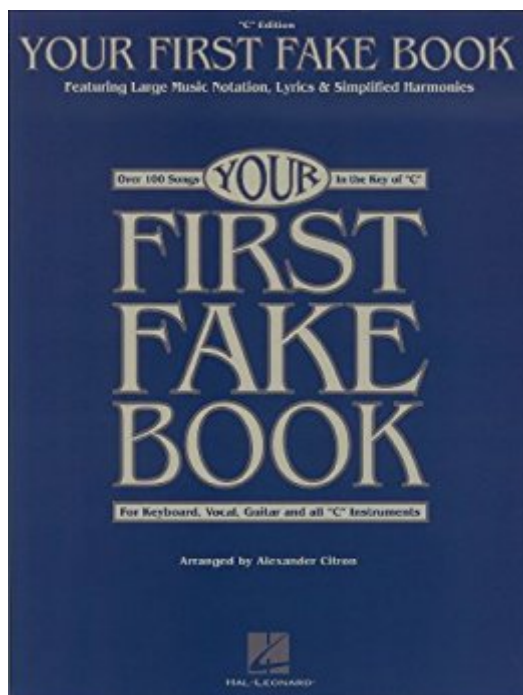


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Your First Fake Book



Synopsis

(Fake Book). An entry-level fake book! This book features larger-than-most fake book notation with simplified harmonies and melodies and all songs are in the key of C. An introduction addresses basic instruction in playing from a fake book. Contains over 100 songs, including: Ain't Misbehavin' * All the Things You Are * America the Beautiful * Beauty and the Beast * Bewitched * Blueberry Hill * Can't Help Falling in Love * Don't Get Around Much Anymore * Edelweiss * Getting to Know You * Heart and Soul * It Only Takes a Moment * Leaving on a Jet Plane * Let It Be * Love Me Tender * Maria * Mood Indigo * Satin Doll * Somewhere Out There * Try to Remember * When the Saints Go Marching In * Young at Heart * and more.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I had to buy a book of chords to figure out the chords for the first song.....This First Fake Book book has no chords printed out at the top of the page of the song.....If we could see the chords and practice first the chords.....Then we could play the song with ease....First you have to go find the chords needed for this song from somewhere.. Write down all the chords needed.....practice these chords.....now you can put both hands together and play the song.....would be so much easier if

the chords had been printed out at the top of the page to glance up and see and practice.. Some books have chords printed in the back of the book...NOT this book. I had to buy a chord book ...I don't consider this a First Fake Book... The first song has at least 8 chords to play in in the song and they repeat. I think I should have bought The Piano Guy book. Im going to look for that book.

This is a wonderful book for students with some limited knowledge of their instrument. I use it to teach both guitar and piano students. It should be noted the songs do not show the bass clef for piano students, so they will need to know how to compose chords based upon the chord name. Likewise, the book assumes the reader knows how to form chords if they are attempting to play on the guitar. Since all the songs are in the key of C Major, they tend to have a similar progression of chords giving them a similar sound. I teach students from 8 years old to 35 years old and each one has been able to find some songs in the book that they want to learn.

I am thrilled to have this book. I am just re-starting piano lessons after a hiatus of 45 years. I'm almost ready to start playing from this book, and my teacher says I'll be ready to thoroughly investigate it soon. She says it's great to have and she's teaching me some theory, so that book will really test out these lessons. This isn't an actual review, but I can tell with the proper background in notes and theory, it will be a fantastic opportunity to play anything!!

I bought both Your First Fake Book and The Easy Fake Book over a year ago. I played almost exclusively out of the Easy Fake Book for a long time and was starting to think I'd wasted my money on this book. I was so wrong. After having left the Easy Fake Book at a friend's house one weekend, I reluctantly dug into the First Fake Book and found more than a dozen tunes (mostly showtunes) that were stored in my memory from childhood (I'm 44), as well as a number of older tunes that I was able to sight read and learn to love without ever hearing them before. Other reviewers note that there are some clunky chords in a few places. True, in a FEW places. And I think I was initially a little put off by the simplicity compared to the Easy Fake Book (the sound is not automatically as rich on first try). But beginners won't notice mostly and the simplicity makes the tunes accessible. Once they have tuned their ears up enough to find the awkward spots, they can learn about altering the music to accomodate their ear... a very important step in taking ownership of a piece that you play. Intermediate players (something I consider myself to be) will likely find hours of enjoyable and relaxing tinkering in the mix including some jazzy moments that I would never have been able to accomplish through classical study (too many notes) but now have become part of my free playing

(improvisation). And when it all seems too simple... just slow down and listen... less IS more for some of the pieces (My Favorite Things can be HAUNTINGLY beautiful with a simple single-note rolling pattern for the chord)! Buy both, and don't ignore this one!

I'm a piano teacher who has used this book extensively with my students, and we appreciate being able to play (and in many cases, sight-read) popular songs and jazz-piano standards in the key of C. The book will help to give early-intermediate students confidence and will build their repertoire. That said, some of the chords are overly simplified and produce some real clunking harmonies. You will find yourself altering some of the basic chords in order to get the sound you want. For example, "Leavin' on a Jet Plane" features a C chord several times going against a melody F. For some students, I have to tell them to play a C only in the left hand, not the full chord. For more advanced students, we change the C chord to a D diminished, which leads into a discussion of the use of diminished chords. With these reservations, I still highly recommend this book since you or your students will find many songs that are easily played and enjoyed.

This is one of five books I have to self teach piano. Once you have learned your notes and chords this book will give you many satisfying popular favorites to practice and master. The fact that all tunes are in C is also helpful. I would use this book in conjunction with the Alfred's self teaching series. I wanted to learn chord play but also traditional piano play as well. I want to be able to read the Bass in a music sheet. Accordingly I am proceeding along two tracks. The one being the traditional teacher assisted method (without a live teacher in my case) where you cool your heels playing Twinkle Twinkle Little Star and Home on the Range and use Alfred's series and the other track whereby you become adventuresome and play more complex stuff from a fake book. In the former method you learn the basics the right way. In the chord method you can make greater strides forward having a good basic knowledge of the piano. By the way, never be afraid of starting the learning process. I am a retired 72 year old executive and I am hoping to be able to play for the remainder of my years.

I'm just recently started to teach myself to play a keyboard and already can work myself through some of the songs. And the selection of songs is more than I thought and I like most of them.

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