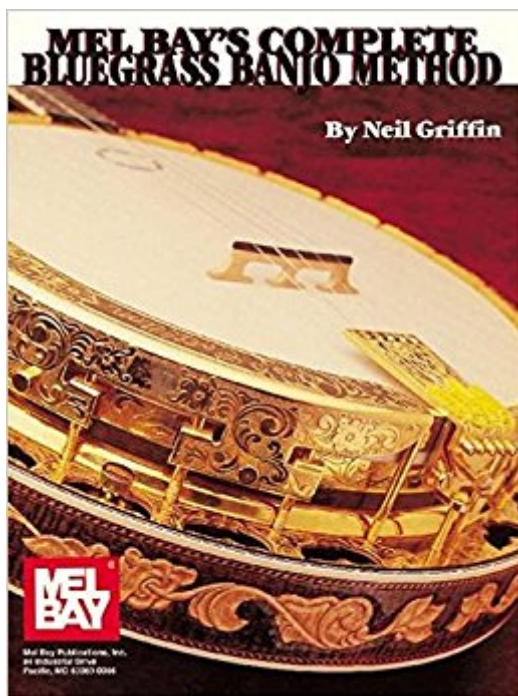


The book was found

Mel Bays Complete Bluegrass Banjo Method



Synopsis

One of the very best G tuning five-string bluegrass banjo methods available! The book teaches how to pick out tunes single-string style (one note at a time), how to play chord accompaniment, and how to play solos in the full three-finger, bluegrass style. Topics include note and tab reading, chord background styles, traditional bluegrass techniques, fills and endings, use of the capo, rolls, slides, hammers, pull-offs, choking, harmonics, and up-the-neck playing. In notation and tablature.

Book Information

Spiral-bound: 244 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 11 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #999,797 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #138 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Instruments > Strings > Banjos](#) #2606 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Instruments > Guitar](#) #6320 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Theory, Composition & Performance > Instruction & Study](#)

Customer Reviews

Neil Griffin was born and still resides in Charlotte, North Carolina. Music has always been his prime interest, starting with clarinet instruction in the fifth grade and learning guitar on his own. He performed as a member of the Charlotte Symphony Orchestra at age 15 playing bass clarinet. He also began performing with area dance bands on saxophone, clarinet, and guitar. He studied music at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, playing First Chair Alto Sax as a freshman in the UNC Concert Band. Neil taught as Band Director at three county schools for several years and at the same time privately for Kidd-Frix Music Co. in their Charlotte accordion school. When the School was purchased by Music Inc. Neil went into management and retail music sales for them. At the same time, Neil played regularly with his own band for wedding receptions, office parties, etc., and gained valuable experience from playing summer theater for many well-known stars as well as being called on a regular basis to play banjo, guitar, and clarinet for traveling Broadway shows appearing in the area. Neil was very active in the Charlotte Musicians Association and served as

president for approximately 13 years as well as holding other executive offices. Some of the first professional jobs Neil played were good old southern square dances, which at that time weren't as fancy as they are today but provided him with an appreciation for country and bluegrass music that was never forgotten. He enjoyed doing 5 radio shows and two TV shows per week at WBT and WBTV in Charlotte for over a year. In the early 60's Neil was hired to manage Tillman Music Co. in Charlotte. There he helped in starting the Aria Pro II line of instruments. Neil and his brother Steve, who also writes for Mel Bay Publications, went into the music-school business together in the 70's and later expanded as a retail music store. During this period Neil met Mel Bay and began to write material for 5-string banjo which was pretty scarce at the time. He has thoroughly enjoyed writing and teaching. Currently, Neil is a performing musician, band leader and co-owner of the Neil Griffin Studios of Music in Charlotte, North Carolina where his instructional books are field tested and proven effective with students of all ages. He has authored or co-authored several books for Mel Bay Publications on the subjects of 5-string banjo, rock guitar, and accordion.

This is solid and fundamental instruction for learning how to pick and play the banjo. Progressively, practice exercises build upon learning principles to help the student develop the skills necessary to understand how to read conventional notes, as well as tablature. He emphasizes memorizing notes and discourages, playing through sections until the student has mastered the earlier sections. Unlike other books that jump into advanced techniques, chords, and picking from the Get Go, this is more of a systematic curriculum on how to progress. The spiral-bound book fits nicely on my music stand, as this is quite a thick book. Excellent instruction on the fundamentals of learning. It is more of a textbook with short, clear instruction than alternative texts on self learning. Two thumbs up.

This book has a little bit of everything. Recommended by my banjo instructor. There is so so much material in this book, that I probably won't need another one for a long while. I've been playing the guitar for years, and decided that I wanted to branch out and learn some other instruments. I like bluegrass and country and western, so the banjo was a logical choice. The book is an easy read. Use it in conjunction with the many banjo video's in YouTube and you'll do well. I use YouTube and have enrolled in lessons because I enjoy jamming and the two-way conversation with someone watching and commenting on the good, the bad, and my ugly. This book contains both tabs and lines.

I'm actually a guitar player and teacher, but the banjo always caught my attention. This book is

being my source for a bout a month now and it's been great fun and I'm learning a lot and fast, even though Bluegrass has never been a musical style that particularly appealed to me. Some one correct me if I'm wrong but I guess the technique probably will just make me a more versatile player. For absolute beginners this book is pretty straight forward, giving you the needed insight in music theory and reading music too (which I strongly recommend), and it has tabs too. It lays out some basic right hand techniques, like pinch and rolls as well as left hand stuff, like hammer ons, pull offs and slides. Then heads on into more advanced repertoire. It's been pretty simple so far, and I'm about half way through the book. If your looking into starting to pick the banjo I'd say give this one a try. Just remember to take your time, you've got your whole life to learn (in fact it does take your whole life) so don't hurry through the lessons and exercises. Persistence and dedication makes it happen.

Goood Banjo book.

good value.

Simply the best.

Not what I hoped for

Good beginning book. Has some on strumming/etc. Will help you learn to read tab/music. Good companion for starting to figure things out. Find a buddy and pick and play.

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