

# Derek Kendall

## Biography and Social Media

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Derek Kendall, the newest member of SKODA, has been playing guitar since the age of eight when found he had a good ear for music and fell in love with that instrument. After his family moved from Detroit, Michigan to Hendersonville, Tennessee, Derek began taking guitar lessons at the Hendersonville Music Academy.

He continued lessons there until switching to the Creative Music Center to further his guitar playing as well as picking up some drum and production lessons. While focusing primarily on all types of rock and metal music, Derek found that his style is rooted in blues music. After discovering the blues essentials and visiting Memphis, his style became very influenced by the likes of Albert King, Buddy Guy, Jimi Hendrix, and a slew of others.

Subsequently, Derek began visiting blues clubs and participating in jam sessions to gain a better understanding of the style and culture around the music. It was this view of the blues that has continued to influence his playing style and contributions to SKODA in their original pop-rock-funk sound. He fully appreciated the great impact the blues has had on all major rock music.

Derek was asked to join SKODA after participating in several jam sessions with the other members and upon the departure of a former member. SKODA really appreciated his guitar skills, his feel for the music and his quick ability to internalize their feel for the writing process while also contributing to the sound that the band wanted to create. It's the combination of his playing skills and feel for the music that provide the driving licks and solid solos for the band.

Derek is attending Middle Tennessee State University, pursuing a bachelor's degree in Audio Production. When not playing, Derek enjoys comedy, hockey, and discovering new music.

