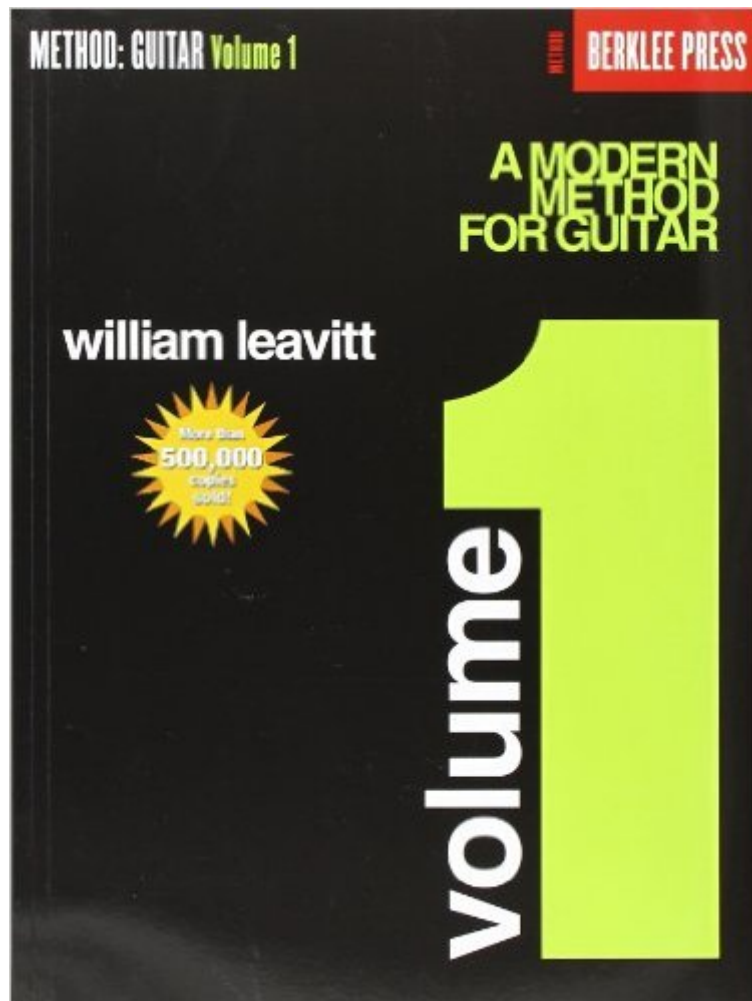


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# A Modern Method For Guitar - Volume 1



## Synopsis

(Berklee Methods). The beginning-level book of this comprehensive method teaches a wide range of guitar and music fundamentals, including: scales, melodic studies, chord and arpeggio studies, how to read music, accompaniment techniques, special exercises for developing technique in both hands, a unique approach to voice leading using moveable chord forms, and more.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (52 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

This book is awesome. I recently finished but I'm in the process of review currently. The book takes you from the very basics and has you reading in 4 positions by the end of the book. It also gives you 5 or 6 major scale fingerings as well as tons of chord forms, chord reading etudes, picking etudes, etc. The book is a complete system for becoming complete player and every aspect of beginner playing is covered here. Everything is planned out in a genius way thanks to William Leavitt, one of the greatest guitar teachers in history. This book is heavy and I honestly wouldn't recommend it to the straight beginner because it's too brainy and hard. If you've been playing for awhile and you're ready to get serious and learn to read then this is the perfect book. In my opinion this is the greatest book you'll find out there and I can't recommend it enough. I'll warn you though, it's no cake walk and takes time and dedication (which will be worthwhile!).

I do not want to sound expert or arrogant but I'd like very much to talk to those who are not quite up

to speed on reading music. It seems that is one of the major comments in most of these comments . I have played piano in dance bands, small jazz groups, WLW TV and radio in Cincinnati for two years and altogether about 25 years. With all that said, I am no better-off than any of you who are just learning to read. Let me put you mind at ease. Basically the music staff has lines and spaces. The four spaces are F-A-C-E and the five lines are E-G-B-D-F. Now I am being kind of ridiculous to make my point. With all my experience, I am not much better-off than any of you because I do not know where any of these notes go on the fretboard. Plus, I am a young 83 and do not have the sharp memory that most of you have over me. But I will say this. A beautiful sound of a guitar note or a beautiful altered jazz chord almost gives me a chill. So while some of you will be struggling with F-A-C-E and E-G-B-D-F. think of me with all my experience trying to figure out where in the h--- do all these notes go on the fretboard. So we are all kind of even. So in closing, I do not wish to be a know-it-all but just want to encourage all of you to study this book like your pants were on fire. That's what I am going to do because I Luuuuuuuuuve the sound of the guitar and of all the books I have seen, This is simply a "great" one

I disagree with the statement "it's not for beginners" The book takes a lot of work and a lot of practice. It gets frustrating at times too. For me the frustration came when trying to do an exercise that looked so simple... If it was tabbed out! I've only been playing for two months now and this book is my main focus. I'm only about 10 pages in, and by no means do I have those pages mastered. But there is a lot of satisfaction when you do nail an exercise. My only gripe would be that the tracks on the CD don't have a count in (I like to play along with the CD). It just starts (only reason it didn't give it the 5th star) If you are a beginner like me, I would get this book, along with a few simpler ones, there will be times when you just can't look at another note and want a book that has some tabs in it.

This is the method for the serious guitarist who wants to do it right. All the great players that have gone....and those that will be going to Berklee...have used and will use this method. If you're serious....get it....:~)

Over the past few weeks that I've been using this book with my guitar teacher, I have improved my sight reading and note playing skills significantly. It's a great book for beginners as well as more advanced players since it progressively increases difficulty level. The CD is also very useful because it allows one to hear what the exercises and pieces should sound like.

This book highly recommended by my son's guitar teacher, who is getting his Master's degree in classical guitar performance. It doesn't use those beginning songs that are boring to kids. It really keeps their interest and is very thorough. My son (11 yrs) is very happy with it and doesn't ask for my help (that's good ~ cuz I don't play the guitar :-)

I finished the book with a teacher 10 years ago. Stopped playing and picked it up again 6 months ago to reengage with my instrument. This time around it's a whole new book, My playing is so much better after time off, i don't understand and im not sure i like it but it's true, but that's the power of this book and further volumes. 1 hour a day, and review, review, review...learn it, practice it, move on...come back and play the previous exercise until you can notice marked improvement, come back to it three or four times, accumulate.. . that's where the goods are. If you can finish this book and "master" it, your on your way to limitless musicality, (i think thats a word). It's one thing to learn this book, but practice it then master it. I got 3/4 of the way through Vol. 2 and put the guitar down regretfully for a few years. Use a lot of other sources with it, main text, not ur only text. Play the exercises slowly, at 60 bpm, develop the muscle memory and you'll get to musical speed much faster that struggling with a tempo you cannot play. My teacher was extremely helpful the first time through. Take a year to three years of lessons with this book from a teacher who reads, that will set you up to be able to work through further volumes. I notice now that i never mastered any of the exercises, lots of us know how to play a tune, song, exercise, how many of us master the material, not i, that has been a serious flaw in my study and i know im not alone, not this time around. Old Man Rock Band anyone!

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