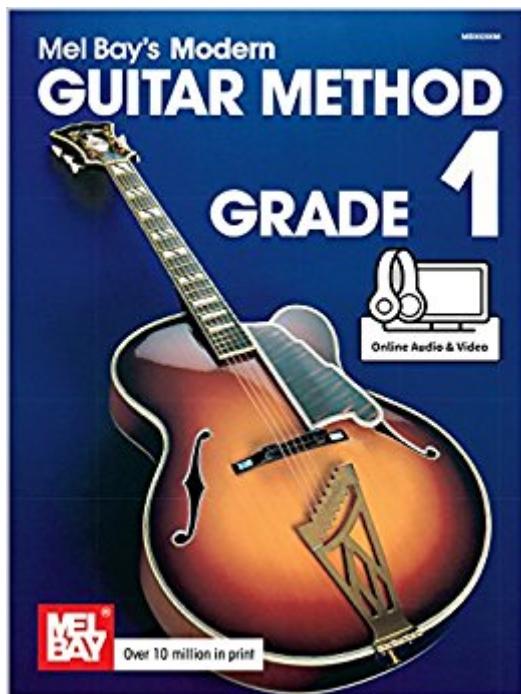


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# Modern Guitar Method Grade 1



## **Synopsis**

The world's premier method for learning modern plectrum/flatpick style guitar, time-tested and proven successful in building the theoretic and technical foundation needed to play in any style. All seven grades of this method are written in standard notation to encourage better sight reading. In Grade 1, the student guitarist will learn to play solos, duets, scales, and chords in the keys of C, A minor, G and E minor. Even in Grade 1, the student is already exposed to the chord melody concept of guitar performance. In addition an audio recording of the solos and studies and also a video recording are available with this books as downloads.

## **Book Information**

Series: Modern Guitar

Paperback: 48 pages

Publisher: Mel Bay Publications, Inc.; Pap/Psc edition (December 1, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0786693274

ISBN-13: 978-0786693276

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.2 x 11.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 171 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #20,295 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Songbooks > Guitars & Fretted Instruments > Guitars #21 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Instruments > Guitar #175 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores

## **Customer Reviews**

I was 17 years old teaching at Ernie Ball's Guitar Shop in Tarzana, California. That's where I met Mel Bay through a workshop he taught. It was then that I took myself through his 7 book guitar method the first time which was very instrumental toward my professional training. Now, all these years later just I completed the updated expanded edition of the 7 book method. It is a beautiful workout and journey of graded material including: 1. Reading studies in all keys and positions. 2. Beautiful chord melodies ranging from classical to folk, blues, jazz and latin in style. 3. Theory is an integral part of this method presenting harmonized chord forms, studies in thirds and triads and quartal harmony in all keys. 4. Technical development and challenge and strong musicality frame this great work. This production is in my opinion the consummate guitar method which I recommend

as a must to all serious guitarists. Congratulations to William Bay for this masterpiece. --Michael Anthony --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

William Bay is president of Mel Bay Publications, Inc. He is an accomplished guitarist and trumpet player and has performed on both instruments in a wide variety of professional settings. He is experienced as a performer and composer of music ranging from jazz and rock to the classics and sacred. He received his bachelor's degree from Washington University in St. Louis and his master's from the University of Missouri. Bill has received international acclaim for his innovative teaching methods, and he has authored over 200 books with sales in the millions. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

The first Mel Bay Grade 1 book I had lacked the spiral binding and the CD, but the material inside was in the style of where I started way back when with learning the trombone - the basics, in other words. I've seen negative reviews about the songs being outdated, but you don't buy a book like this to learn songs, you buy it to learn to read music. There may be more familiar tunes in Hal Leonard books, but Mel Bay has it all covered for learning. I'm on books 3 and 4 now, slowly making my way through, and I've purchased this Grade 1 book for 2 other people so far, that's how much I respect what it has to offer. You have to seek out the spiral binding to make it lay flat while using it, and the CD can be used to demonstrate how the practice pieces should sound. Nobody I know is going to be as good as the recordings right off, but that's true of ANY music book, whether it has standard notation or tablature. Mel Bay's material will give you a solid basis to build on, but a good music teacher can help with the finer points. If I was teaching, I'd recommend this book as a practice source.

This is the best printed guitar-learning resource I've seen. Was teaching someone who had no knowledge of guitar (I'm not particularly advanced myself), and we worked through the early lessons in this book, which were well-explained and appropriately paced. If you're looking to learn on your own, I'd recommend this as a great supplement to video teaching resources you might find on YouTube or the like.

Bought the expanded edition which has more songs for practice and is spiral bound for ease of use. Worth the xtra couple of dollars.

I've taught around 25 students out of this book and I think it's one of the best out there for beginning guitar players. It doesn't let them use guitar tab as a crutch like some of the books out there; they learn to read music! Don't get me wrong, I teach them how to read tab as it can be a great tool, but not until they've learned the fundamentals of music first. I wish there was a book like this with a more recognizable songs though. I'm familiar with around half of the songs/melodies, and the kids know even less. The tunes were probably common when the book was written, decades ago, but I usually supplement the book with written songs that I write out that they will be more familiar with. The fundamentals and teaching method are excellent though.

If you are fortunate enough to get a copy of this book, along with Mel Bay's guitar chords and Nick Manoloff's Spanish guitar method (this one is out of print but there are still some used copies available), you will be playing the guitar in no time ... with practice, of course. Remember, your fingers will get sore but if you keep practicing, they (fingers) will toughen up.

Call me crazy but I'm having a grand time playing through this book! I'm about half way through and the tunes and exercises are all excellent and fun to play! "Follow the Leader" is one of my favorites so far. It is a slightly syncopated duet with a lot of quarter notes and rests placed either at the beginning or end of a measure, which makes it slightly tricky to play! Nothing has been frustrating so far, although some of the "teacher" accompaniments can be challenging. I can't wait until I move onto Grades 2 and 3 and the challenge level increases!

I had lost this book and couldn't find it in any stores. This was exactly what I was looking for.

Purchased for my daughter and it's very easy to understand. Recommended for beginners. Breaks everything down nicely.

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