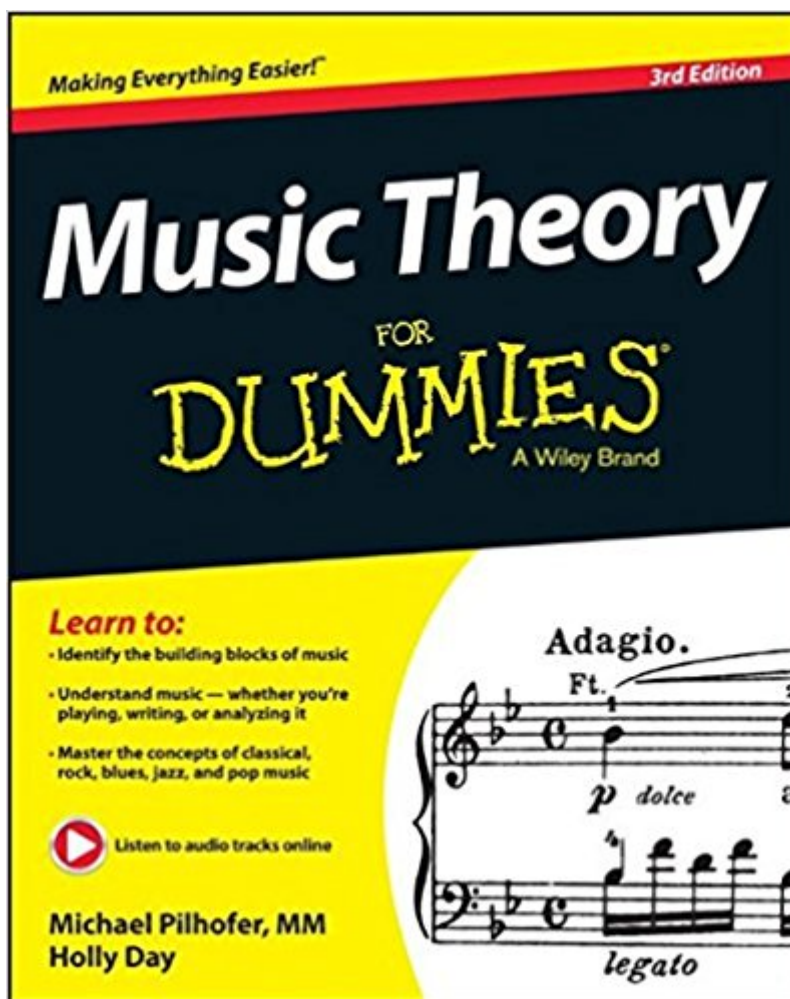


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# Music Theory For Dummies



## Synopsis

Get more out of music with this essential guide *Music Theory For Dummies* makes music theory easy to understand, with a friendly, unintimidating overview of everything you need to know to become fluent at knocking out beats, reading musical scores, and learning to anticipate where a song should go—whether you're reading someone else's music or writing your own. Whether you're a music student or a music lover, you'll learn to read, write, and understand music with this informative guide. With expert instruction, you'll put it all together as you compose, arrange, and create original melodies, harmonies, and chords of your own, with helpful tips for performing your pieces in front of an audience. This new third edition presents the most current teaching techniques, the newest music genres and examples, and updated information on all aspects of understanding, creating, and performing music. Studies have shown that music training improves children's verbal and spatial abilities, and it's been associated with cognitive and mathematical benefits in adults. The music job market is expected to increase over the coming years, and music theory is becoming an increasingly common part of education at all levels. *Music Theory For Dummies* provides the instruction you need to get more out of music than you ever thought possible. Master major and minor scales, intervals, pitches, and clefs Understand basic notation, time signals, tempo, dynamics, and navigation Employ melodies, chords, progressions, and phrases to form music Compose harmonies and accompanying melodies for voice and instruments Whether you intend to pursue a degree or career in music, or just enjoy listening to it, understanding the theory behind it gives you a whole new appreciation for the artistry and craftsmanship behind the pieces that give you goose bumps. It's a mix of technical skill, inborn talent, and plenty of practice—and now you can try your hand at it, with *Music Theory For Dummies*.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Learn to: Identify the building blocks of music Understand music &#151; whether you&#39;re playing, writing, or analyzing it Master the concepts of classical, rock, blues, jazz, and pop music Get more out of music with this essential guide Whether you&#39;re pursuing a career in music or just enjoy listening to it, understanding music theory helps you appreciate the artistry and craftsmanship involved in composing great pieces. Inside, you&#39;ll discover the technical skill, inborn talent, and plenty of practice that goes into making beautiful music. Music Theory 101 &#151; discover the birth of music theory, understand how theory can help your music, and get to know time signatures, rests, and beats Meet the staff, clefs, and notes &#151; put notes together, master the major and minor scales, and grasp key signatures and the circle of fifths Go the distance &#151; find out about intervals (the distance between pitches), chord building, and chord progressions Find your groove &#151; get acquainted with musical expression through tempo and dynamics and delve into instrument tone color and acoustics The building blocks of music &#151; tap into classical and popular genres to wrap your mind around rhythm, melody, harmony, and strong form Open the book and find: The fundamentals of music theory Ways to manipulate and combine notes Why music theory can help your music How to establish rhythm and shape a melody The keys to reading a musical score A handy chord chart Ten music theorists you should know about Access to audio tracks online to aid your comprehension

Mike Pilhofer holds a Masters of Music in Music Education with a Jazz Emphasis from the Eastman School of Music and is an in-demand clinician. Holly Day&#39;s work has appeared in over 3,000 print and electronic publications internationally.

As an amateur musician since age 10, I thought I had a pretty good understanding of music theory. However, as I have been spending more time with my music since retiring, I found some "issues" ... and my previous music theory reference work was long lost to the past. From the very first "for Dummies" books, I have disliked the inherent insult in the title. ... But, past experience with several titles has proved that the "for Dummies" format leads to a reasonably clear discussion of the covered topic's issues. This book provided the clear discussion that both reminded me of "lost" knowledge ... and I even discovered a few things I'd never realized. The construct of "for Dummies"

books delivers a step-by-step approach that builds from first principles to a full understand -- at least in a general level. As such, I would say this is a good book for beginning music students as well as a good review/reference work for the more experienced musician, who as perhaps forgotten past knowledge. Obviously, this is not really a book intended for the advanced musician.

It is a great book. I have learned and relearned from reading it. Well written!

Wish I had read this many years ago. Takes you to the next level of music

I love the dummies book I have 4 books Songwriters, Pro Tools, Music Business and Music Theory, a must have I can honestly say I'm learning and see results big time, and I'm speaking from an Artist point of view.

Great book! Simplifies music theory completely!

It can give the music student an understanding in music theory, but be aware that there may be some inconsistencies. Otherwise, it's a good start book to get the student started on examining scales, measure/time signature, etc. There is an accompanying CD that can help the reader/student listen to the scales and notes for memorization.

Handy reference. Not a dummy but I learned a lot !

The audio CD is not much help but the book is awesome. Concise, precise with handy memory helpers. A good basis of music theory for further study and about all the knowledge needed by most amateurs.

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