

# Tuning the 5-String Banjo

The standard tuning for a 5-string bluegrass banjo is called open G tuning.

What that means is that when you strum all of the strings it actually plays the G chord.



D - 1st string

B - 2nd string

G - 3rd string (one octave lower than the 5th string)

D - 4th string (one octave lower than the 1st string)

G - 5th string (the short string on top when holding the banjo)

I highly recommend getting a digital tuner. They have these nice little units that fit on your key ring that are a good place to start.

You can't play anything until you get in tune so master this step ASAP!  
Click on the links below to get in tune now:

[1<sup>st</sup> String D](#)

[2<sup>nd</sup> String B](#)

[3<sup>rd</sup> String G](#)

[4<sup>th</sup> String D](#)

[5<sup>th</sup> String G](#)