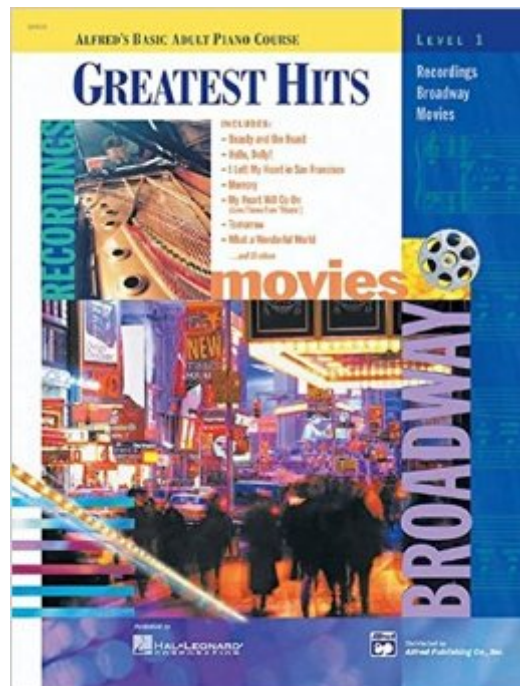


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# Alfred's Basic Adult Piano Course Greatest Hits, Bk 1



## Synopsis

This series answers the often-expressed need for a variety of supplementary material in many different popular styles. What could be more fun for an adult than to play the music that everybody knows and loves? When the books in the Greatest Hits series are assigned in conjunction with the Lesson Books, these appealing pieces reinforce new concepts as they are introduced. In addition, the motivation the music provides could not be better. The emotional satisfaction students receive from mastering each popular song increases their enthusiasm to begin the next one. With the popular music available in the Greatest Hits series (Levels 1 and 2), the use of both books will significantly increase every adult's interest in piano study. Two selections from this book are featured on the Royal Conservatory of Music Popular Selection List (2007 Ed.): The Rainbow Connection \* Nadia's Theme.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (69 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I am using the Greatest Hits book to round out the lessons in Alfred's Adult All-in-One Course. The latter suffers a little from not having enough full-length scores to really practice the material. One or two verse ditties only go so far and everyone else in the house gets tired of Jingle Bells or The Saints Go Marching In much much sooner than the piano student him/herself. Even though the book claims that students are ready at page 44 of All-In-One to attempt the scores in Greatest Hits, I have my doubts. The opening song is very challenging and I still am nowhere close to mastering it. It is

only when I got to around page 72 of the teaching material that I felt comfortable returning to Greatest Hits and trying some of the other arrangements. In particular, My Heart Will Go On is a very satisfying piece; it never really leaves middle C and the basic beat is familiar to most people. I highly recommend this as an accompaniment to the All-In-One course. I subtracted one star as I think it could have included at least one more easy arrangement at the start of the text. After all, students buy these supplementals to practice, and encouragement - especially for those teaching themselves - is crucial. Note that the book does not include a CD; even though most of the pieces are well known, it still would have been a nice touch.

I am using the Adult All-In-One piano course book (which is great, by the way) to learn piano. I bought this book when I reached the point in the course book telling me I was "ready" to play more songs. Wow, this book is much harder than expected. Although the course book tells you which pages you're ready to play, you haven't really reached this ability. It's taken me a while but I finally learned the first song! I wish a CD was available as many of these songs I don't know (yes, the song can be searched online to figure out the basic beat, but a CD would be more convenient and practical). Overall, I was disappointed with this book because I eagerly anticipated being able to play more songs than the ones I had learned in the course book and really wanted to practice before moving farther along. As an adult, it's hard to find books with easy songs that aren't kids songs. I've found a few online, but in the meantime I will keep working with this book as I do like a challenge.

I had just started learning piano at a late age, with no piano nor musical background whatsoever and the Alfred books make it learning almost effortless. This book is harder than the level 1 adult course book I'm at but I enjoy learning piece #1, Love Me Tender.

I played piano throughout grade school and have recently decided to take it up again after more than 15 years of not playing. I bought this along with the Basic Adult Piano Course books. These are nice because it gives you some more song options. It's easy to get kind of tired of the songs in the course books. This book coordinates with the course books, so you play through this book as you are working through the basic book. Some of the songs in the main books are a little too easy. These had a few challenging pieces that help you apply what you are learning in the course books. I would say these books are for beginners or those trying to pick it back up. If you are an experienced pianist, I probably would not recommend it, as you could probably find more challenging and better

sounding arrangements for the pieces offered here. But again, if you are a beginner/intermediate player, these are great.

This book includes a dozen or so popular songs which are appropriate for the skills taught in the Alfred Adult Piano Course, Level 1. I find it much more interesting and satisfying to play some "real" songs in addition to the made-up ditties they use in the course material itself. The songs in this book are, of course, edited and arranged for where you are as a Level 1 beginner, but they sound like the original songs and are good enough to show off to your friends. Not overly challenging but these will help stretch the skills you've learned up to this point in the course. Each song tells you what material you need to master in the lesson books before playing the song. Very handy. I am using this as a self-taught adult beginner, but I think a teacher would also find this book useful especially as a source for student recital material.

Most adults would recognize all or most of these songs. For simplified arrangements, these are nicely done. From a piano teacher's point of view, the Level 1 "Greatest Hits" could provide enjoyable supplemental material for an older student from fairly early on, after a couple of months of beginning lessons on through the first year or year and a half. While it's planned to correlate to the Alfred "Adult" lesson books, it can be used just as effectively with other adult lesson books, or simply for pleasure for pianist's at that level.

This piano book is helping me try some slightly hard (for me) tunes that I can master. I just love it. The whole series is great (I only have two so far, but have ordered a third.) Adds fun to the hard work of practice.  
from Senior Beginner

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