Night falls.

Case latches click open … P.A. power lights wake from their slumber … one … two … check … check … All across the land you can almost hear the sound of a million working musicians gearing up for another night on stage. In coffeehouses. In rehearsal halls. In bars, roadhouses and arenas … Takamine.

Everywhere.

No, it’s not your imagination.

Tonight, wherever music lovers gather to hear acoustic guitars, odds are high that the headstocks will bear our name, Takamine.
That's right – an on-board tube preamp is now a reality. The new Takamine CoolTube is this century's first big news in acoustic/electric sound. Tubes have a wonderful effect on guitar tone—that's why they're still the overwhelming choice of stage and studio musicians. The CoolTube has the tonal warmth and harmonic richness that only a true tube preamp can deliver. It gives you a level of mild, natural tube compression that can only be described as "sweetness."

The tone control section of the CoolTube features bass and treble along with a semi-parametric midrange. A second-source input and blend control let you add a magnetic pickup, soundboard transducer or mic to the CoolTube. An on-board chromatic tuner rounds out the long features list.

The CoolTube is compatible with the innovative Takamine SoundChoice preamp system. All SoundChoice preamps are interchangeable and can be swapped in less than two minutes. You can match your favorite Takamine with your choice of preamp—right in your dealer's showroom.

Great acoustic/electric sound starts with the exclusive Takamine palathetic pickup. It's like no other—an integral part of the guitar's design, not a retrofit like most other "factory" systems. Six individual piezo transducers are embedded in the bridge plate where they sense both string and soundboard vibration.
If, like us, you’re the type to read CD liner notes, you already know the scoop on this guitarist’s guitarist. For years, John Jorgenson has been weaving his musical genius into dozens of projects by country, rock and pop luminaries – including Elton John. That’s when he’s not playing co-hellraiser in the Hellecasters. Who needs sleep?

Since John’s mastery isn’t confined to a single musical genre, his main concern was flexibility. The answer: scalloped top bracing. Though it’s a time-consuming process, requiring the highest level of guitar craft, it’s what gives the John Jorgenson models their noticeable dynamic breadth.

Some guitarists truly need no introduction. Meet Garth Brooks, the man who turned country music into an international phenomenon. Look for his lifetime record sales to be announced as soon as mathematicians invent a way to count that high.

Nothing short of a perfectionist, Garth worked closely with us on the GB7C. Its solid cedar top, plus rosewood back and sides, give an active performer like Garth evenness of tone – a solid, reliable and predictable fullness from venue to venue.

And that original guitar-shaped soundhole is Garth’s personal touch.
Triple threat guitarist, singer and songwriter. Break your heart with a ballad and before you can say “pass the tissues” he’ll burn down your barn with a full-tilt boogie. Talk about a career – his nearly full-time residence on the country music charts is about to enter its third decade … with Takamine in hand, of course.

Players often note the deeper, warmer acoustic voice of the Steve Wariner Signature model. That’s due largely to the guitar’s solid mahogany back, along with the solid cedar top.
Earlier we were constantly seeking to improve our instruments, models and specifications may change without notice.

A vivid example of the stunning “bear claw” spruce top.

All /Nashville acoustic/electric models feature the new CoolTube preamp.

Abalone is laser cut and hand-inlaid for a precise and perfect fit.

If we are constantly seeking to improve our instruments, models and specifications may change without notice.
If you appreciate the look and performance of fine tone woods, we’re sure you’ll share our attraction to these beautiful instruments. They are a labor of love for us and for you, a source of pride when you own one.

They’re beautifully designed and flawlessly crafted, right down to the inlay work. As guitar players, nothing turns us on more than the powerful, rich and open tone of an artfully made acoustic guitar. That’s why we know you’ll love the Nashville models you see here.

These instruments represent our tribute to the Golden Age of guitarmaking. Hand-crafted of all-solid woods by a special team at Takamine, Nashville models are as close to a luthier-built instrument as you will find from an international guitarmaker.

Inspired by the decades of artful and heartfelt music to come out of Nashville, these instruments live up to their heritage. From materials selection to the final touches of craftsmanship, every detail is a work of art in its own right.

The tops are solid, hand-selected “bear claw” spruce – a rare, naturally occurring figure pattern that marks luthiers’ most highly-prized soundboard spruce. Each soundboard is individually voiced to maximize its power and dynamic range.

The back and sides are solid, bookmatched Indian rosewood or mahogany, chosen for both appearance and acoustic integrity. The ebony fingerboard is fitted with nickel silver frets, leveled and finished by hand for perfect playability and intonation.

