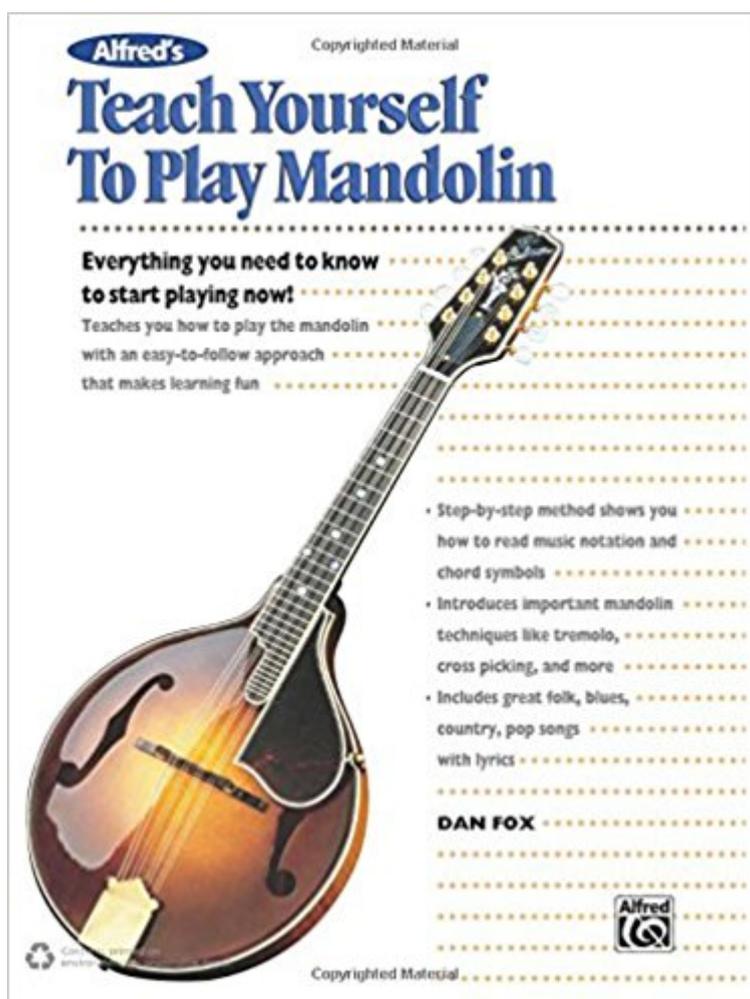


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# Alfred's Teach Yourself To Play Mandolin: Everything You Need To Know To Start Playing Now! (Teach Yourself Series)



## Synopsis

Learn to play mandolin 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 the history of the mandolin, its components, picks, how to tune it, and getting acquainted with standard musical notation. You will then move right along to playing different notes, scales, and songs, lesson by lesson, all while continuing to increase your ever-growing knowledge of reading and understanding standard musical notation. You will learn important mandolin techniques such as tremolo, cross picking, and more. Upon completion of the book, you will be able to play your favorite songs on the mandolin, know how to read music, and play with a musical group in many different styles, including folk, blues, country, and even pop. The book features the following resources for reference during and after your lessons: \* Mandolin accompaniments\* Mandolin chord dictionary\* Mandolin fingering chart Be your own teacher, and let Alfred be your resource every step of the way.

## Book Information

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Best Sellers Rank: #27,574 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #1 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Songbooks > Guitars & Fretted Instruments > Mandolins](#) #1 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Instruments > Strings > Mandolins](#) #319 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Theory, Composition & Performance > Instruction & Study](#)

## Customer Reviews

I found "Teach Yourself to Play Mandolin" by Dan Fox to be a wonderful beginner's guide to the mandolin. It gradually introduces new concepts and techniques as it goes along, and it constantly reinforces previous ideas. The examples are very well done, and the music selections are very enjoyable. I had several other mandolin instruction books, but this one was clearly the best, and it

was the one that I stuck with. I have since introduced two other people to the mandolin, and this is the book that I had them use. They have both since progressed nicely, and both have given very high praise to this book.

Having played electric and acoustic guitars for more than 30 years, I was surprised at how different it was to learn the mandolin. Dan Fox's little book got me up and running in about a week. The author introduces the mandolin in a step-by-step manner that is quite easy to follow. The exercises grow more difficult as the book progresses, however, the instruction remains concise and clearly communicated. The book ends with a handy Chord Dictionary illustrating the proper frettings and a Mandolin Fingering Chart. All in all, this book is a great tool for those learning the mandolin. It can even be recommended to young readers looking for musical instruction.

I like the book, but the description is very inaccurate. It says that it will teach you "a variety of strumming techniques" when only one page at the very back of the book describes strumming techniques. The emphasis of this book is on LEARNING TO READ MUSIC for the mandolin and playing melodies on the mandolin. Already having some background in music I would have appreciated a little less emphasis on learning music notation and more on fingerboard and picking techniques. I feel I am left out there a little to figure these things out on my own. For example: in the section on "cross picking" they say "cross picking is one of the most difficult things to do on the mandolin... here is a song where you have to do a lot of cross picking..." What the \*& ^%\$% do they mean by "cross picking" and how do I know if I'm doing it right? Really? And also the description mentions lyrics and there's not lyric ONE in this book! Not that that is really important to me at all; it's just wrong. It says the same thing on the cover of the book, but no lyrics anywhere.

This is an excellent book for learning mandolin except it does not come with a CD. At first I was discouraged but then used another mandolin book that included a CD and then went back to learn from this one, which worked out great. Great exercises for learning the fret board.

I chose this book because I have used Alfred teaching materials for years. I am a piano teacher who picked up a mandolin for the first time not long ago as a second instrument. I knew I wouldn't go wrong with an Alfred book and I have been very pleased with it for myself and my students.

OK for the money with varied info but short on the mechanics of playing. Uses the "low" thumb

position. Really could use a dvd. On the other hand, has varied scores of different types of music and gives info not found in other starter learning material that I have seen.

I've had a mando for about 5 years now that was left to me by a friend that passed away. I am a musical person, but until now I haven't found an instructional book (I've gone through maybe 5) that has worked for me. This book is EXTREMELY intuitive and I would recommend it to anyone trying to learn to play this instrument. The first few pages do a great job of illustrating the relationship between the sheet music and the instrument. It then gives short repetitive exercises to get each new note, time signature, and scale etched into your memory. Bravo to the author. I haven't even made it all the way through the book and I'm already 100% satisfied. I bet you will be too. Happy Mandolining.

One day out of the blue, I decided I wanted to learn how to play the mandolin. After procuring an instrument, I searched for a book to learn from. I picked up this one based on reviews and price. I was only looking for an introduction, becoming somewhat proficient with the instrument as my only goal. This book fulfilled my needs perfectly. It was very nicely arranged, easy to understand, and taught me what I wanted to know. The first few pages introduce each of the strings and the notes that can be played on those strings. So after about ten pages I knew how to play the mandolin. The rest of the book taught a few mandolin techniques, such as the tremolo, and music, like what an eighth note is. I took piano lessons growing up, so I was familiar with music, but it was nice to get a refresher course on some things. The book doesn't have much on chords, but at the end it does list some common chords along with a diagram for each one. I thought this was wise for a beginning book. So, all in all, a great introduction to the mandolin and I highly recommend it. Also, if you are looking for a good beginning instrument, I recommend this one:Â Johnson Mandolin A-Style with F Holes Sunburst. If you are interested in more mandolin music, I recommend this book:Â Mandolin Gold. Or if you want rock:Â The Beatles for Mandolin.

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