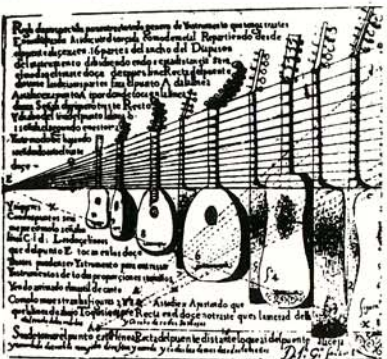


The great luthier Antonio Torres (1817-1892) is revered as the Stradivarius of the guitar. Drawing on the best of the designs that had gone before, Torres established the size and proportions of the body as well as of the fingerboard, standardized the length of the strings, and developed new patterns of fan bracing to produce a more resonant top. His best instruments had an elegant simplicity of form that has never been surpassed.



Regent



THE FIRST THING I WANT TO KNOW ABOUT A STEEL-STRINGED GUITAR IS WHETHER IT HAS AN ADJUSTABLE TRUSS ROD THROUGH THE NECK, because steel strings put a lot more stress (or torque) on the neck than the nylon strings of a classical guitar. If the strings aren't the proper height above the fingerboard, I adjust the truss rod until the guitar neck is set up right.

Alvarez guitars have a magnesium U-channel embedded in the mahogany neck. An adjustable steel rod in the metal channel extends the entire length of the neck, through the heel, and into the inner block. The longer the neck rod, the greater the area it can correct. What it adds up to is a stronger yet slimmer neck and precise, effective adjustment.

Alvarez Regent guitars are economy models — excellent straightforward guitars without extra cosmetic touches. They all have the adjustable U-channel/steel rod reinforcement, and they all have genuine inlaid sound hole decoration, unlike some other brands which have decals.



Magnesium U-channel in the neck.



5220 Songwriter The least expensive steel-string guitar. Natural spruce top, two-piece mahogany back with inlay strip. Rosewood fingerboard with pearl dot inlay. Celluloid inlay around sound hole. Mahogany neck and headpiece.



5222 Goldfinch All mahogany: golden stained mahogany top, two-piece mahogany back with inlay strip. Rosewood fingerboard with pearl dot inlays. Mahogany neck. Rosewood-faced headpiece. German silver frets.



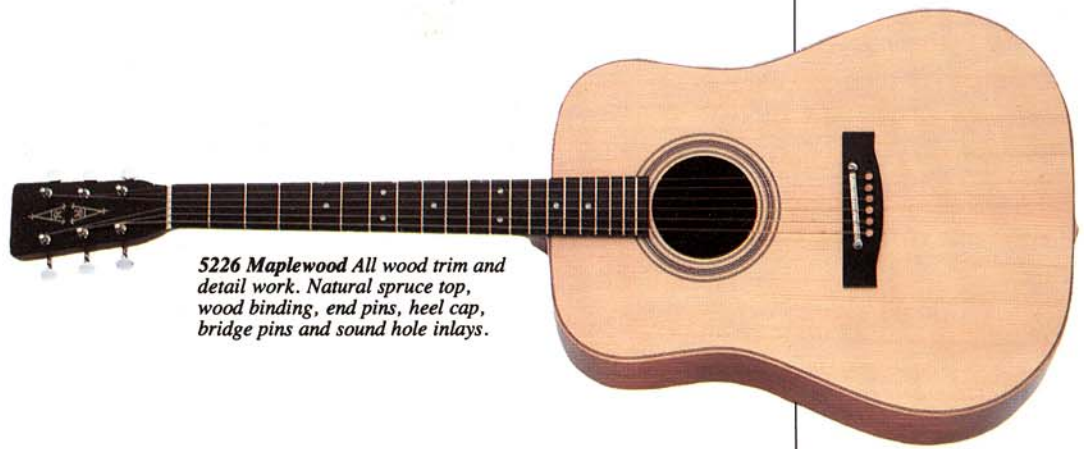
5205 Folk A A smaller-sized version of the 5225 Burgundy. Natural spruce top. Mahogany back and sides with deep burgundy red finish. Rosewood fingerboard with pearl dot inlays. Celluloid inlays around sound hole.



5225 Burgundy Natural white spruce top. Mahogany back and sides with deep burgundy red finish. Rosewood fingerboard with pearl dot inlays.



5210 Sunburst Same as 5225 Burgundy, except has sunburst pattern stain.



5226 Maplewood All wood trim and detail work. Natural spruce top, wood binding, end pins, heel cap, bridge pins and sound hole inlays.