

TATAY guitars

CATALOG



To the layman a guitar is a guitar, but until one has played a TATAY, one has really never played a guitar! To play this instrument is to discover the ultimate in mechanical perfection, precise intonation, and playing ease.

Totally hand-made since 1861 by the House of VICENTE TATAY in Valencia, Spain, TATAY guitars feature unique methods of construction not found in any other guitar. These methods include fan-bracing construction, the integral one-piece neck, and a number of minute personal adjustments which meet exacting individual demands for a perfect instrument.

How do TATAY guitars differ from the average imported or domestic guitar? The answer is simple. First, TATAY guitars are completely hand built — a claim which no other domestic or foreign manufacturer can support. There is absolutely no assembly-line production of this guitar; one master craftsman starts and finishes it. The custom-built TATAY in this age of mass production is nothing short of phenomenal.

A second feature is the fan-bracing construction — the owner's assurance of the finest tone quality with maximum tone purity through free soundboard vibration. The sound quality derives solely from the soundboard. In ordinary guitars there are from four to six struts supporting the soundboard to the sides of the guitar, in order to give more strength to the instrument. This prevents proper soundboard vibrational flexibility and results in an impoverished tone. In TATAY guitars, however, the soundboard is ingeniously braced to the guitar sides with one strut passing below the soundhole! The fan-bracing consists of thin strips of hollowed struts fanned out (a-la-española) from below this strut to approximately one inch from the soundboard bottom. This bracing system yields constant vibration freedom for the soundboard, assuring gentle sustained tones. These tones are characterized by full-bodied resonance adequate to the most exacting demands of concert artists performing for large audiences.

A third feature is the integral one-piece neck, an exclusive mark of TATAY excellence. One integral neck-piece runs from the outside to the inside of the guitar, providing maximum strength against neck and fingerboard warping. TATAY guitars are constructed in moulds in the same manner of fine violins. The first step in construction is binding the neck to the soundboard; the guitar sides are worked in through grooves cut at the sides of the heel in the neck piece. This configuration permits the easiest fingerboard action, and beautifully facile, smooth fingering. In ordinary guitars the neck is not so attached to the soundbox. The TATAY innovation in this detail is an aspect of critical importance. True, it is easier to simply make the soundbox and neck separately and join them under pressure. This is a shortcoming of mass production. It is inadequate, and the insufficient support will inevitably result in neck-warping.

TATAY guitars are built specifically for finger-playing, with both nylon or gut strings. They are constructed to meet all requirements for guitar versatility, e.g. classical, flamenco, or folk-singing accompaniment.

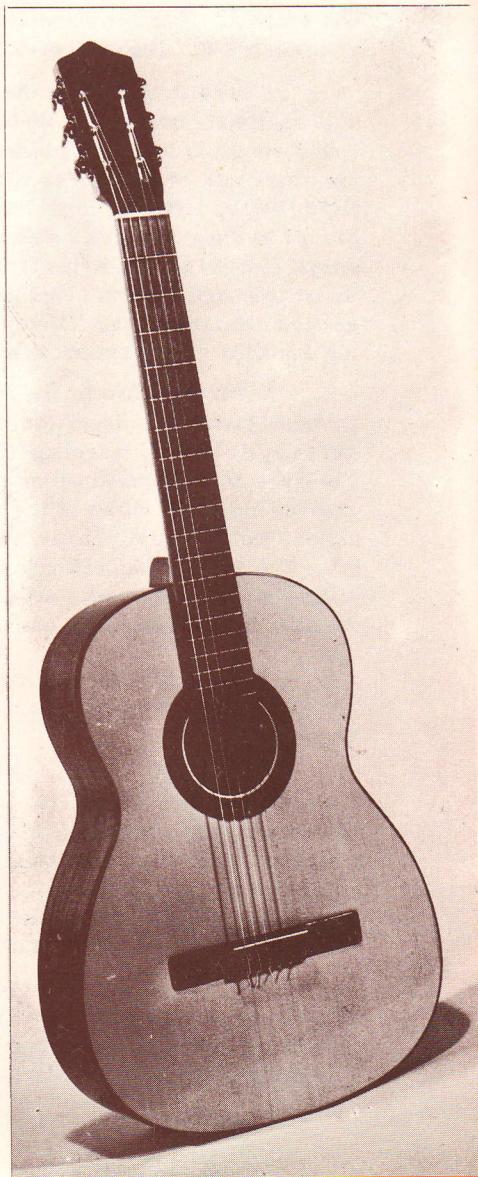
The question arises as to price differences among TATAY products. All TATAY instruments — from the most economically priced model to the most elite — are built from such basic woods as the Czechoslovakian Spruce (European Pine) for soundboards; walnut or mahogany for sides and back; brazilian rosewood or African Rosewood for fingerboard and bridge. The neck is always made of Mahogany. All inlaid works in TATAY guitars consist of fine designs of marqueterie in different kinds and colors of fine woods. Never are plastics used in the construction of TATAY guitars! Tuning machines are especially made for TATAY guitars and are individually fitted to each instrument.

