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The Complete Jewish Songbook: The Definitive Collection Of Jewish Songs

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Synopsis
(Transcontinental Music Folios). 350 of the most popular songs from all of Jewish tradition. If it's a piece of Jewish music you're looking for, you're sure to find it in this resource. In convenient lead sheet form, it includes Hebrew texts, English translations, and transliterated lyrics; full musical notation with chords for keyboardists or guitarists plus a separate line for guitarists using capos; and more. It includes contemporary Jewish folk and rock, popular tunes from Jewish camps, Israeli, Chassidic, Sephardic songs, and more.

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Customer Reviews
There have been many Songbooks of Jewish music compiled by a variety of organizations over the last 40 years - all for a specific purpose. This collection however is unique in that in its 400+ pages it provides the lyrics (or texts with sources), music notation and guitar chords of nearly every song taught by camp and Temple songleaders between 1965 and 2000. It is nothing less than an archive of the Jewish music of a generation (or two). The important works of contemporary composers (Friedman, Klepper, Isaacson, Dropkin, Freedlander, etc.) are scored here along with traditional folk tunes, Chassidic nigunim and popular Israeli music. The 350 collected songs are indexed by text source and by composer. Hebrew songs feature transliterated lyrics in the score and hebrew text with translation below.

If you are looking for a book of Jewish songs that are played at shul, this is the book. It has not just
one version but many versions of the same song, so you can pick the one you are familiar with, or learn a new melody.

Color me naive, but I would think that any book billing itself as a "Complete" Jewish songbook would have a range of melodies spanning the centuries. Its pages would have not only Shabbat songs, but classic songs for all the holidays, as well as well-known Yiddish and Hebrew folksongs. Well, this book doesn't have that. Most of the 350 songs in here are new, and are variations on Shabbat songs only. They are great for someone playing instruments in a synagogue, but not so great for introducing the classics to your kids at home. We are returning our copy.

I'm a professional in the field, a Cantorial Soloist at a Reform congregation. I have many books of Jewish music. This is by far the one I use most -- about as much as all of the others put together. It's a great mix of traditional settings of prayers, Jewish folk songs, Israeli classics, classics of the Reform folk-song style (Debbie Friedman, Jeff Klepper, et. al.). If you want to have one Jewish song book, and you're in the Liberal Jewish world, this is it. Even if you're Orthodox, it's not a bad choice.

Excellent material. Loses a star as many songs require page turns. That could easily have been avoided by not packing so many songs into all space possible, and if it had page turns, simply put them on two connected pages.

so nice to have such a variety in one book! the notes are large and clear and the transliteration works well. the original hebrew is given, too. it's great to "see" the songs I knew only by ear.

The Complete Jewish Songbook is perfect - a large selection of repertoire, Hebrew, English Translations, and Phonetic Pronunciations make it perfect for the teacher and student alike. I was impressed how nicely it was mailed too. Well protected so it would arrive in pristine condition.

I really am enjoying this book. This includes a lot of the well-known liturgical arrangements we sing at Friday night service. It also includes fun folk songs. It is a good mix of English and Hebrew, with translations next to the Hebrew letters, as well as the phonetic spellings of the Hebrew so those of us who don't read it really well can still easily learn the words. This book is being played a LOT in our home these days--both on the piano and guitar. I love being able to play and sing Jewish music for my family like this in the evenings, and this book works really well for it.

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