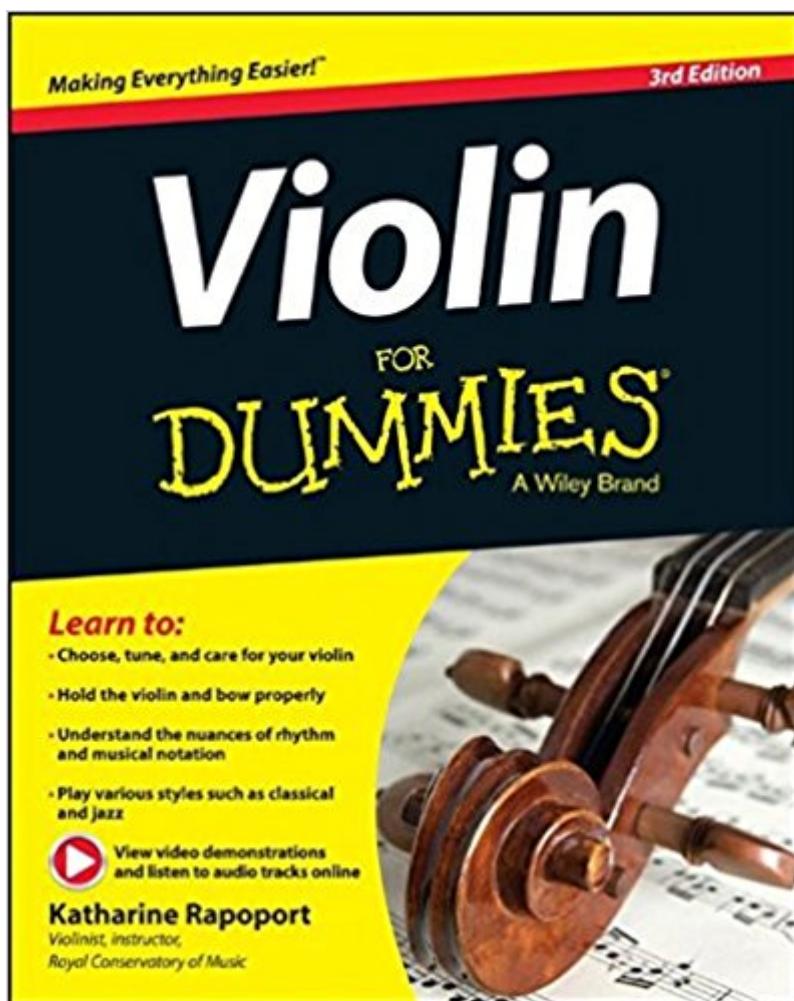


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# Violin For Dummies, Book + Online Video & Audio Instruction



## Synopsis

The beginner's guide to learning the violin • for any musical style *Violin For Dummies* helps you teach yourself to play the violin, even if you've never read a note of music. From choosing the right violin for you to playing a variety of musical styles, this book has you covered. You'll start with the basics of posture and bowing technique, learn how to tune your instrument and keep it in beautiful condition with regular maintenance. You'll learn how to read • and feel • the music, and how to inject your own personality into whatever you play. Before you know it, you'll be playing classical, jazz, country, and more, as you become a bona fide violin player. The included audio and video instruction encourages you to play along as you learn, and allow you to hear, see, and imitate proper technique. The violin's small size, portability, and mimicry of the human voice have made it popular across cultures and throughout time. This book shows you how to teach yourself the basics so you can start playing quickly. Start with the basics of proper hold and bowing technique Learn how to properly tune and care for your violin Understand the nuances of rhythm and musical notation Play classical, jazz, and other popular styles of music The violin has a reputation of being difficult to learn, but the reality is that it's difficult to master. Anyone can learn, and practice over time will refine your technique and your musical style. You'll have fun, make music, and maybe even fall in love with this instrument that has inspired some of the world's best musicians and composers. Get started today, the easy way, with *Violin For Dummies*.

