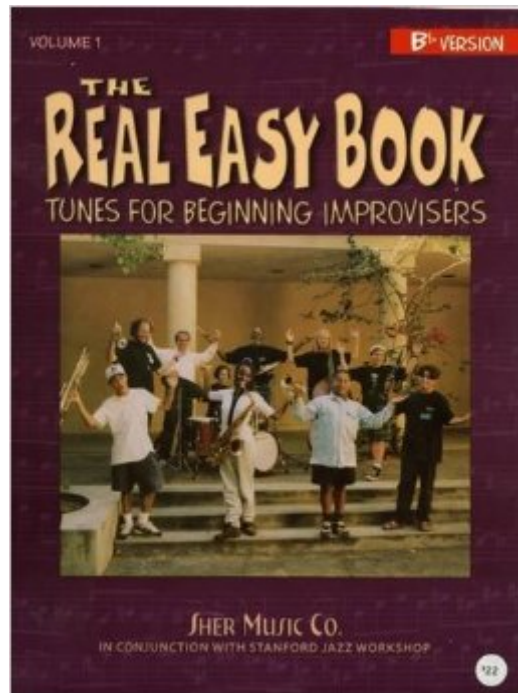


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# The Real Easy Book: Tunes For Beginning Improvisers Volume 1 (Bb Version)



## Synopsis

The only fake book specifically designed for middle school or high school classroom use. New, Expanded, Three-Horn version now includes two harmony parts for each song, horn parts to play as background behind soloists, shout choruses, etc. The Real Easy Book contains over 40 simple, but classic, jazz tunes by Miles, McCoy Tyner, Sonny Rollins, etc. Each song is on a left-hand page, and all the information that a band director would have to write out for his/her students is on the corresponding right-hand page - sample piano voicings, bass lines, guitar diagrams, scales for soloing, etc. Saves the teacher countless hours of prep work!

## Book Information

Spiral-bound: 87 pages

Publisher: Sher Music Co (June 1, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1883217180

ISBN-13: 978-1883217181

Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 0.3 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (12 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #441,436 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #341 in [Books > Arts &](#)

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## Customer Reviews

For each jazz standard, the fake arrangement is printed on a page with a blank staff below for your own notes. This is good in my band for people to write something into, but you may find it a waste of paper otherwise. On the opposite page the various instrument lines are written out - first the piano chords, then the scales that can be used for improvising, and then a starter bass line is written out verbatim, and finally the guitar TAB chords are written. That's not a bad toolkit, but I found that only having the piano chords didn't help as much as if the authors would have provided a sample piano part just to get us started. The piano chord format and types of chords given tend to repeat from page to page, so they not that useful by the time you get to the tenth piece. The bass line is a good start, very well set out to provide players with a solid foundation in jazz bass playing, but beware it is elementary. But then the book is a starter book. In general the chords for all instruments are elementary all round (mainly unaltered with simple voicings), a deliberate simplification by the

authors, but don't worry it is still a useful source despite the repetition mentioned above. Students may also find that they need to learn improvisation techniques themselves elsewhere. The book provides only the starter kit and doesn't claim to provide a jazz method. As far as accuracy and choice of tunes are concerned this book is amongst the best and I recommend it for that. Notwithstanding, the header tune for Bag's Groove is ever so slightly different than Oscar Peterson's Night Train rendition, but does that really matter? Most important above all else, the tunes are easy to grasp while still providing challenges to the players. A good starter workout in jazz is guaranteed if the students read through and improvise on these tunes.

This is the coolest fake book I've seen for beginning improvisers. The songs are easy, and each song has a page of supplemental material (sample bass lines, useful chords and scales, and room for your own notes). I would recommend this for beginning musicians from 4th graders to adults. Really good selection of songs as well.

I've used some tunes from this book with a jazz combo I was coaching this summer. The selection of tunes for a beginning combo (mine is all high schoolers, but early on in their jazz playing) is great. The students and I both appreciate the clarity of this book and the supplemental material (piano and guitar voicings, sample bass lines, etc.). The only thing missing is in the area of drum patterns. There are four samples in the Appendix (Swing, Latin/Bossa Nova, Rock/Funk, and Jazz Waltz), but I wish there was a sample given with each tune (as there is for bass lines and chord voicings). Still, as a single volume, this book contains just about everything you need (except practice!) to get a combo cooking.

great fake book not only covers chords but also has the scales on the next page to improvise on very good the only thing I can say is to make sure you get the correct version for your instrument otherwise you will be transcribing to a different key which may not be a bad thing. Highly recommended and looking forward to going through future volumes

Great product. Super jazz chart teaching tool. If I were planning on using the charts for mixed instruments I would suggest you also order a Bb and Eb book in order to get the most versatility out of the charts.

Great book for a beginning "jam session". The additions of backgrounds and "shout choruses" for

three horn makes it a great how to book. My only negative comment is that it is very heavy in "standard" blues progressions.

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