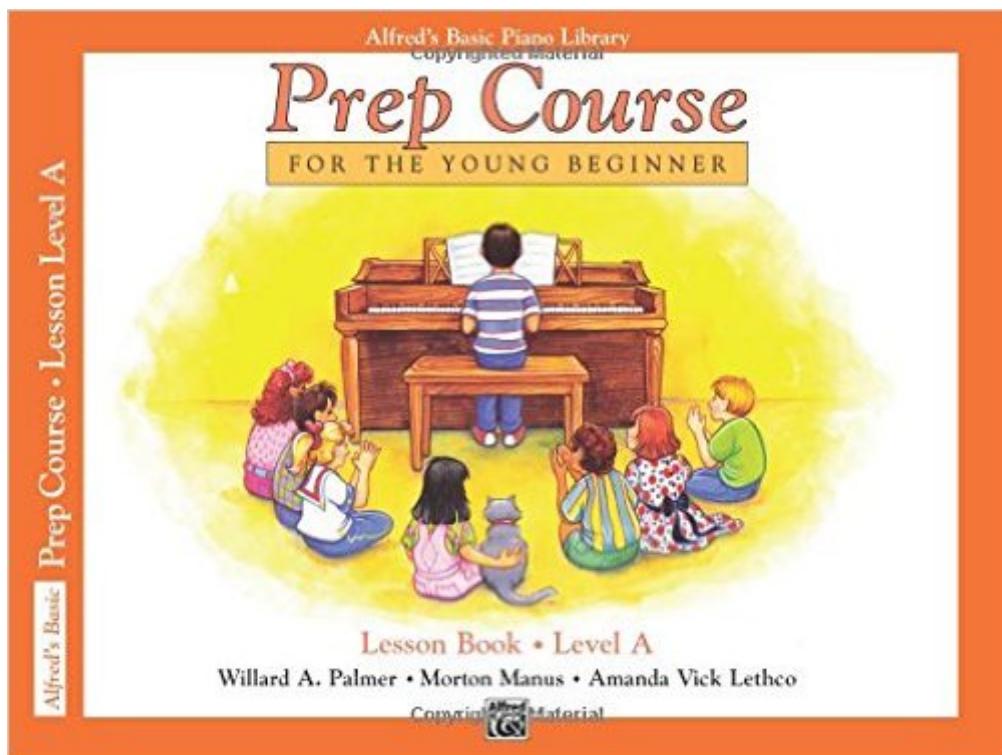


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Alfred's Basic Piano Library: Prep Course Lesson Level A



Synopsis

Alfred's Basic Prep Course, Lesson Book A is specifically designed for beginners who are five years old and up. Through the use of appealing music and attractive illustrations, it is no wonder that Lesson Book A is the most widely used young beginner's piano book now available. This course takes into consideration the normal attention span, as well as the small-sized hands of the young beginner. Shortly after beginning, the young student will be able to play "Merrily We Roll Along." The complete Prep Course consists of six books (Levels A through F). This course is most effective when used under the direction of a piano teacher or experienced musician.

Book Information

Paperback: 48 pages

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Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 11.2 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (257 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #126,161 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #92 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Theory, Composition & Performance > Exercises #235 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Theory, Composition & Performance > Theory #244 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Theory, Composition & Performance > Techniques

Customer Reviews

I was looking to start lessons with my music loving, but rather hyperactive 4 1/2-year old. I found this series of books to be perfect. Right now, we're working on the Lesson Book, the Theory Book, and the Activity/Ear Training book. The combination is wonderful. The lesson book introduces the initial topic and that topic is supported by the other books with lots of drawing and coloring activities that my daughter adores (and which significantly help reiterate the concepts being taught). Early examples include circle the two black key groups, draw the down-stems on the left-hand notes, color the #2 finger pink/#3 finger green, listen to the clap patterns, etc. We will move to the other books in the series when we're ready. I really like how each of the "helper" books refer back to the specific page in the initial lesson book that is being supported. Likewise, the basic lesson book has footnotes to say when it's time to move to the next "helper" book. I bought a used copy of the

teachers guide for myself. However, get the new books for your kid as I would guess that any used copy would already come "pre-colored". In all honesty, this series would probably be considered too "babyish" for kids much above the age of six. However, for your preschooler or early elementary-aged child, you won't find better than this.ETA: My copy of the book also has a CD which this particular book does not appear to possess. However the edition with the CD is also available here on .

I would call myself a beginner piano teacher, as I play the piano myself but have had no instruction as to how to teach others to play. I now have four beginner students, whom I have been teaching for a little over a year. I love the Alfred method. The four books: technic, lesson, solo/recital, and theory all seem to really work well together. The songs coordinate with each other, so for each new concept taught in the lesson books, the student has a warm-up, a solo piece, and some theory work to back it up. I find this to be very effective. It gives the students a chance to see several examples of each concept, and practice each new concept in different ways until they achieve perfection with it. It also really walks the teacher through each concept very clearly, giving definitions for musical terms and clear instructions for which songs go together. I feel like the order in which concepts are taught also makes a lot of sense. Overall, it's a good method for a teacher who doesn't know a whole lot about HOW to teach another person to play the piano! I currently have some of my students on this level (Prep Course), and others on the regular beginner levels. I love how all of the different levels are interchangeable, so gifted students can advance more quickly, and students who need a little extra reinforcement can stay on the lower levels. The map for how this all works is on the back of all of the books, which you can see on the book preview. So many great things about Alfred!

As I own a Music Academy, at any time we have 5-10 Piano instructors, and yes we talk about books and lesson plans. As my daughter was in lessons with one of our instructors, we had many conversations about different books, as a parent, I can see that because of the way it is written for children, it is a really nice entertaining book and Alfred has these books concentrating on Level 1 & 2 then up to Level 6. Most of the time the first two levels are split into a few volumes, while the latter are single volumes, all worth getting in order, of course. For Adultsâ ¡. Wait it's a children's book??? Exactly and what we have really come across, as I started taking lessons with the instructors at our academy and of course, I have the adult book, but being a guitarist, this is a new instrument for me. As was explained and is true, the children's book takes a much longer span to cover more

material, while the adult book does not. What this means is that the adult book may concentrate on fingering for a page or so and then assume, you have it down and jump to the next step. The children's book does not do this it spends more time and creates more of a solid base for you as a child or adult. So don't be as fast as I was to get the adult book, until you've spent some time with these. Average price range should be from \$6-10 each book. Hope the review helps shed some light and understanding, it's a great book throughout all the levels and add-ons.

I have tried several different authors and publishers for early piano instruction. This is certainly my favorite series, and the Level A prep book is a great place to start for the absolute beginner. Very logical progression of exercises, very comprehensive. The supplementary theory, solo, and technique books for each level are not necessary, but very helpful if you do choose them! I highly recommend anything from the Alfred's series, based solely from the performance and enjoyment from my students.

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