On rosewood models, the soundhole rosette and perimeter of the top are inlaid with hundreds of pieces of beautiful abalone shell. The shell is laser-cut for perfect shape and size, then meticulously hand-inlaid. You won’t find a more flawless abalone inlay treatment on any other guitar, regardless of its cost. Nashville models are available in pure acoustic form or equipped with the Takamine pickup and the new CoolTube preamp.
Everybody loves vintage acoustics. They’re full of history and they’re rare – everything a collectible ought to be. Takamine SuperNaturals are everything a guitar ought to be. And on top of that, they have a vintage feel, vibe and tone that will please even the most discriminating player.

SuperNaturals are available with either solid spruce or solid cedar soundboards, with hand-scalloped bracing to urge every bit of tone to speak up. Every sonic advantage is sought out, from the thickness of the bridge plate to the weight of each brace. The backs and sides are bookmatched rosewood. The solid back is braced to round out the tone and reinforce projection.

Plug in a SuperNatural and experience a new level of acoustic/electric performance. The new CoolTube preamp is the first on-board preamp to give you the classic warmth of tubes. Run at a very low voltage for pristine cleanliness (and to keep the temperature down), the CoolTube gives you the warmest and most natural sound ever to come out of an acoustic guitar endpin jack.

Takamine guitars have long been known for excellent dynamic range and wide frequency response. Whether you use a light fingerstyle touch or lay into it with a heavy flat pick, your Takamine will deliver what you ask it to do.

This is especially true of the SuperNatural series of instruments. Available with your choice of solid cedar or solid spruce soundboards, they are voiced for players who appreciate brilliance and ambiance as much as depth and richness.

Wrap your arms around a SuperNatural and you’ll feel its acoustic power right through the solid rosewood back. The back is braced and calibrated to enhance the broad range of the soundboard, giving you a tone that you’ll have to experience to fully appreciate.
When choosing a body shape consider comfort and application, but keep in mind that tone will probably be the deciding factor. It comes down to options and personal taste. Super/Naturals give you choice of classic Dreadnought and OM body shapes along with our own exclusive NEX body. The Dreadnought will give you big volume and drive. And if you’re interested in vintage tone and feel, the non-cutway A/116 delivers big. For both fingerstyle and flatpick, the OM truly shines. The tone is beautifully balanced with a strong low midrange that delivers a sense of power while maintaining a clear and airy high end.

The NEX will give you perfectly balanced accompaniment for vocals. The broad lower bout pumps out the lows and the full-depth body has plenty of volume in reserve.

Since we are constantly seeking to improve our instruments, models and specifications may change without notice.
A soundboard is tricky. Build it too strong and it sounds dull. Build it too responsive and it flies apart on the first big E chord.

Guitar-like instruments have been around for over 3,000 years. Cedar soundboards like those on Natural Series guitars have been used for a good portion of that time, and the modern bracing system has been around for at least 150 years. We use a traditional 'X' bracing pattern on Naturals, differently voiced for each body shape. We also use a thin satin finish and leave the pickguard on the shelf, giving the top maximum freedom of vibration. The biggest factor in sound quality is still the craftsmanship – taking the time to do it right.

Simple but beautiful rosette design

Aylon string model also available (EA460C)

Nancy Wilson
The Takamine Natural Series was conceived to give you the biggest and widest acoustic sound possible. Solid cedar tops, solid mahogany backs, a thin satin finish and no pickguard – anything that could possibly impede the vibration of the soundboard was purposely left out.

Many players have responded positively to this stripped-to-the-essence approach to guitar and the Naturals are among the best selling Takamine models.

This series also includes just about every body shape that we make from Dreadnought and Jumbo to JUX, FXC, and OM models. If straight acoustic is what you need, the non-cutaway Dreadnought A/110 is built from all solid woods and delivers a beautifully warm and full sound. The Jumbo A/120C features the largest body we make and has a sound to match. Fingerstyle players should try the A/130C with its wide neck and slotted headstock. There is even a nylon string instrument that’s decidedly not classical, the A/160C.

The new A/170 features a stylish update to the traditional OM body shape and delivers a sweet sound with both fingers and pick.

Since we are constantly seeking to improve our instruments, models and specifications may change without notice.
The American Southwest and its rich traditions were the inspiration for the Santa Fe Series. Over the past decade, we've introduced a range of fine instruments that reflect the art and culture of this unique region, while sharing the Takamine heritage of superb sound and impeccable workmanship.

Unusual materials such as turquoise and semi-precious stones combine with traditional guitarmaking woods to create some of the most exceptional guitars available anywhere.

