It's Recorder Time

A basic method of learning to play the recorder and read music through the use of folk, classical and familiar songs.

Includes many duets.

by

ALFRED D'AUBERGE and MORTON MANUS

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Synopsis
A basic method of building finger technique, intonation and tonguing through the performance of folk, classical and familiar songs.

Book Information
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Customer Reviews
Great book for absolute beginners who don’t read music. Gently guides student one step at a time through learning fingering and learning to read music. Better than any other book I’ve seen or used; even parents who don’t play themselves could use this book to teach their children. Might be “too” easy for those who already play another instrument or know how to read music, though.

I have been trying to learn to site read music for 30 years. This book has made it so that I can look at the note and I know exactly where my fingers belong. I wish there was a volume two to go past the basic nine notes, but it feels really wonderful to have those notes finally make sense without having to review each time I pick up the book. Really wonderful book for adults or children.

What a gentle introduction to music? Here’s a cheap, effective approach: a ten dollar plastic recorder and this four dollar book. d’Auberge and Manus don’t bother with Every Good Boy Does Fine. They start with B (and quarter notes), then add the other notes of a soprano recorder, one at a time. As the book goes on, new notes are added less frequently, and there are more songs to practice. The result: the material starts easy to master, and stays easy to master as new material is
added. The reader/performer learns through practice, not memorization. This book is only an introduction, but it’s a great one.

I am using this to refresh my own memory from third grade and to teach my eight-year-old daughter to play. I am very impressed with the way they focus on one note at a time yet manage to pull some songs together so you feel like you’re really playing something special vs. just doing a bunch of exercises. By the second lesson, we were playing together. We have both been amused by the song lyrics, and we are sharing lots of laughs in the process, which is of course priceless. They also include some parts for a teacher (if one is available), so you can play duets. This has also been a fun feature for us since I already know how to play. One thing beginners should pay attention to is the timing. As they teach you notes (A, B, C, etc.), they also teach you the aspect of timing (which of course is essential). Be sure to learn that part of the lesson also. It cost less than $30 for two recorders and this book. For that price, we are making memories and building the foundation for a lifetime of musical enjoyment. You simply can’t go wrong with this book.

This book is old—but it still works. I first came across it when I was in fourth grade and we learned how to play recorders. That was in 1985. I stumbled across the book almost 30 years later and found that it holds up well. The 32 book page is excellent for children and those of us who have little background in reading music. Alfred d’Auberge and Morton Manus do an excellent job in providing simple instructions and varied if somewhat dated pieces to practice on. Keep in mind this book is for true beginners—and some more experienced readers will find it very simple. Despite this, “It’s Recorder Time” remains an excellent introduction after all this time. Recommended.

With some trepidation, I tried this with my daughter (nearly 5 yrs) who is very enthusiastic about learning recorder. It was a great success due to its clear, simple layout. It is very satisfying for beginners to feel they rapidly progress to playing ‘real’ tunes -- including tunes with two player parts and words! Also, basic musical concepts -- clef, rests, measures are systematically introduced. I learned recorder in the 70s and remember my book as being fairly simple, but it did not offer the swift learner satisfaction that this one does, while building a solid foundation. Because of the range of tunes introduced, I think it would also work perfectly well for adults without being boring, and can help anyone who previously hasn’t learned notation. Strongly recommended all round.

When I purchased this book, I also purchased the book titled, “Recorder Fun! Teach Yourself the
Easy Way!”. I like both books for different reasons. This book shows music exactly as it would appear in other actual sheet music that one would use to perform with. The other book shows the name of the notes on each individual note, which helps one to memorize them. This book shows the picture of the recorder from the top to the bottom, and the other book shows the picture of the recorder from bottom to top. Each book contains different songs from the other (which is nice), and each book contains songs with only the notes that have been learned up to that point (which again, is great). Both books also contain lyrics, where appropriate, which are nice for those who want to do duets, trios, etc. This book also gives a 1 page illustration and descriptions of the entire family of recorders, which the other book does not offer. The other book does, however, come with a CD that properly demonstrates how all of the songs in the book should be played, which is a wonderful bonus for those who plan to play the recorder as more than a hobby. Overall I am happy that I decided to purchase both books together. It seems that what one book leaves out, the other one includes - which is why I recommend purchasing both books together.

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