Progressive Sight Singing

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Synopsis
A comprehensive, student-centered, and flexible introduction to sight singing, Progressive Sight Singing, Second Edition, by Carol Krueger, presents students with the underlying grammar and syntax of musical structure and prepares them to perceive that structure with both the ear and the eye. Working from the premise that students learn musical skills in much the same order as they do language skills, the book trains the ear first--through hearing and imitating patterns--before teaching students to read and write. Divided into two parts, the text presents rhythmic exercises in Part I and melodic exercises in Part II. The two sections can be used concurrently over a four-semester course sequence, giving instructors the flexibility to teach at a pace that suits the abilities and backgrounds of a particular class or course schedule.

FEATURES
- Adds only one new element per chapter and incorporates components from previous chapters into examples and exercises, continuously reinforcing learned skills
- Integrates a rich variety of well-paced, graduated exercises for classroom study and individual practice outside of class
- Includes an abundance of rhythmic exercises, eliminating the need for a separate rhythm text
- Encourages students to participate actively (sing, chant, write, improvise) in the practice of each concept
- Offers instructors great flexibility in that they can use the tonal and reading systems they prefer; the appendixes provide a brief overview of each system

Book Information
Paperback: 592 pages
Publisher: Oxford University Press; 2 edition (June 11, 2010)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0195386043
Product Dimensions: 10.8 x 0.9 x 9.2 inches
Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars
Best Sellers Rank: #65,440 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #71 in Humanities > Linguistics #87 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Instruments > Voice #130 in Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Social Sciences > Linguistics

Customer Reviews
This book is an exhaustive look at sight-singing. It almost gives too much information, but all the information is relevant to the subject. I recommend this book to anyone who has a general knowledge
of music theory and would like to apply a sight-singing technique to increase their musicianship. Many students have a basic understanding of music theory, but have not created an inner ear or inner rhythm. This book shows you how to develop both.

I have recently used this book and it is fascinating! Dr. Krueger takes sight singing to a new, comfortable, and well paced level. She believes in training the ear before the reading and writing, instead of throwing multiple ideas at the students. I highly recommend this book for college-level or even high school music students. If you ever have the chance to meet or take a class from Dr. K at the University of South Carolina, DO IT!

The sequential order of exercises for learning step-by-step is excellent. It is also easy to read, the instructions, exercises and the written outlay is clear. I would recommend this book to others who wants to learn sight-singing at home, or or to be used as a first preliminary step and then have a teacher follow-up. Berit Rundqvist

This textbook makes a lot more sense after you've taken a few of the authors workshops. It becomes apparent after taking her workshops that the editors did not put her methods in the same order in the book as she runs her curriculum in her classroom. Because of this, is makes it slightly more difficult to utilize Gordon Music Learning Theory with this book, hence the 4 stars. I look forward to the new edition. My understanding of how the author runs her classroom is as follows: Each chapter has numbered examples, starting at simple and moving towards extremely complex. You are to work through the first few examples of EVERY CHAPTER (say, examples 1-5), then go back through as your student's reading abilities improve and do the next set (perhaps examples 6-10 of every chapter). In this way, this book provides examples of nearly every musical reading concept found in tonal music and could be used from the early elementary classroom (utilizing only the beginning examples) to the college sight singing classroom (the more complex parts of each chapter).

Great textbook for learning to read music. The author does make some leaps in knowledge after awhile, but this book does the job overall. Only complaint is, after only 4 months of use, the binding is falling apart.

The voice, unlike all other instruments, is locked in the body and as a result, the instruction and
shaping of this instrument is often based on the teacher's perception or belief of what constitutes proper and healthy voice production. This leaves a lot of room for people to express their (often contradictory) opinions, which can wind up confusing the student as much as helping them. Professor Krueger's book avoids this, and gives solid advice in an incremental fashion. The exercises are logical and plentiful, and I have found her approach to be extremely helpful. I am a tenor in a church choir that sings a lot of high classical repertoire, and the ability to sight-sing is essential with the amount of material we cover in a given rehearsal. I have no reservations about recommending her book.

Every music educator needs to consider this method. It simplifies so many aspects of the foundations music. I feel armed and ready to teach with new outlook and enthusiasm. I highly recommend taking Dr. K's workshop, too.

Carol Krueger has taken music learning theory and given it a practical application in sight singing. New skills are introduced one at a time and reinforced throughout the book. This book will become the next "standard text" in collegiate sight singing classes.