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 factories.

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.

If you're seeking an instrument with a sound as big as the Grand Canyon and as clear as the Taos sky, look to the Southwest and the Takamine Santa Fe.

SOUTHWEST TRADITION

DREADNOUGHT THUNDER

There have been only a few Santa Fe Dreadnoughts over the years and the EAC11C on the right is a beautiful example. The select solid spruce top features a stylish and intricate Thunderbird rosette. Made of dozens of pieces of exotic wood, it is hand-inlaid to perfection. The solid sapele back and mahogany sides add warmth to the deep Dreadnought tone. Plugged in, the CT4BII preamp gives you wide control over the sound as well as a super accurate built-in tuner.
To please the eye as well as the ear. The craft of luthiery has always demanded skill in inlay and adornment, as well as in acoustics. Fancy and extensive inlays have come to be expected on expensive one-off instruments as much as superior woods and craftsmanship. Santa Fe guitars have always featured artful and intricate inlay work.

The E/F48C black crow rosette is a beautiful blend of padauk, ebony, and maple. And the green abalone fingerboard inlays reflect a motif found on Arapaho pottery. The EAC38C and EAC48C rosettes are made of semi-precious stones including turquoise, coral, and azurite-chrysocolla.

All of these instruments feature calibrated solid spruce tops with rosewood sides and solid rosewood backs.

Since we are constantly seeking to improve our instruments, models and specifications may change without notice.
The keystone is the piece that holds the whole thing together. Whether it’s a bridge or a doorway or an arch, take away the keystone and you’ve got a pile of rocks. The Dreadnought is the keystone of the acoustic guitar world – metaphorically speaking. Without Dreadnoughts, guitar music just wouldn’t be what it is today. That’s why we’ve named our family of traditional (and not-so-traditional) Dreadnoughts the Keystone Series.

Every one of these Dreadnoughts starts with a hand-selected solid spruce soundboard, voiced to classic Dreadnought perfection. Add your choice of back and side woods – mahogany, rosewood or maple – plus a Takamine pickup and CT4BII preamp and you’ve got an instrument that’s ready for any stage or studio.

These Dreadnoughts share the same attention to material choice and craft that our more upscale models do. Stately. Graceful. And a full, luscious voice. We believe you will not find a more straightforward, look-you-right-in-the-eye-and-speak-your-heart guitar anywhere.

Keystone Dreadnoughts feature backs and sides made of select tonewoods – flame maple in Gloss Sunburst, rosewood in Gloss Natural and mahogany in Gloss Black.

DREADNOUGHTS WITH MORE THAN TRADITION
The guitars of the Keystone Series are the working musician’s best friend. This reputation has been earned on thousands of concert and club stages around the globe. For four decades, Takamine has been the choice of tens of thousands of players – from part-timers to multi-platinum pros.

So why Takamine? There isn’t one simple answer. We could start with the carefully calibrated and braced solid spruce tops and select tonewood bodies. Or the comfortable modified ‘C’ shaped neck. Or the outstanding Takamine palathetic pickup. Or the variety of SoundChoice preamp options. But any one of those alone doesn’t explain it. Perhaps it’s because we’ve made constant improvements to every part of our guitars over the past four decades. They have the character of a great traditional Dreadnought with the performance that today’s demanding live music technology requires. If you earn your keep on stage or in the studio, it’s always “Take Your Tak to Work Day.”

Since we are constantly seeking to improve our instruments, models and specifications may change without notice.
His name was Helmholtz. A nineteenth century physicist, he discovered the rules for resonant chambers—like guitar bodies. Guitars are shaped the way they are for scientific as well as aesthetic reasons.

A guitar body, with its many curves, accommodates a wide range of frequencies. Different body shapes favor different frequencies giving them a different character, but they all sound like guitars. Dreadnoughts are typically louder, with stronger lows. Smaller bodies, like our NEX, AXC and FXC, tend to be more balanced.

A thinner body may project less, but sound more pleasing to the player. When choosing a guitar size, 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.

We’ve been making smaller-than-dreadnought sized guitars for many years. Their balanced tone, warm sound and comfortable size have made them a favorite of players who also sing. The Noveau collection of small-bodies features some of our favorites as well.

The EF261/AM and EF261/BL are favorites of both coffeehouse and arena guitarists for their strong and clear midrange. Their solid cedar tops and mahogany bodies produce a beautifully warm tone.

The EF450/MC/B features a solid spruce top and flamed maple body with a solid back for incredible brilliance and projection. The new EA/SSC body shape is based on classic guitar proportions with a unique cutaway. The solid cedar top and rosewood body with solid back have a delicate sound that’s perfect for vocal accompaniment.

