



skylarkguitars

Cleaning Your Fingerboard

As you play your guitar, dirt and oil from your hands builds up on the fingerboard. In fact, the fingerboard is the dirtiest part of most guitars. When you're changing strings, you have an opportunity to wipe down the fingerboard and really clean things up. Try a damp cloth or a soft bristled toothbrush and a little soapy water and be sure to wipe the frets dry.

If the dirt build-up is really bad, try some extra-fine steel wool (grade #0000) and scrub the fingerboard gently across its surface, parallel to the frets. There's usually no need for cleaning agents, because the steel wool will scrape the dirt away.

Follow this with a light coating of lemon oil to get a finished and clean look and to nourish the wood. Be careful to use just a tiny amount of lemon oil on a cloth, wipe it on the fingerboard, and then wipe it all off. Don't saturate the fingerboard as you don't want a lot of oil running down into the fret slots.

