



Using a Guitar as a Remote Control for a Computer

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1. USING A GUITAR AS A REMOTE CONTROL

Polynesian societies have rhythm as an integral part of their culture. It can now be said that karaoke has become an integral part of Asian society.

Whitireia Community Polytechnic has a high proportion of both Polynesian and Asian students. It is my belief that providing mediums to which these students are already familiar will aid the learning process and at the same time add some fun to learning.

At present a musical keyboard can be used as an input device for a computer, therefore other instruments such as guitars can be used as controllers (Figure 1).



Figure 1

2. CONTROLLING WINDOWS APPLICATIONS

Guitars allow the operator to use combinations of four or five fingers.

Most software applications today have four standard pull down menus, which are File, Edit, Tools and Help.

The File menu New option could be used to either open an application or open an existing file. Other standard options would be Save, Print, Send to, Close and Exit.

The Edit menu would have generic options e.g. cut, copy and paste. The Tools menu would depend on the application in focus or in current use. The Help menu would also be standard to all applications loaded into the Guitar Remote Window.

The thumb can be used to tab between applications (Figure 2).

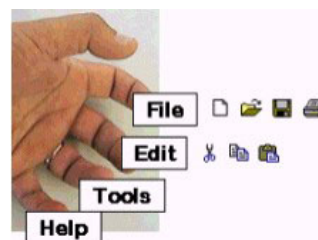


Figure 2



3. CONTROLLING DAILY CLASS SCHEDULES

Upon opening the Guitar Remote Window Calendar application the four fingers become the controls for daily classes between 8am - 5pm. Clicking your thumb in Daily Calendar Mode will switch the User to Weekly Mode (Figure 3).



Figure 3

4. CONTROLLING WORKING WEEK SCHEDULES

Once in Weekly Calendar Mode, the standard working week is shown. A double click on Monday will return the User to Daily mode (Figure 4).

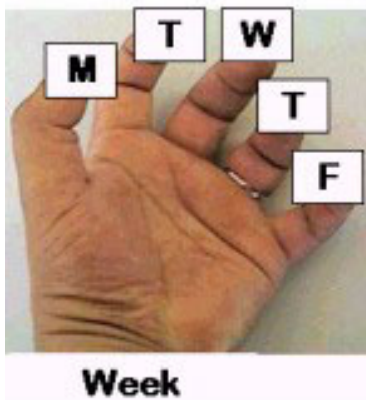


Figure 4

5. WEEKLY TIMETABLE

Each class time slot is shown as a unique icon that can be associated with the module (Figure 5).

Each icon can in turn be clicked on allowing several links to be available:

- ◆ Course Outline
- ◆ Tutor Lesson Plan
- ◆ Lesson Documentation
- ◆ Links to course material
- ◆ Assessment Schedule
- ◆ Resource Bookings
- ◆ Student Calendar
- ◆ Speakers, Visits, Outings etc.

Stud ID	CBC HF100		Semester 1 2002 OS100		
	A1	A2	A1	A2	A3
	72.0	58.0	20.0	10.0	43.5
	76.5	57.0	20.0	9.0	45.5
	81.5	59.5	20.0	10.0	44.0
	71.0	57.0	19.0	11.0	43.5
	81.0	58.5	19.0	11.0	45.0
	81.5	52.0	20.0	11.0	47.5
	76.0	58.0	19.0	10.0	40.0
	74.5	48.5	20.0	8.0	42.0
	84.5	57.0	20.0	12.0	49.0
	72.0	53.0	20.0	NC	NC
	79.0	54.5	C		
	83.5	57.0	20.0	11.0	49.5
	82.5	60.0	20.0	12.0	45.5
	68.0	54.5	18.0	NC	40.5
	80.0	54.0	19.5	10.0	42.5
	NC	NC	19.0	NC	NC
	72.5	50.5	20.0	12.0	50.0
	81.0	59.0	20.0	12.0	50.0
	80.0	58.0	20.0	12.0	46.0
	79.0	57.0	20.0	11.0	47.5
	68.0	57.0	NC	NC	NC
	76.0	53.0	17.0	NC	NC
	70.5	NC	16.0	NC	44.0
	85.0	59.5	20.0	12.0	48.0
Mark out of	85.0	60.0	20.0	12.0	50.0
Date Due	27-Feb	25-Mar	1-May	5-Jun	17-Jun
Average	77.4	55.9	19.4	10.9	45.6

Marks as at 16:41 19/06/2002

Figure 6






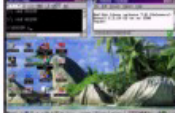








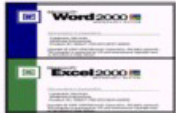


Dyrol's Timetable		2002				Semester 1	Term 2
Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday		
8.00 am - 9.50 am		 H1C ME	 K5 NCCK	 H1A F2	 H1A F1		
10.10 am - 12 noon	 K4 CBCK	 H1A F1	 K4 CBCK	 H1C ME	Available For Appointment		
12 noon - 1.00 pm							
1.00 pm - 2.50 pm	 K16 NCCK	 H2B F1		 H2B F1			
3.10 pm - 5.00 pm		 H1A F2					

Figure 5

6. SEMESTER MARKINGS

Student results can be fed into a background database for further control by the guitar remote (Figure 6).

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