---

**THE MAN BEHIND THE BODY**

Howie Day

**EF261/AM**
- FXC
- Gloss Antique Stain, solid cedar top

**EF261/SBL**
- FXC
- Gloss Black, solid cedar top

**EF450/MC/B**
- NEX
- Sunburst, solid spruce top, solid flame maple back

**EA/SSC**
- AXC, solid cedar top, solid rosewood back
The Takamine B10 bass is unique in the bass world. The fretless ebony fingerboard has a small radius, like an upright, but it can be played like a bass guitar. Still, most B10 players use the telescoping endpin to play the instrument like an upright.

Played either way, the large cutaway sycamore body and spruce top deliver surprising acoustic punch and volume. It’s very responsive to playing style – play it like an upright and it sounds like an upright; play it like a bass guitar and it can sound like a solid body. Part of the secret is the D/P digital preamp. It features a wide range of eq settings as well as built-in digital reverb. The B10 design is naturally feedback resistant, making it an ideal choice for live work.

The B10 features the amazingly versatile D/P digital preamp with reverb.

Since we are constantly seeking to improve our instruments, models and specifications may change without notice.
Many things are better wetter. Not guitar woods. Before the thin woods that make up your guitar are put together, they must be stable. And that means they must have the right moisture content.

When wood is first cut, most of its weight is water. To reach a level of stability—about 6% moisture—it has to lose most of that water gradually. Too fast and it will crack, split or warp.

We use a combination of kiln and air drying to bring the wood into the most stable state to build your guitar. We also let glued parts like necks and braced soundboards rest between operations to relieve internal stresses. All of this slows down build time, but results in an instrument that will give you a lifetime of music. And that’s the important thing.

Instruments like the H8 SS on the left use only the finest solid spruce for the soundboard and braces—solid rosewood for the backs and sides. The purity of tone and acoustic power of this guitar must be heard to be fully appreciated.

The H5 family of models features solid cedar tops and solid rosewood backs and sides. The EH5C model excels in acoustic/electric performance with the new CoolTube preamp and graceful cutaway body.
Takamine founder, the late Mass Hirade, was a brilliant designer and highly skilled luthier. Starting with the designs of Antonio Torres, the father of the modern classic guitar, Hirade instilled his own ideas into a new, more outspoken instrument. His modern ideas have been praised by purists and iconoclasts alike. Today, a small group of Takamine luthiers craft a limited number of these fine concert classics using Mr. Hirade’s original drawings.

In addition to recital players, Hirade classics have been favorites of jazz and pop artists looking for a true classic sound in amplified music. Hirade acoustic/electric models feature the new CoolTube preamp that delivers a warm and natural tone that is the perfect complement to their fine acoustic tone.
Whether you play the music of Bach or Bacharach, a Takamine classic guitar will give you plenty of opportunity to embrace tradition or break from it. Featuring solid cedar or spruce tops and rosewood backs and sides, these instruments are designed to deliver a clear and true classic fingerstyle sound with a decidedly modern edge.

The EC132/C is one of the most popular acoustic/electric classic guitars with professional players. The solid cedar top has a bright voice with exceptional sustain and character. The EC132/CBL breaks from tradition with a gloss black finish and abalone rosette, but is built to deliver classic playability and tone. Both feature the warm and natural tone of the new CoolTube preamp.

The EC132C features a spruce top, rosewood back and sides and CT4BII preamp for a roadworthy acoustic/electric with a tone that can cut through other amplified instruments.
The classical guitar tradition runs deep at Takamine. Drawing on the 150 year-old designs of Antonio Torres and adding the skill and precision of our own luthiers to bring those designs into the 21st century, we have created some of the most popular and respected classical guitars available today.

Takamine Classics feature solid cedar or spruce tops with rosewood backs and sides for a brilliant and rich classic tone. The braces are patterned and voiced for today's music. Whether you play classical, jazz, pop, Latin or any other style of music, your Takamine speaks pure and clear.

No other maker offers the SoundChoice interchangeable preamp system. Your acoustic/electric Takamine Classic can be equipped with any one of four preamp choices to give you maximum control over any performance application.

Since we are constantly seeking to improve our instruments, models and specifications may change without notice.
Few makers have a more extensive selection of Dreadnoughts. There are more colors, woods and configurations available in the G Series than in any other family of models that we offer.

Made to our strict specifications, G Series instruments represent outstanding performance and exceptionally good value.

