NAME
>   guitar – read guitar tablature

SYNOPSIS
>   **guitar** [*infile* [*outfile*]]

DESCRIPTION
>   Preprocess input for the program **mel** to allow for guitar tablatures. Filenames default to **/dev/stdin** or **/dev/stdout**. The dash (**-**) is a shorthand for the default value.

SYNTAX
>   The syntax of *infile* is as described in **mel**(1), with the following exception: Text between two vertical bars (**|**) that contains at least one hyphen-minus (**-**) or tilde (**~**), represents one bar/measure. Here, the commands **~**w[n], **|**n, **–**n, **+**n, ****n, **/**n, **_**n, **^**n, and **X**w[...] cannot be applied as usual and the **U** of the **U**n command can be omitted. The bar duration, defined beforehand via the **|**n command, is evenly distributed among the enclosed characters. The hyphen-minus (**-**), the plus sign (**+**), and the uppercase **X** represent a string at rest (a pause); the tilde (**~**), the backslash (****), the slash (**/**), the underscore (**_**), and the caret (**^**) represent a vibrating string (sound is played), just like all other characters, beyond their usual meanings. Lines with tablature that are not separated by an empty line start at the same point in time. This is realized via the **M0** mark, which shall thus not be used.