It's never too late to learn an instrument!

Jump-Start Theme — "Classical Guitar Jump-Start: 7 free power-packed videos for beginners" By Laurie Randolph

I'm Laurie Randolph, and I'm offering you 7 short video lessons designed for you to try out classical guitar.

Starting with Video No. 2, each video will teach you to play a new piece of music within your grasp. Practice with the videos and try to master the material before moving on to the next video. You can download script and tablatures if you need to, from my Homepage: http://www.laurie-randolph.de .

There ae many kinds of guitars and many styles of guitar playing. The following demonstration will show you what is possible on the classical guitar, but don't let this worry you; we're going to start playing music, and some pretty cool music also, with video No. 2 using only one thumb and one finger. So, for now, take it away, Dylan! Dylan White plays exerpt from Antonio Lauro "El Marabino"

There are many ways to hold the guitar. It depends on what style of guitar you are playing. For classical guitar we want to place the guitar between the legs so that both arms have easy access to the guitar. You may want to put a footstool or a book ... a large telephone book or something ... under your left foot. It depends upon how high you are sitting. If you are sitting low, the guitar will not slide off your lap, but chairs of normal height require some adjustments.

You don't want your body to have pain: you want to have the instrument placed so that you can play comfortably, relaxing your shoulders, relaxing your arms. If you place the guitar like this ... you're going to end up like this ... so we are going to have to make a few adjustments. For instance ... I've got the guitar at an angle now. Actually, the guitar looks straight, but the sides are at an angle to my legs. The legs are the first two points of contact with the body. Either I lean forward to have a third point of contact [with the chest or I lean the guitar slightly back [to make that contact.

Now I have three ... actually four ... points of contact the 4th referring to the arms, is a mistake in these instructions. Please disregard. One, two, three, and ... the third point of contact can change: I can have it here (:right arm), I can have it here (:left arm), I can also relax it here (:chest). These two points of contact (the legs) remain stable, the third point of contact [is interchangeable]. It is not a good idea to maintain one position because you can become very stiff. You want to keep moving. The changing of the contact points has many advantages.