



ORDER DETAILS
GUITAR OPTIONS AND PRICING REQUEST FORM

date: _____

name: _____

address: _____

city: _____ State/Province: _____

phone: _____

email: _____

Which guitar would you like?

- Classical: base price \$7,000
- Flamenco: base price \$7000
- Other: _____

Soundboard tone woods

- North American Spruce (Sitka, Engelmann or Lutz) _____
- European Spruce
- Western Red Cedar
- Other: _____

Back and Sides Tonewood

- East Indian Rosewood
- Brazilian Rosewood (add \$3,000)
- African Blackwood (add \$2,000)
- Maple
- Mediterranean Cypress
- Monterey Cypress (relative of Mediterranean cypresses, from California)
- Other: _____

Neck Wood

- Spanish Cedar
- Mahogany
- Other: _____

Fingerboard Wood

- Ebony (standard)
- Rosewood
- Other: _____

Number of Frets

- 19 Frets (*standard*)
- 20 Frets
- 21 Frets

Fret Markers

- None (standard for flamenco guitars)
- 7th-fret side-dot (standard for classical guitars)
- Other: _____

Tuners

- Irving Sloane mechanical tuners (*standard*)
- Ebony pegs (Traditional for flamenco guitars)
- Planetary-gearped pegs (mechanical tuners that look like traditional flamenco pegs)
- Other: _____

Rosette

I do not install commercially-made rosettes. I personally design and make rosettes in small batches, capturing interesting wood grain patterns and geometric shapes. Please note that I vary rosettes from time to time. I am happy to provide photos of the currently available options. You can also see many examples of rosettes on my website tsiorba.com You can pick one of two styles for your guitar:

- Mosaic Rosette (human design)
- Figured wood rosette (forest whimsy/natural design)

Finish

My guitars are French-polished with natural shellac. I hand-make my finishes, using food-grade ethanol as solvent. Pore filling is accomplished with shellac and volcanic pumice. This traditional, time-honored finish is labor intensive, requiring patience and considerable skill. The reward, in my opinion, is well worth it!

Well applied French polish results in a warm, brilliant surface, luxurious to the touch, without the plasticky feel of synthetic finishes. Beyond aesthetics, I believe French Polish to be the best acoustically, and in terms of its future maintenance and repairability.

In addition, French polish is eco-friendly, non-toxic, and proven over hundreds of years of successful use in musical instruments and fine furniture.

Guitar Case

A good quality hardshell guitar case is included in the price. Brand/type may vary based on availability. If you require a specific brand or type of case, please specify:

Custom case: _____

Terms and Conditions

DEPOSIT ON NEW COMMISSIONS

-Why a deposit? Think of it as your commitment to your future guitar. In return, I make a commitment to you, reserving time in my building schedule to work on your guitar. Additionally, your deposit allows me to plan for the tonewoods, tuners, etc.. This deposit is applied toward the total price of your guitar, and is non-refundable.

-Balance due at completion, before the instrument is shipped.

-Another option: if you prefer, the entire price of the guitar can be paid upfront.

SHIPPING, HANDLING AND INSURANCE CHARGES

-Shipping within USA: no charge/included in the price

-International shipping costs, applicable customs duties or importation taxes (if any) are the responsibility of the purchaser. If you are an international buyer, you may not know exact shipping costs at the time of your order. I am not able to provide you with exact shipping quote for the future date. However, I am happy to provide you with a quote of current rates available through FedEx or UPS.

-Pick-up your guitar in person. In addition to meeting your luthier, you can explore my city—Portland. If you are in the mood to venture beyond the city, you can visit the surrounding mountains, forests, Pacific Ocean beaches, waterfalls along the Columbia river. While at it, why not sip a few local beers, visit nearby winery or taste some seriously delicious coffee?!

ESTIMATED COMPLETION/DELIVERY DATE

I make every effort to fulfill my orders on schedule. As I am a one-person shop, unforeseen circumstances may occasionally interrupt the flow of my work. If a delay is anticipated, I will notify you promptly. Otherwise, I look forward to delivering your guitar on time.

5-DAY APPROVAL PERIOD

I am committed to producing the finest instruments I am capable of. I want for you to be completely satisfied with your purchase. For that reason, I offer a five-day approval period, which begins on the day the shipping carrier delivers the guitar to the destination address, or the day you pick up the instrument from my shop. If, within that 5-day period, you determine that the guitar is not for you, you may notify me via e-mail or telephone, to arrange for a return. This approval period does not apply to highly customized guitars. Such customizations include unusual scale lengths, highly customized soundports, personalized inlays.

RETURNS AND REFUNDS

Commissioned guitars

Please notify me of your intent to return the guitar within the approval period (see 5-Day Approval Period section above). Return shipping and insurance costs will be paid by you, and will not be refunded. To qualify for a refund, the guitar must be returned in its original condition, without modifications or damage. The refund amount will be calculated as follows:

Original purchase price
-\$1,000 deposit
-restoration cost (if applicable)
= Refund amount

Refunds will be issued upon re-sale of the guitar to another customer or within 60-days, whichever is sooner.

Guitars purchased from inventory

Qualify for a full refund. Return shipping and insurance costs to be paid by the buyer. The guitar must be returned in its original condition.

LIFETIME WARRANTY

I strive to produce the finest guitars I am capable of making. I select highest quality, well-aged tonewoods, and go to great lengths to ensure that every step of construction is done with precision, proper technique, and with time-tested adhesives and finishes. When you purchase a Tsiorba guitar (new or pre-owned), you can rest assured that I personally guarantee the quality of my work. If your guitar develops cracks, excessive neck deformation, glue seam separations, or loose braces, I will repair your instrument at no charge (shipping not included). This warranty is in effect for as long as I remain actively engaged in lutherie work.

