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Alfred's Essentials Of Music Theory: A Complete Self-Study Course For All Musicians (Book & 2 CDs)



Synopsis

This practical, easy-to-use, self-study course is perfect for pianists, guitarists, instrumentalists, vocalists, songwriters, arrangers and composers, and includes ear training CDs to help develop your musical ear. In this all-in-one theory course, you will learn the essentials of music through 75 concise lessons, practice your music reading and writing skills in the exercises, improve your listening skills with the enclosed ear training CDs, and test your knowledge with a review that completes each of the 18 units. Answers are included in the back of the book for all exercises, ear training and review.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This title taught me all of the basics I'd forgotten. I like anything published by Alfred, good company. If you're sincere about playing the piano or guitar or guitars :-), no matter if you're amateur/novice or professional, this bit of software could be for you and enable you to eventually help you to play like a pro, the easier way! EZ KEYS by: Toontrack EZ Keys should help revolutionize the music business. Why? If you can tap out the melody of a song, you can essentially write beautiful music. Indeed, it's just a matter of time until the major DAW's add this important feature to their software. Although EZ seamlessly integrates and works well within all of the major programs and hardware. Don't just take my word for it, uh Forrest:-) Google it and see what you find. I can tell you now, it's gonna be good! EZ Keys as like having a gifted college music professor sitting beside you everyday as you write and compose your tunes daily, while slowly but surely learning how to

write and play. This college music professor is with you everyday while you play, correcting you and helping you to superstardom. or, maybe just stardom. Everyone doesn't want to be a superstar. The beauty of it all is that you don't have to go online to do all this. Learning this way bends the learning curve to shorten the time it takes to become professionally proficient at the keyboard. I love this type of on the job training. Hours go by so quickly.....Lot's of times I start writing and toying around with this program, look up at the clock and two hours have gone by. What seemed like thirty minutes was actually two hours. I love this program. All you have to do is write or play whatever you can mainly create the melody with your right hand, then compile it, then EZ automatically creates the left hand chords for you. If you want to you can also change those first few notes you've chicken pecked out (that's how I do it everyday) and alter them to triad 4ths, 5ths, 6ths, 7ths,... on up to 13ths..... and more. Realistically, rarely do you have to go over 7ths.After that Keys pops up a circle of 4ths and 5ths and let's to toy around with it to see and hear what the neighboring chords look and sound like, then you write some more then compile again, then repeat, then after doing this a dozen or so times, you've got a complete song that sounds way above your current level of play. These compositions actually makes us sound like we really can play the piano:-) And the best thing, it really does sounds good! It doesn't sound amateurish or hokey like those songs we played out of the music books with the finger numbers over and under the notes, telling us which fingers to use when playing a song. Trust me! It don't get no easier kid:-)You can play a shoestring, if you're sincere. ---John Coltrane---

I'm learning more about music theory that I never had, even being a weekend musician for 20-30 years. A friend had recommended this who has been checking my work and has answered some questions I needed clarification on. This should however have stated in the description that the accompanying CD set is required for the reviews at the end of each section. I bought them separately after receiving the book; knowing what I do now, I would have purchased the full book/CD set. Very clear explanations within this book. My friend has helped clarify where I missed some parts of the directions on reviews. If you want to know more about music theory, or at least understand the music you have been playing for any amount of time, but never had a music theory class in school, this book is very useful.

This is a pretty good book for music theory. I've been approaching it from a guitar/ukulele perspective, and have a bit of a background in music (used to be decent/good in middle and high school band). Pretty much all of the material is covered in the book, and while I've seen other

reviews mention a lack in detail, it's all there. If you want to know what an interval is, you should look at the section that deals with them. While there are a ton of specifics you could go into, and while this book doesn't cover all of music theory, it is a very good primer. Because it is three books in one, it covers three major thrusts of music theory (in my opinion). The first major section covers really basic music (what you would've learned in band, and will be a review). The second section builds on this and teaches you some of the more intermediate theory ideas, while the third tries to put it together. Will this make you Mozart? No. But it will certainly give you a good basic/beginner/sort of intermediate understanding of music theory. I like the book, and it gave me a lot of ideas of where to go next with writing songs and playing my favorite instruments. It also gave me a decent amount of piano knowledge. Maybe I should learn that next given the book's (and music theory's) grounding in piano.

The material that is covered in the book is concise but helpful. The only thing I don't like about it is that the CD case is glued to the inside of the back cover and I had to rip it off to make the book comfortable to read and write in. They could have just packaged it separately!

Revisiting music after a 25 year break. This has been a great book for teaching the fundamentals of music and now I can sight read very well! This is a great value where you get the entire series with all the audio CD's for reinforcing the training. Highly recommended!

Great book. I used it to teach my kids. Its not recommended to learn by yourself. But its perfect to use in class like educational support.

This was a required book for my music class and i have to say it was very helpful.

One of the best music theory books out there. The addition of the CDs is a must.

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