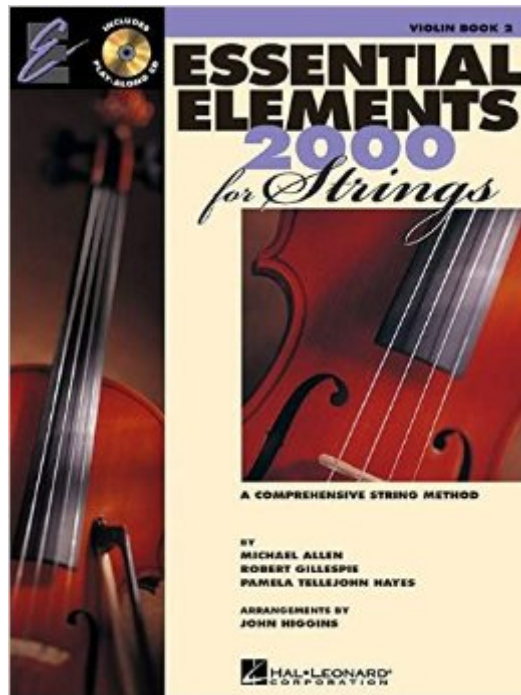


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Essential Elements For Strings - Book 2 With EEi: Violin



Synopsis

(Essential Elements). (Essential Elements for Strings and Essential Elements Interactive are fully compatible with Essential Elements 2000 for Strings) Essential Elements for Strings offers beginning students sound pedagogy and engaging music, all carefully paced to successfully start young players on their musical journey. EE features both familiar songs and specially designed exercises, created and arranged for the classroom in a unison-learning environment, as well as instrument-specific exercises to focus each student on the unique characteristics of their own instrument. EE provides both teachers and students with a wealth of materials to develop total musicianship, even at the beginning stages. Books 1 and 2 also include access to Essential Elements Interactive (EEi) , the ultimate online music education resource - anywhere, anytime, and on any device. Go to essentialelementsinteractive.com to learn more! Book 2 features: * New keys and rhythms * Sequential or flexible format * Rhythm Raps, sight-reading and improvisation * Theory, history and multicultural music * Mixed meter studies * Comprehensive scale and arpeggio pages * Double stops and shifting * Performance Spotlights Book also includes My EE Library * (myeelibrary.com) - Instant Stream/Download/CD* ...with Play-along mp3 tracks for ALL exercises *Internet access required for My EE Library . Book includes instructions to order free optional CD.

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Customer Reviews

At the time I write this review, I have been teaching myself violin for about 6 months. I have used the Essential Elements series and am thrilled with how easy to navigate and thorough they are. Book 1

teaches you the basics; Book 2 has been a good follow-up, but not a whole lot of new material is introduced. This book reviews the info learned in Book 1, teaches you how to play flat notes (whereas Book 1 covers the sharps), has some fun "performance" songs near the end, and very briefly covers sliding to another position and playing chords at the very end of the book. One thing that was frustrating to me- the CD that comes with the book does NOT have all of the tracks to play along with. Those CDs are one reason why I love this series- since I'm teaching myself, being able to play along with "backup" helps me make sure I'm playing the correct notes and corrects me if my timing is off. I was practicing one day, and all of a sudden my CD stopped because it ran out of tracks; I was only 1/3 to 1/2 way through the book!!! It was very frustrating that it is not mentioned in the description that you need to purchase the additional CD for all of the songs. The CD is found here: [Essential Elements 2000 for Strings \(Play-Along CD Set, Book 2\)](#) So, 4 stars for needing to purchase additional materials without much warning (I might let know though, so I can see if they'll add it to the description), and also because not a whole lot of new stuff is brought up in the book. However, it is still an excellent series, and I would not be where I am now in terms of learning the violin without Essential Elements 2000!

I had to buy this book for the strings class at college. The whole class was bored to death for the whole semester, despite the good effort by the instructor to make the best of it. It looks like the publisher decided to divide the Essential Elements for Strings (which is a fine beginning book that I did several years ago) into 2 books in order to generate more business. If you already know the notes in the first position, don't waste your money on this book. There are lots of good post-absolute-beginner book for violin - Spotlight on Strings, ABCs of Violin, All for Strings, String Builder, or Essential Elements for Strings (NOT this 2000 thing). For private instructions for beginners, I would recommend Doflein Book 1 and Suzuki Book 1.

I understand that many instructors love this series, but I found ABCs of Violin a bit better for self study. The CDs are nice to hear what it is you are supposed to sound like and to play along with after you get the piece down. Do get both book 1 and 2 if this is the series you are going to use. Once you get going, it doesn't take long to want more pieces to play that you like. I play every piece in the book, but I play the pieces I like much more often for practice. If you push yourself you can get through book 1 and 2 in less than 2 months. Do get the books with both the CD and DVDs, they are a big help. It may take hours of practice but when you start playing songs (pieces) you like it is a ball. I'm at 3 months now and am starting to learn Vivaldi's Spring, and a number of Fiddle tunes.

Bach's Jesu (full solo version (advanced)) is still giving me fits, but I have just started learning second and third positions. I find the advanced Fiddle books teach, or at least make you learn, double stops much more than many of the violin lesson books. Good luck and enjoy.

The included CD contains only 71 of the songs in the book. If you want the remaining songs you must purchase an additional CD for \$12.99. The first book was not this way, its CD contained ALL the music to go along with the book. I feel tricked and ripped off.

Essential Elements for Violin (and for other string instruments) are extremely useful. I got part 1 and after that part 2. Just by myself I learned the basics of the violin in a level, that I can prepare myself to play almost everything that I would. It was as a joke, but my wife order the violin for my son. but he decided to play cello, because was BIG. so the violin was sitting a while till I got Essential Element Book 1. when I started learning I realized how enjoyable and inspirational was set up that manual. So, that book hook me up and now I'm playing violin. As a last word for the I can say: It is extremely intelligent way to learn violin. Highly recommend.

I played through books 1, 2, and 3 and this is my honest opinion. While book 3 is a little different than books 1 and 2 in that it has more scales and technique studies, all 3 books are pretty similar. What I don't like about these books is this: The exercises and songs you learn on one string are the same for all the strings. This makes it too easy to fall into playing from memory rather than by actually learning the notes on the fingerboard. You know how the exercise is supposed to sound because you have played it several times before so you just make the right sounds. I guess I am kind of old school in that I would prefer more note reading than these books offer. I am not saying that playing by ear is not a good thing, I am just saying that these books kind of fail in the "learning the notes well" department. JMHO

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