spirit lives on today.

At Takamine, we're artisans and craftspeople at heart.

