

TOP GEAR

COMPACT ACOUSTIC WITH BIG TONE

Internationally acclaimed artist Ed Sheeran has his pick of high-end acoustics, which is why his decision to play an undersized and affordable Martin X series guitar ultimately led to one of this year's most interesting signature models. The **Martin LX1E Ed Sheeran Signature Edition** guitar showcases excellent sound and feel. A laser-etched solid sapele wood top rounds out its tone with natural warmth and vitality. Its back and sides are made from a high-pressure laminate, which allows the instrument to withstand extreme temperature and humidity changes—making the LX1E an excellent traveling companion. What's more, the LX1E sports a Fishman Isys preamp system, so it also sounds great plugged in.

—Phil Selman



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