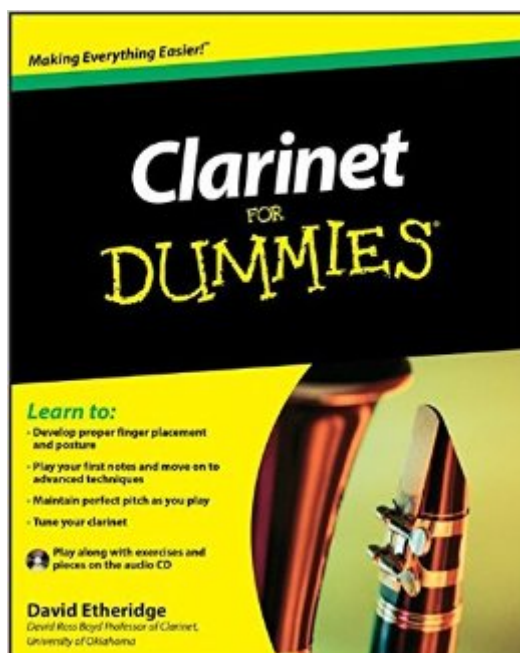# The book was found

Clarinet For Dummies

Synopsis

Master the most popular woodwind Want to play the clarinet? No problem! This hands-on guide teaches you all the fundamental techniques you need to play this popular woodwind alone or in a group setting. Clarinet For Dummies gives you the ideal introduction to play clarinet. You?ll begin by learning how to properly hold a clarinet and move on to getting a consistent sound, reading music, and playing songs in a variety of styles, including classical, pop, and jazz. Step-by-step instruction on finger placement, posture, and basic up-keep for the instrument Tips on how to buy or rent a clarinet Accompanying CD offers play-along recordings of every exercise featured in the book Whether you?ve never held a clarinet or are looking to brush up on skills from your youth, Clarinet For Dummies is packed with friendly, easy-to-follow instructions to have you playing this versatile instrument with ease! Note: CD-ROM/DVD and other supplementary materials are not included as part of eBook file.

Book Information

Paperback: 360 pages

Publisher: Wiley Publishing; 1 edition (August 31, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0470584777

ISBN-13: 978-0470584774

Product Dimensions: 7.4 x 0.7 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (40 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #112,126 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)   #35 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Instruments > Woodwinds > Clarinets   #994 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Theory, Composition & Performance > Instruction & Study   #30808 inÂ Books > Reference

Customer Reviews

I like this book a lot and am very glad that I got it. It contains an awful lot of information, and the author is pretty good at explaining things.I had just acquired a cheap clarinet (>$100) from friends who bought one for their daughters, who weren't interested. I got this book to help me get started. I've played flute for more than 30 years, so I have a woodwind background as well as some knowledge of music, but it looks to me as if the author explains the basics of music pretty well (musical notation, breathing, basic concepts) -- although I didn't read those parts closely.What I was

most interested in was the hands-on clarinet stuff, and that's pretty well done: the embouchure, posture, clarinet mechanics, sound production, reed fundamentals, etc. The illustrations are mostly done via photos, of a clarinet from various angles or taken apart, or of a young assistant doing the embouchure, holding the clarinet, etc. These are helpful.A couple of nitpicks: The author seems to be fairly opinionated -- not intrinsically a bad thing, but one should be aware. He sometimes sounds like a know-it-all. For example, he strongly recommends two mouthpieces for beginners, and implies those are the only ones out there. I asked a clarinetist friend about this (a great musician and has studied/worked with some of the top clarinetists in the world) and he didn't like one of the mouthpieces and had never heard of the other, and pointed out that there are several others that are at least as good. Any author will have his/her likes and dislikes, of course, but sometimes I wish this one had added a phrase like, "This is my personal preference," and perhaps even mentioned some of the other practices out there -- for instance, some clarinetists don't put their top teeth on the instrument at all.

To give you some background information on me, I'm a former collegiate musician who already played a couple instruments (no woodwinds) and is, of course, familiar with music notation and other basic skills. I wanted to learn the clarinet, so I bought this book around the same time I bought my clarinet, thinking it would be a good way to learn.The book isn't bad for someone in such a situation: it explains the author's tips for how to play clarinet, including how to put the instrument together, how to hold embouchure, and how to play your first note. It also contains the author's recommendations for what models of clarinet different levels of learners should buy, so it's too late for this if you already have one. There are a lot of pages dedicated to basic music, like how to read note names, durations, and whatnot. I expected this with it being a "For Dummies" book and all, but I was still surprised by how much of the book it consumed. Of course, these are easy to skip over.After having read most of the clarinet-specific parts of the book, I was hoping to have a fingering chart I could use to figure out notes that either handn't been introduced yet or that I needed to play for some reason. Unfortunately, the chart in this book both has very small diagrams and is spread out across multiple pages (not two side-by-side). I may have missed it, but I also don't think there was a good explanation of how to read them--for example, I had to Google how I was supposed to, apparently, cover the thumb hole and press the register key at the same time.

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