Nineteen distinct Dreadnought models are included in the G Series, most with the performance of solid spruce tops. There are cutaway and non-cutaway models, 12-strings, straight acoustics and acoustic/electrics.

Over a half-dozen models feature the Takamine N4B preamp – a warm-sounding preamp that’s been a pro favorite for years. These models can be updated with any available SoundChoice preamp.

Since we are constantly seeking to improve our instruments, models and specifications may change without notice.
Different strokes for different folks. And different size guitars for different players and styles. Whether you're choosing your new guitar for playing comfort or have a specific tone in mind, there's a Takamine G Series instrument for you.

In addition to the extensive line of Dreadnoughts, the G Series features Jumbo and Orchestra (OM) size guitars as well as our exclusive NEX and FXC sizes. If you're small of stature, the OM, NEX and FXC bodies will be more comfortable to play. The FXC is also available in a thinline depth, which has excellent feedback resistance, even when the stage volume gets carried away.

The EG523 models have beautifully flamed maple backs and sides

The TV3 preamp delivers 3 bands of control and plenty of output

The TK/4T preamp gives you a tunable notch filter, switchable midrange contour and on-board tuner

Since we are constantly seeking to improve our instruments, models and specifications may change without notice.
FXC

EG568CC/Y
Cherry
Cherryburst, Thinline, flame maple top, TV3 preamp

EG568C
Gloss Natural, Thinline, TV3 preamp

EG568CBK
Gloss Black, Thinline, TV3 preamp

EG562C
Mylar string, Thinline, TV3 preamp

EG560CB/
Blue
/unburst, TK4NT preamp

AEX

EG541/C
Gloss Black, solid mahogany back

EG540/C
Gloss Natural, solid mahogany back

EG540/CTC
Transparent Charcoal

EG540/CTR
Transparent Red

EG540/CTB
Transparent Blue

Solid spruce top, TK4NT preamp

Figured maple top, TK4NT preamp
Some call it a "sized" guitar. Others call it a "baby" guitar. We just call it a "Takamini." Over the past few years, the little guitar has become increasingly popular. The short scale and reduced body give it a lot of advantages. It fits easily in airline overheads and everyone thinks it's "cute." On the downside, the tone is often toy-like. The Takamini has a sound that belies its stature. The solid spruce top gives it a grown-up voice that sends the others back to the playpen.

The Takamine G Series also includes several classic guitars that offer impressive performance at a very affordable price. If you are looking for choices, you'll find them in the Takamine G Series.

The little guitar that could. The Takamini is small in stature but big in sound.

Since we are constantly seeking to improve our instruments, models and specifications may change without notice.
The most popular body shape of the past half century, the Dreadnought covers a lot of acoustic guitar bases. With a strong low end and plenty of volume, its original purpose was to be the driving force in a bluegrass band.

**Dreadnought**

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

This original Takamine body is a scaled-down Jumbo at heart. Not as bassy as a Dreadnought, the NEX has a silky balance to the tone that provides superb support to vocals. The singer/songwriter’s favorite.

**NEX**

- Length: 20 1/16" (51cm)
- Depth: 4 5/16" (11cm)
- Upper bout: 11 1/4" (28.5cm)
- Lower bout: 15 3/4" (40cm)

The FXC is a great acoustic for an electric band. The smaller and thinner body (there’s even a thinline version) rejects feedback while providing a true and warm acoustic tone.

**FXC**

- Length: 19 1/8" (48.5cm)
- Depth: 4" (10cm) or 2 1/2" (6.5cm)
- Upper bout: 11" (28cm)
- Lower bout: 14 3/4" (37.5cm)

In the late 1920s the guitar was being incorporated into many styles of music and the OM or Orchestra Model shape came into being. This classic shape, with its strong lower midrange, is enjoying a resurgence.

**OM**

- Length: 19 1/2" (49.5cm)
- Depth: 4 1/4" (11cm)
- Upper bout: 11" (28cm)
- Lower bout: 15 5/8" (39cm)

The biggest body we make, the Jumbo excels as a rhythm guitar. Chords are big and meaty, with the broad lower bout delivering plenty of volume. While the overall tone is deep, the balance is outstanding.

**Jumbo**

- Length: 20 7/8" (53cm)
- Depth: 4 15/16" (12.5cm)
- Upper bout: 12 9/16" (32cm)
- Lower bout: 17 1/8" (43.5cm)

The classic guitar was defined over 150 years ago and Takamine respects the classic tradition. In combination with the fan bracing, the body shape delivers a clear tone and a strong distinctive voice.

**Classic**

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