Alfred's Essentials Of Music Theory, Bk 1-3: Ear Training, 2 CDs
Synopsis
Alfred’s Essentials of Music Theory is designed for students of any age, whether listeners or performers, who want to have a better understanding of the language of music. In this all-in-one theory course, you will learn the essentials of music through concise lessons, practice your music reading and writing skills in the exercises, improve your listening skills with the available ear-training CDs (sold separately), and test your knowledge with a review that completes each unit. The Ear-Training CDs include recordings of acoustic instruments to be used with the Student Books in the series. These Ear-Training CDs correlate with Volume 1-3 (Complete) of the Student Books. The complete line of Alfred’s Essentials of Music Theory includes Student Books, a Teacher’s Answer Key, Ear-Training CDs, Double Bingo games, Flash Cards, Reproducible Teacher’s Activity Kits, and interactive software for students and teachers in private study, studio and network environments.

Book Information
Series: Essentials of Music Theory
Audio CD: 1 pages
Publisher: Alfred Music; 1.2.1998 edition (February 1, 1998)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 0739020137
Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 5.8 x 5 inches
Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews Â (42 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #34,532 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 in Â Books > Books on CD > Music #11 in Â Books > Books on CD > Reference #21 in Â Books > Reference > Encyclopedias & Subject Guides > Music

Customer Reviews
No you don’t have to buy the CDs in order to do the ear training. If you buy the teacher’s addition all of the musical examples are listed there for you to play yourself. And of course you can always make up your own examples- as long as you correct your students work accordingly. However, you will be missing some great expansion to your teaching without them. I love the fact that different instruments are used throughout. So your students get the benefit of an expanded pallet of sound. As a teacher I don’t even own all the instruments used to be able to replicate that part. Secondly,
the CD is well recorded, clear and very concise. It is easy to follow and understand. All the tempos used are just right. There is very little room for misunderstanding. As a teacher I like the fact that it’s one thing that I don’t have to think about. I just push play and concern myself with the student(s). Not only that, taking myself out of the equation allows for complete consistancy between classes and students. I don’t ever have the problem of a bad day or an off day or a mumbling unclear moment. Everything is set and perfectly on every time.

The CD is great for listening to before attempting to play a piece. I just wish that I could hear piano versions of the music without the other instruments being played.

Purchased these CDs after having purchased the book alone, thinking I might not need them. Can easily step through each question for each of the reviews at the end of major sections in the book. If you haven’t purchased the book yet, I’d recommend getting the book with the CDs. If you already have the book, but not the CDs, this has been helpful. Don’t skip the “ear training” sections - it’s literally a necessary part of any music.

This is a great book for anyone to use especially children. My daughters understanding of music has been helped greatly by following along. Its not just about playing the notes. The way its presented is very helpful for any age. You should get this book- it will greatly help you or your children.

This is a good product, and you NEED these in order to use the text book, if you plan on using the listening exercises.

I decided to learn jazz piano, and not having any music background whatsoever, decided to start with Book 1 of this series. The books build a foundational knowledge within a surprisingly short time. I’d say one can do 1-3 lessons per hour depending on one’s aptitude for the particular section, so the pacing is mostly well balanced. I plan to continue this series. I’ve also found it helpful to reinforce knowledge and build skills using a couple of iPad apps for music sight reading. One negative note about the first two books: I found the ear-training exercises (via the separate CD) to be quite above my level, but a necessity.

Teaching my granddaughter to sing and the books and cd combination are awesome. My
granddaughter can work on this by herself.

I am a former public school music teacher and now private piano instructor. I am very happy with what is covered in this book, but it is MUCH more advanced than Book 1. Keep this in mind if you have students who have worked through Book 1 and are ready to move on. If they aren’t ready to put some real thought and study in to this new material, it will be way over their heads. I’d suggest teacher-chosen worksheets to cement what they’ve learned in Book 1.

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