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Alfred's Teach Yourself To Play Piano: Everything You Need To Know To Start Playing Now!, Book & Online Audio (Teach Yourself Series)



Synopsis

Learn to play the piano and open up a brand new world of musical knowledge with this exciting method from Alfred. Beginners of all ages can start their journey to a lifetime of musical enjoyment. Beginning with the fundamentals, you will learn about how to sit at the piano, fingerings, the keyboard's layout, and getting acquainted with standard musical notation. You will then move right along to playing different notes, scales, chords and songs, lesson by lesson, key by key, all while continuing to increase your ever-growing knowledge of reading and understanding standard musical notation. You will learn to play in an array of musical styles, including Pop, Blues, Classical, Folk, Hymns, Spirituals, and Ragtime. The online audio provides a helpful reference for play-along and practice that can be used anywhere you have a computer or mobile device. Be your own teacher, and let Alfred Music be your resource every step of the way.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Morty Manus is president of Alfred Music Publishing Co., Inc. Founded in New York in 1922 by composer and musician Alfred Piantodosi, Alfred Publishing was purchased by Morty's father Sam Manus in 1928. A classical violinist, Sam decided to change the company's focus from pop sheet music to educational print music and added many solos for accordion and wind instruments. When Morty joined the company in 1952, he had recently received a business degree from City College of New York. Soon after, Sam retired and Morty became president. A clarinetist and pianist who

received extensive musical training in his youth, Morty felt inspired by the need for quality music education products. Drawing upon his musical experience, he oversaw the development of an instructional series for accordion, followed by books for guitar and piano. Morty is the author and editor of numerous titles in Alfred's catalog, including many books in Alfred's Basic Piano Library. As the company expanded, Alfred outgrew its New York headquarters in 1975 and moved its offices to Los Angeles and its warehouse to upstate New York. Eventually, instructional materials were expanded into all areas of music, and on June 1, 2005, Alfred Music Publishing acquired Warner Bros. Publications from the Warner Music Group. Today, Alfred's roster of music editors includes such noted composers as Sally K. Albrecht, Gayle Kowalchyk, E. L. Lancaster, John O'Reilly, Anna Laura Page and Andy Albritton, among many other talented editors. Alfred's catalog consists of more than 45,000 active titles, making Alfred the world's largest educational music publisher. Although Alfred now employs 290 people worldwide, it remains a family business. Morty met his wife Iris when she was working for Alfred on Saturdays. Iris has worked on a full-time basis for Alfred since the late 1960s, and maintains the position of Executive Producer. In the 1980s, two of the couple's sons, Steven and Ron, joined Alfred. Ron is currently Chief Executive Officer. With the support and vision of his family, Morty is leading Alfred into the 21st century by continuing to expand into new technologies while adapting to market changes and keeping its company-wide commitment to service and music education. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Great book. I'm 50 and teaching myself to play. This book goes step by step and gives great practice pieces. They may seem so simple, but there is a point behind practicing scales and such. I'm amazed when I can actually play one of their song pieces, and it sounds so pretty. It really is a great teaching book. I ordered this over a year ago, and just getting around to using it. Not sure if it came with the dvd or not. I think it did, but I can't find it. But it is still teaching me well with just the book alone.

I bought this book to see if I could teach myself the basics of playing the piano. It works great for me. I am a visual learner. Yes, I like pictures. The book has drawings of correct finger position and placement. There are basic scales, songs, and lots of skill building exercises. I am very pleased with my purchase. I would buy this book again. It works for the adult who has never played the piano. It teaches you to read music!

I bought this book so I could teach my 11-year-old son how to play piano. He has notable difficulties

with fine motor activities including handwriting, dressing, using utensils, etc. We've tried Occupational Therapy and Physical Therapy for 8 years. Nothing has made much of a difference. A friend whose son has similar fine motor challenges said that her son's handwriting improved after taking piano lessons with daily practice. Since the cost was low (buying the book, we already own an old keyboard), I figured it was worth a shot. My son has been practicing for one half hour per day for the last four weeks. I am extremely pleased both with the book and with his progress. He is learning to read music. He has learned to play multiple short songs. He is enjoying himself, and so am I! Neither of us are particularly musical. But as stated before, I am doing this as a fine motor intervention. We see steady progress at every practice. We can move forward at our own rate. The book adds new concepts in an orderly way. Even my husband, who does happen to be musical, is impressed. We have noticed significant improvements in his ability to match his playing to the tempo of the audio recordings. The jury is still out on improvements in fine motor skills. I will wait until the summer is out to assess. We do like the ability to listen to the songs on the Alfred web site. Please note that there are two versions of this book, one includes the audio CD and code for web access, the less expensive one does not.

This is a great basic piano learning course all in itself. You can go a long way with this course. It has a book that is 96 pages in length and which encompasses what the earlier formats used to do in 2 or 3 books of about 45 pages. But this course also has the DVD which has the instructor sitting at a piano showing you and explaining to you everything as she teaches you to play the piano. Her video correlates very closely with the 96 page book and is about 2 hours in length. If you just kept going over this material, the video and the book, that is, I think it wouldn't take you many reiterations before you begin to feel like you're ready to move on to more sophisticated coursework and materials. THIS COURSE IT WELL WORTH THE MONEY YOU SPEND FOR IT. I THINK IT WAS LIKE 20 BUCKS OR A LITTLE MORE, BUT WELL WORTH THE INVESTMENT. You could spend tons of money with a personal tutor and not get much further along than with using this coursework alone on your computer. In my case, I'm using my keyboard and playing along while I watch the video on the computer screen next to my keyboard. I pause the video as often as I need to and practice what the teacher is showing me several times before moving on in the video. However, I did preview the entire 2 hour video first before doing anything as far as practice goes.

I've always wanted to learn to play piano. Our family for Christmas bought a keyboard. I don't really have the time to put toward official lessons so I bought this book based on recommendations from

friends who both play and teach. Overall, I like this book. I was able to breeze past the first part of it until dreaded Jingle Bells! That took me a while to get through. Now I'm struggling with some of the more "advanced pieces" in the book such as Brahms Lullaby & Joy to the World. I found the book fairly easy to follow although I have found some holes in the instruction, especially when it comes to finger positions. I have had a hard time getting the fingering right when my hands need to move up & down the keyboard and I don't really feel the book does a great job explaining it. The part I'm disappointed most in is the DVD. I would like to have more instruction on it rather than just showing how to play a piece in real time. I feel the DVD could have made up for the lack of instruction in the book at times. It also would be nice to break the DVD chapters up better and show in the book which chapter of the DVD it relates to. But again, if you're trying to learn piano on your own, I've found it helpful overall.

I had tried about 30 years ago to learn to play the piano, but failed miserably. I'm not even sure why I tried again, but decided to see if this book could help. IT WAS AMAZING. It may seem daunting at first, but stick to the lesson, practice the exercises and next thing you know, you'll be playing! By the end of the book, you'll be playing some impressive pieces. I've been able to take what I have learned from this book and applied it to standard sheet music since I finally now know how to read music. Because of the foundation this book gave me, I've been able to learn and play advanced music.

I am working my way through this book and really enjoying it. The lessons are fun and easy to follow. I recommend it for anyone wanting to learn to play. I do have a musical background but this book assumes you don't and begins with the basics.

I'm teaching my husband to play the piano. I felt this was too complex for a beginner. I'm thinking a beginner would get discouraged and not want to continue. I taught myself to play guitar, but the books were basic and simple enough for me to understand without so much text.

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