01. **WLUR**  Write, Listen, Understand, Repeat. The best teacher will be experimentation. If you’re having fun, you’ll get there faster.

02. **Start a Band**  Beginners Only: A good place to start is Drums, Bass, Guitar/Keyboards & Vocals. Learn to write for this setup.

03. **Question Everything**  Beginners Only: Try out as many alternatives as you can. If it takes you 3 months to finish a song, that’s ok.

04. **Sing Everything**  Sing your melodies, sing your bass lines, beatbox your drums. Don’t hum, don’t whistle, don’t use your instrument to write.

05. **Learn Playing Chords**  Learn a harmony instrument (guitar or piano) so you can accompany yourself in time (see next page for guitar chords)

06. **There Are No Rules**  There is no “wrong”. In Songwriting, almost any technique can be turned into something that works for a large audience.

07. **Write By Yourself**  Beginners Only: Don’t ask others what they think of your music. Learn what doesn’t work by yourself.

08. **Hit (rec)**  Start recording yourself as early as possible (using your phone, Audacity, Garage Band, etc)

09. **Increase Your Listening Depth**  Have a favorite band and buy their best album. Listen to it for weeks and figure out what you like about it by asking questions.

10. **Learn By Writing, Not By Reading**  Beginners Only: Don’t listen to songwriting coaches until you’ve written at least 100 songs.
Also make sure you learn the Power Chord. A good tutorial is Howcast’s “How to Play Power Chords | Guitar Lessons” on YouTube.