

Guide to Books

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Why use a book?

Learning with well-chosen books and proper transcriptions is one of the best ways to make steady, lasting progress on an instrument. Working from structured material helps students treat their music studies with the same focus and seriousness as other school subjects.

Using graded books, song collections, and accurate transcriptions encourages good playing habits, supports regular home practice, and helps learners understand how music is written and performed. Over time, this builds confidence, discipline, and musicianship that lasts well beyond lessons.



Graded Books

Trinity Rock & Pop Grades Initial & 1-8 (Guitar, Bass, Keys, Drums)

Highly recommended for most players. These books build essential skills for performing with backing tracks and in ensembles, while helping students work towards a clear set of musical goals.

LCM Acoustic Guitar Grades 1-8 (plus Step 1-2)

LCM Ukulele Grades 1-8 (plus Step 1-2)

These LCM grades are great for all players and provide an excellent grounding in music, performance, and theory.

LCM Rock Guitar, Electric Guitar and Bass Grades 5-8

Recommended for players who are thinking about taking Music at GCSE, A Level, or University.

Hal Leonard Graded Guitar Songs (Beginner & Intermediate Books)

Excellent graded transcriptions with high-quality backing tracks, perfect for developing reading, timing, and performance confidence.

Songbooks & Transcriptions

Hal Leonard Chord Songbooks

A fantastic collection of chord songbooks covering almost every artist and style imaginable – from Taylor Swift, Queen, Oasis, and The Beatles to themed collections such as Classic Rock

Deluxe Guitar Play-Along Series

A superb source of accurate transcriptions and professional backing tracks that students will find extremely useful for practice and performance.

Signature Licks Series

Detailed transcriptions exploring the style and techniques of great players such as Jimi Hendrix, Jeff Beck, and Eric Clapton.

Blues, Acoustic & Advanced Studies

Blues You Can Use – John Ganapes

A clear and structured series for learning the fundamentals of blues and rock guitar, ideal for developing phrasing and improvisation.

Soloing Strategies for Guitar – Tom Kolb

A focused guide to rock improvisation, covering scales, licks, and approaches for lead guitar.

Stefan Grossman Transcription Books

Beautifully detailed arrangements and lessons for fingerstyle guitar, suitable for advanced players.

Advanced Fingerstyle Guitar – Ken Perlman

A comprehensive guide to advanced fingerstyle technique and musical development.

Books by Dave Hamburger

Great for building modern acoustic and fingerstyle skills through roots-based material.

The Advancing Guitarist – Mick Goodrick

A must-have for advanced electric guitarists exploring theory, technique, and creative musicianship.

The Art of the Drummer – John Savage

An outstanding drumming method book, perfect for developing reading, technique, and stylistic awareness.

Where to Buy

These books can be found through many retailers, including Musicroom, World of Books, eBay, and Amazon

 **Listen Learn Play – Zachary John Moore**

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