This warranty does not cover periodic maintenance, French polish touch-up, tuners, worn frets, general wear and tear, damages arising from neglect, abuse, exposure to extremes of temperature or humidity, accidents, destruction, natural disasters, etc.

SERVICE AND REPAIRS

I will gladly provide repair and maintenance services to address common wear and tear or any other repair issues not covered under the warranty.

North American Spruce

Englemann, Lutz and Sitka spruces are local to the Pacific Northwest. This proximity allows me to be very choosy, as I typically select these tonewoods in person, among large batches of available soundboards. Only the finest quality tonewood is set aside for my wood stash. If you would like to have your guitar built with local North American spruce, I will select a set that best compliments your selected instrument.

European Spruce

For hundreds of years, European spruces have been the primary soundboard tonewood for musical instruments. European luthiers used their local spruces in the construction of guitars, violins, harpsichords, pianos and countless other instruments. Spruce forests covered much of Europe, from Turkey to northern reaches of the continent, only constricted by climate and rainfall. The best European spruce I have been able to find comes from Northern Italy, Romania, Turkey, Austria and Russia. Trees don't like politics, and tend to grow wherever they can find a suitable home.

Western Red Cedar

I am literally surrounded by red cedar trees in the Pacific Northwest. While spruce-topped guitars often require a longer break-in period, a cedar soundboard guitar provides more instant gratification, offering a more open sound right from the start. A very lightweight wood. Cedar trees tend to grow without "twist" — a huge benefit to the tree cutter, yielding tops that have very little short-grain or run-out.

East Indian Rosewood *dalbergia latifolia*

The majority of rosewood (RW) guitars built today are made with this tonewood. Initially seen as a less expensive alternative to Brazilian rosewood, East Indian Rosewood (EIR) has earned its respected place among luthiers and musicians alike. While high-quality Brazilian rosewood is either unavailable or very expensive, EIR can still be obtained at reasonable prices and of excellent quality. It has superb tonal characteristics as well as physical strength and dimensional stability.

Brazilian Rosewood *dalbergia nigra*

Traditionally, the holy grail of guitar tonewoods. In 1992, Brazilian rosewood was listed as endangered with CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora), and can no longer be imported or exported unless it was harvested prior to that date, and has an accompanying CITES certificate. The wood is therefore very expensive, and the quality of the remaining pre-CITES stock tends to be of inferior grade. All of my Brazilian rosewood is from pre-ban era, acquired through great expense and care from a retired luthier in the Portland area.

African Blackwood *Guibourtia demeusei*

African blackwood is in the rosewood genus. Extremely dense, and will sink in water. Some consider this wood superior to Brazilian. Rare and expensive for a couple of reasons: Firstly, high-quality logs are rare. Very few trees are large enough to yield guitar backs. Secondly, this wood requires a significantly higher labor investment in working this material. The wood is very difficult to plane, scrape, and finish-but the results are more than worth it! Incredible dynamic range, tonal palette and volume.

Maple

Several hundred maple species exist, although there are four primarily used in guitarmaking. They are Western Big Leaf maple, Eastern maple (*North American*), European Red Maple, and the American Red maple.

Maple figures prominently in the violin family of instruments, as well as in the archtop guitars. Historically, many nylon-stringed guitars have been made with maple as well. Two examples are flamenco and classical guitars built by Antonio de Torres, and Panormo guitars made in England. Maple can have the effect of "warming" the sound, and making

king the instrument sound more intimate.

Mediterranean Cypress *Cupressus sempervirens*

Traditional choice for flamenco guitars, although excellent classical guitars can be built with this wood as well. In the yesteryear of Spanish guitarmaking, Spanish cypress was considered to be an inexpensive option, and did not necessarily imply "flamenco." Instead, it was the guitar for a person on a tight budget. Today, no longer a "budget" wood, well-cut cypress costs more than Indian rosewood. Most commercially available cypress is cut in Italy and Turkey. I have an excellent selection of well-aged, dry cypress. A superb tonewood with an intoxicating fragrance that will linger inside your cypress guitar for years!

Spanish Cedar *Cedrela odorata*

Not Spanish, nor a cedar! Lighter in weight than mahogany and a preferred material for flamenco guitar necks. Many Spanish classical guitar makers also used Spanish cedar exclusively. Exceptionally stable wood with a distinct fragrance reminiscent of cigar humidors (which are typically made of the same wood).

Mahogany *Swietenia mahogani*

Generally heavier and denser than Spanish cedar. Excellent choice for classical guitars. Well-quartered wood is very stable and strong.

Ebony

Traditional choice for guitar fingerboards. Ranging from jet black to striped with gray, black and brownish. Ebony's abrasion-resistant properties and high compression strength make it a long-lasting material for fingerboards.

Irving Sloane Tuners

Irving Sloane tuners are standard on non-pegged guitars. They are manufactured in the USA. Buttons can be ebony, pearloid, snakewood or imitation bone/ivory.

Ebony Peg Tuners

Many vintage flamenco guitars were equipped with wooden friction pegs. They are still an option for a traditional, elegant appearance. Pegs take some getting used to, and if you've never played guitars with pegs, please note that there is a learning curve to using pegs efficiently. If you like the aesthetic value of pegs, but don't like the idea of learning a different tuning approach, consider planetary geared pegs option below.

Geared Pegs

Nearly indistinguishable from ebony pegs, these tuners are no simple wooden affair. While maintaining traditional aesthetic and low mass, the tuners' internal geared mechanism affords better control over the tuning process. The peg mechanisms are made of anodized aluminum, steel, fiber-reinforced resin and ebony grips.