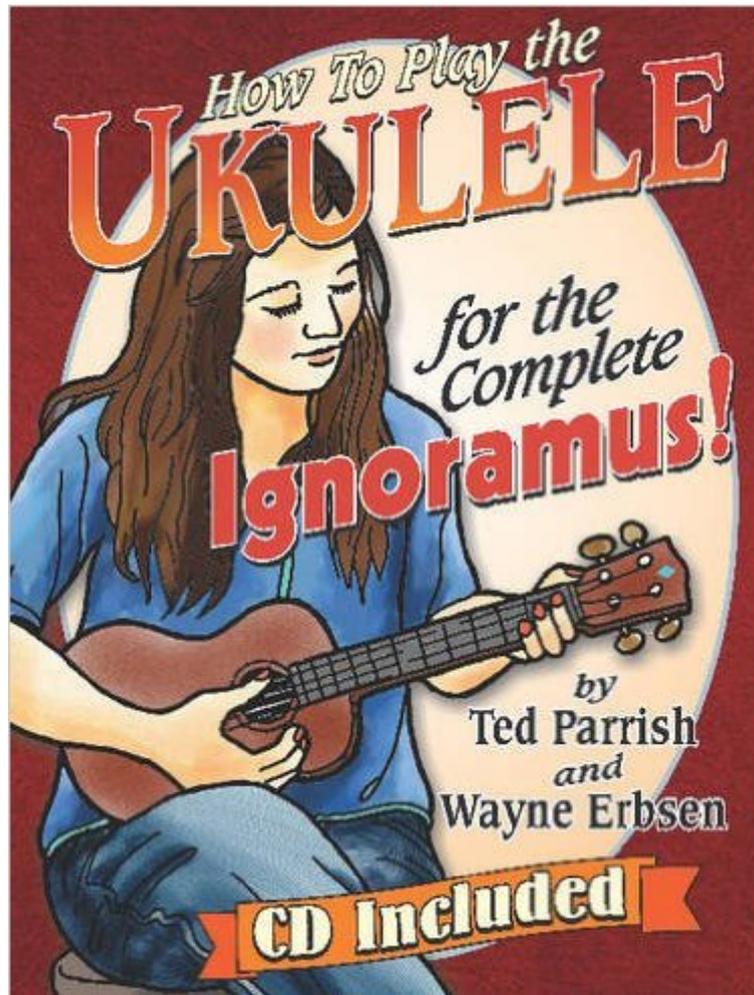


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# Ukulele For The Complete Ignoramus (Book & CD Set)



## Synopsis

Learning to play the ukulele has never been easier! Ted & Wayne will walk you through everything you need to know to get started playing the ukulele. You will learn how to select the right uke, how to tune it, a variety of strums and how to play the melody and backup to 37 folk, swing, Hawaiian and gospel favorites. Includes easy-to-read tab, simple chord diagrams, and an instructional audio CD.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (21 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

So I'm a beginning uke player and was already familiar with the banjo book written by Wayne Erbsen (co-author of this book). In keeping with his other books, I found this very clear, approachable, and easy to follow (I really am a musical instrument ignoramus, as I didn't grow up playing music at all!) As I learn a new instrument this book is really helping. As with the other books in the series, you get a little history, some guidance on the different styles of ukes, tips on holding, strumming and tuning, and of course many easy songs and some more complex ones for when you feel more comfortable. Though the entire book has a very down home, folksy look to it there's actually a mix of genres, from traditional Hawaiian songs to jazz to old-timey music to blues and more. (Once you're comfortable with those, look for uke version of more popular songs online--these will get you started just fine) For comparison, I've got another beginner uke book which is pretty much all old folk songs--not quite my thing--so kudos to this book's authors for including a mix. The book also comes with an instructional audio CD (or mp3s for those buying the

digital book). Useful so you can hear what it's \*supposed\* to sound like versus what your and my attempts will be at first. :-)

Parrish and Erbsen's experience in teaching complete beginners--even yes, the complete ignoramus--how to play an instrument shines through in this book. If you or someone you know wants to play the uke, this book is a great foundation. And if you're buying someone a uke as a gift this would be a great accompaniment!

A must have in any beginners Ukulele library. "How To Play the UKULELE for the Complete IGNORAMUS" should be the foundation of your Uku understanding and play. As a 77 year old with No, Zero, Nada music background/experience I decided to pluck (pun intended) Uku playing out of my Bucket List and run with it. Needing all the help I can muster, I've purchase six of the best known books for beginners. This book is absolutely heads and shoulders above all the rest. While most other books give brief "how to play" instructions and then songs, songs, songs, UKULELE IGNORAMUS comes with a CD, Details Uke History, Choosing a Uke, Holding, Tuning, Chording, Strumming, Playing Melody, Fingerpicking, plus A Chord Chart and a Strum Chart. 104 pages in a spiral binding easy lay flat book with large type. Another recommended companion book to get detail instructions with a different slant is "Play UKULELE Today". Enjoy!

Chords, strumming techniques, tab for melody playing...it's all here! User friendly!

There's a lot to like in this book, but not if you are a total beginner. The book launches you into finger-picking tablature quickly, with no segue. Most books teach chords first, then songs strummed with chords, then fretting and picking. I know enough to know that I don't know enough to start finger-picking even simple songs. I think this book will be a good second level book for me, once I'm fluid with chords and strumming. But if you're looking for a book a real beginner, with no music experience, can follow, this one will only make them kind of feel like an ignoramus instead of curing such condition.

"How to Play the Ukulele for the Complete Ignoramus" by Ted Parrish and Wayne Erbsen is an excellent introduction to the ukulele for the beginning player. The spiral-bound book has clear instructions on holding, tuning, chording, and strumming. It includes 40 well-known songs from several of the musical genres "old-time, ragtime, blues, gospel, and bluegrass -- that the uke is suited for. Each song is presented with chord diagrams, tablature, lyrics, and a bit of history. A CD with audio tracks is included.

This book has such straight-to-the-point instructions, I was playing chords or melody in no time at all! The tablature is extremely easy to read. And playing along with the CD is really fun.

I like this book, it has chords and tabs and there are audio files for every song that you can download and play along with. Each audio file has chord strumming first, then plucking of the notes, so you can practice both. I like the way they describe how to strum and even have audio tracks to help you practice. The tabs are really good for beginners because they make it easy to start plucking songs, but I think it would be good if there were notes also so that you could begin to learn to read music. There is a variety of music, mostly children's songs, folk songs and gospel. I have the kindle version of this book and sometimes a song is split over two pages and I can't get them to show on the screen at the same time, this makes it difficult to play a song as you have to stop and touch the page arrow, this may be a Kindle issue, more than the fault of the publisher. Overall I think it is a good book.

Familiar tunes, just enough backstory. Folksy icons (shoe for toe tapping, gramophone for CD) are good visual reminders. Fun and easy, just like uke should be played. When's Book 2 coming out???

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