## Book Information

Series: For Dummies

Paperback: 432 pages

Publisher: For Dummies; 3 edition (March 30, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1119022908

ISBN-13: 978-1119022909

Product Dimensions: 7.4 x 0.8 x 9.3 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 61 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #38,135 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #33 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores > Instrumentation > Violin #36 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Instruments > Strings > Violins

## Customer Reviews

Learn to: Choose, tune, and care for your violin Hold the violin and bow properly Understand the nuances of rhythm and musical notation Play various styles such as classical and jazz View video demonstrations and listen to audio tracks online The complete beginner's guide to learning the violin The violin has a reputation for being difficult to learn, but the reality is that it's difficult to master. With this friendly guide, you'll discover that anyone can learn, and practice over time will refine your technique and style. Before you know it, you'll read and feel the music, and inject your own personality into whatever you play. Master the basics; get an introduction to the parts of the violin and bow, find out how to tune and hold your violin comfortably (and properly), and start making some beautiful music On that note; learn how to hold and manage the bow with your right hand to draw a sound out of the violin and then add your left-hand fingers to make many different notes Start making music; discover the main aspects of musical notation in order to read music for the violin, like notes, rhythms, meters, and other musical signs Get your hands on cool gear; find expert advice on renting or buying a good violin, taking proper care of your instrument and bow, and accessorizing your strings with seriously awesome add-ons Visit Dummies.com to: Improve your skills by listening to and playing along with audio tracks and viewing videos demonstrating concepts and examples from the book. Open the book and find: How to read and play music Tips on figuring out finger placement Easy-to-follow exercises to improve your technique Guidance on playing classical, jazz, country, and more Ways to join in on musical activities with other players Famous violinists from yesteryear and today How to find a good teacher to take you to the next step of your journey

Katharine Rapoport is an accomplished violinist and violist who teaches violin, viola, and chamber music at the University of Toronto. She has a broad range of professional freelance experience, including solo, chamber, and orchestral performance in Canada, the United States, and throughout Europe.

As a beginner, I've been trying to find just the right tool to teach me the violin, short of actually hiring a teacher. I've used "Dummies" books for years, going back to the olden days when I got a copy of "The Internet for Dummies." Later I learned how to use Adobe Illustrator from a "Dummies" book and was able to complete a huge marketing project because of it. I subscribe to an online violin tutor program but find that I'm constantly stopping and starting the videos. Plus, it's difficult to go back to and find lessons that answer simple questions. That's why this "Dummies" book is so helpful. Everything is laid out chapter by chapter. Some can be skipped, depending on one's knowledge of

music. For example, I play the guitar and clarinet, so basic information about music, notes and tempo aren't needed. But, I know absolutely nothing about the violin so I need to learn every part of it, how to hold it, how to use the bow, and on and on. Also, clearly technical information is labeled so, if you're not a nerd, you can skip it. The good thing about a book is that you can mark important sections with sticky notes or simply use the table of contents or index. I go back and forth between the pages often, particularly to check diagrams. I've never been able to do that well with electronic means, either websites or an e-book reader. There's also an excellent online site that correlates with the lessons and tunes. It's well organized and complements both the listening and playing experiences. Once opened to a page, the binding allows the book to remain open. I don't need to put weights on each side. It stays open, which is exactly what you need while studying a page with your arms full of a violin and a bow. The only thing that I didn't like -- and this is probably just me -- is the corny jokes. I do love a good joke but some of these are just groaners. I suppose it's the "Dummies" style and a way to make learning the violin less daunting, but I think some of the jokes were a stretch. Not worth taking off a star or even a quarter of a star though. Good luck. Go out there and make some beautiful music!

book is very helpful, clear and concise, there was no DVD/CD included, which the book refers several times

Great book giving you the basics of starting out on the violin

Easy to read lots of info

Very helpful

great audio tracks and video clips and customer support

shipping was really fast if you're looking for a beginners book on lots of information this is a pretty good one.

I gave up halfway. At first it's a good guide, but about halfway through you realize it's like a cookbook with recipes you don't understand (because they are missing important steps) and whose results you can never duplicate in your kitchen. I could not follow the explanations at all (and I can

follow very dense technical text). It was a waste of money. I had better luck playing the violin by watching YouTube videos where a teacher teaches you each step. (Actually hiring a real live teacher is not an option where I live).

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