The limited production of these fine instruments makes it impractical to advertise them on a national scale. TATAY guitars are sold from four to six weeks in advance of production and are directly supplied to the dealer, eliminating the expenses of "middle hands". Direct selling enables us to keep prices within the reach of those who must budget their expenditures.



MODEL 1-M:

Selected mahogany ply-veneer for sides and back, with birch ply-veneer for soundboard, with Rosewood fingerboard and bridge. Integral one-piece neck is made of mahogany. Non-tarnishing type of German alloy for frets, with deluxe imported tuning machines. All embellishments are of the inlaid type, as no plastics are ever used. Ideal guitar for the beginner and for studio instruction.



MODEL 2-W:

Selected walnut for sides and back, with Czechoslovakian Spruce (European Pine), for soundboard, with Rosewood fingerboard and bridge. Integral one-piece neck is made of mahogany. Non-tarnishing type of German alloy for frets, with nickel-plated tuning machines. All embellishments are of the inlaid type, as no plastics are ever used. Professional model with "fan-brace" style for support of the soundboard, yielding constant vibrational freedom of the soundboard.

Note:

Lettering of "M" and "W" after Model number denote Mahogany and Walnut construction respectively, for sides and back, with Spruce soundboard and Rosewood fingerboard and bridge, as standard equipment in all "W" models of TATAY guitars.

MODEL 3-W:

Choicest selection of well-seasoned walnut for sides and back, with Czechoslovakian Spruce (European Pine), for Soundboard, with Brazilian Rosewood for fingerboard and bridge, with integral, one-piece mahogany neck. Fingerboard is fretted with German alloy frets, with deluxe type of mechanical tuning machines with solid aluminum shafts. All inlaid work consists of fine wooden marqueterie. Professional model with "fan-brace" system of soundboard support, which is calibrated to yield constant vibrational freedom, assuring gentle and sustained tone, with clearest of definition between treble and bass output.



IMPORTANT:

All TATAY guitars are to be strung only with Nylon strings, as these guitars are manufactured for finger playing only. All TATAY guitars are finished in the natural color of the woods with hand-rubbed clear lacquer. A soft cloth dampened with Lemon Oil will suffice to clean the instruments, as they should not be treated with polishes or waxes.



MODEL 4-W:

Aristocratic model of an illustrious line of fine instruments. The woods used in the construction of the guitar are naturally seasoned and are pre-matched for timbre of sound before instrument is assembled. Finest choice of walnut is used for sides and back, with fine evenly-grained Czechoslovakian Spruce (European Pine), used for the soundboard. Consistently-strong, one-piece integral neck to the inside of the guitar, is made of selected mahogany, with Brazilian Rosewood for Bridge and fingerboard, which is fretted with fine non-tarnishing German alloy. Deluxe mechanical tuning machines with solid aluminum shafts (rollers), are fitted to the guitar. All embellishments are of the inlaid wooden type, in colored designs. All the fine features developed by the house of TATAY during the past 100 years are embodied in this fine instrument, with "fan-brace" system of soundboard support, with perfect calibration to yield the finest intonation, with the easiest of fingerboard action, with beautifully facile, smooth fingering.



“TATAY GUITARS SPECIFICATIONS” (Approximately)

Traditional (Standard Size)

Net weight fully equipped	3-1/4 lbs.
Over-all length	39-1/2 inches
Width at lower part of soundbox	14-3/4 inches
Width at upper part of soundbox	11 inches
Depth at lower part of soundbox.....	3-3/4 inches
Depth at upper part of soundbox.....	3-1/2 inches
Bone nut at upper part of fingerboard	2 inches