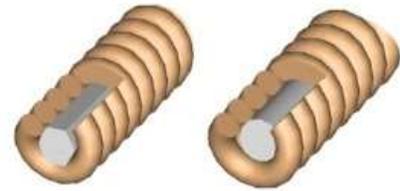


### What is a "Round Core" String?

All wound strings have a core wire.

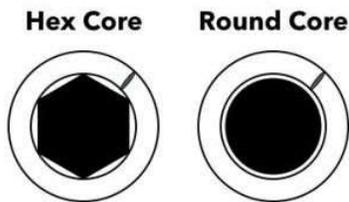
Normally the core-wire always was round, at least in the „good old days“ when string-makers took the time to make a perfect string. (Even today piano strings are still made as roundcore strings- never in hex-core.)



„Hex Core“

„Round Core“

In the mass production of guitar strings, resourceful manufacturers have found that a hexagonal core ("hexcore") is **faster**, more **reliable**, and therefore much less costly to wind.



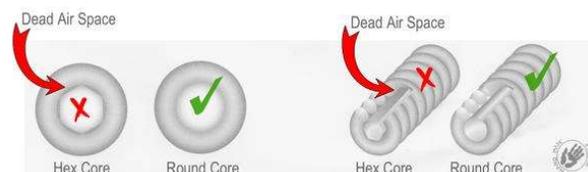
Hex Core

Round Core

It was touted to guitarists as a groundbreaking improvement, in reality the string was for the first time mechanically and much cheaper to produce.

### FACTS ABOUT „HEXCORE“:

- improves the "anchoring" of the winding on the core
- but makes the string stiffer and creates a higher pulling force.
- the winding does **not** have **complete contact** with the core (but touches the angular core only at the 6 points)
- So there is a lot of **contactless air** in the string
- **Moisture** and **dirt** can accumulate in the small cavities, quickly causing a dull and dampened sound. The string often sounds faster "dead".



### BACK TO THE FUTURE

For some years now round core strings have been offered by small specialist string makers.

The production is much more complicated and expensive, the spinner wire must be guided slowly by hand.

### ADVANTAGES:

Round Core Strings

- are **more elastic**
- offer a very **pleasant feeling** due to the **low string tension**
- **Relieve the grip hand**
- **Oscillate evenly**, with **greater amplitude**
- Therefore, a round core string **can rattle if you leave the settings** (string action, truss-rod) on the guitar unchanged. An adjustment of is therefore recommended!
- Sound is **more balanced, rich** and **full of character**
- Have **long sustain** and **many overtones**
- Round Core strings **achieve a longer (sound) life!**

### It is important...

- that Round Core strings are **not trimmed before winding**, but **only after** they have reached a basic tension.
- If you ignore this, the wrapping will detach from the core and the string will become unusable immediately!

| ROUND CORE          | HEX CORE          |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| WARM                | BRIGHT            |
| MORE FLEXIBLE       | STIFFER           |
| INCONSISTENT TUNING | CONSISTENT TUNING |
| MORE SUSTAIN        | LESS SUSTAIN      |
| VINTAGE TONE        | MODERN TONE       |

| Hex Core        | Round Core        |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Stiffer         | More Flexible     |
| Brighter        | Warmer            |
| Stronger Attack | Gentler Attack    |
| Less Sustain    | More Sustain      |
| Modern Tone     | Vintage Tone      |
| Consistent Tone | Inconsistent Tone |