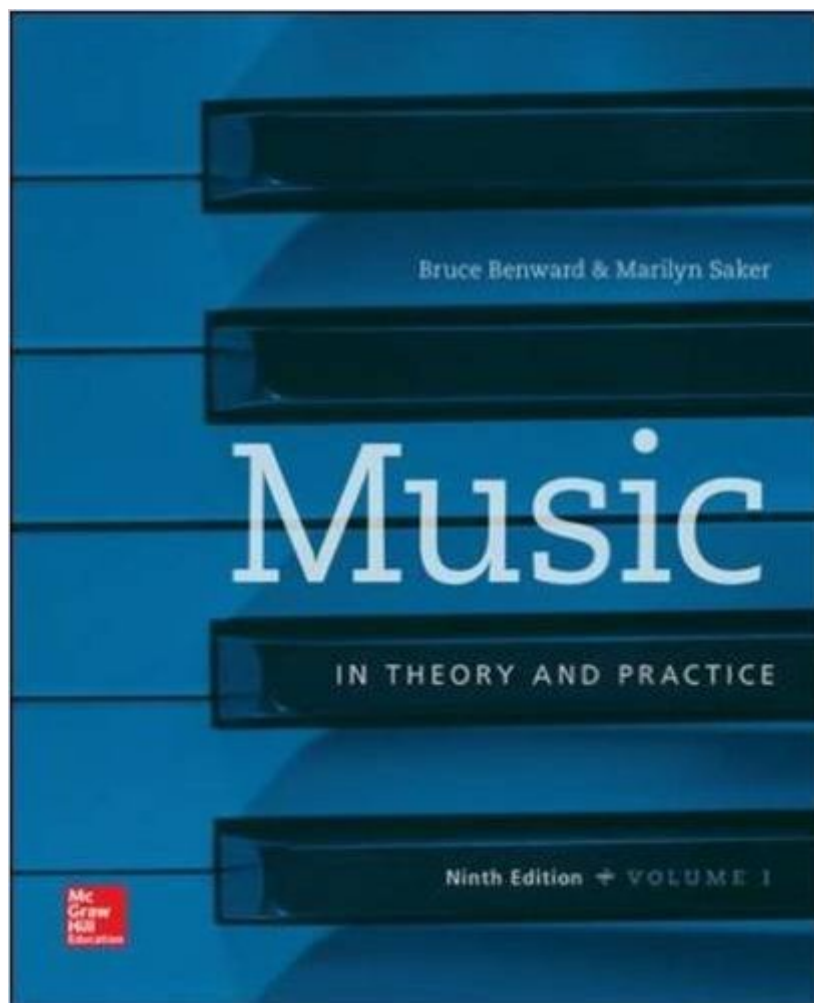


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# Music In Theory And Practice Volume 1



## Synopsis

This best-selling text gives music majors and minors a solid foundation in the theory of music. It strengthens their musical intuition, builds technical skills, and helps them gain interpretive insights. The goal of the text is to instruct readers on the practical application of knowledge. The analytical techniques presented are carefully designed to be clear, uncomplicated, and readily applicable to any repertoire. The two-volume format ensures exhaustive coverage and maximum support for students and faculty alike. Volume I serves as a general introduction to music theory while Volume II offers a survey of the theoretical underpinnings of musical styles and forms from Gregorian Chant through the present day. The supplemental instructor's materials provide clear-cut solutions to assignment materials. Music in Theory and Practice is a well-rounded textbook that integrates the various components of musical structure and makes them accessible to students at the undergraduate level.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

As a theorist, composer, and educator of advanced theoretical subjects, I found the book impractical for teaching purposes. The presentation and sequence of the theoretical materials could be better organized. Some concepts such as circle progressions and stylistic practice are impractical and does not teach proper techniques in harmonization and voice leading. Circle progressions can be easily explained as harmonic sequences. The book does not cover enough on rhythm and rests. There are errors in the 16th c counterpoint with a couple of examples containing major 6th intervals,

which is not permitted in the style. No mention about 18th c. counterpoint. There are several other theoretical concepts I do not agree with that conflict with other well-known theory texts.

Non-harmonic tones are not clearly defined and several are missing. I could understand why students are coming to me for help considering how difficult it is for them to interpret the ideas presented in this book. Not all the information is bad, but much can be presented in a much clearer and understandable way. Harmony and Voice Leading

The CD helps with the theory part. I find most theory book lacks practical application. This book will be a good source for those who are interested in applying music theory into real world music playing.

I have used this text successfully for several years with first-year college theory students, both in the classroom and in directed study. It offers many clear examples and a variety of exercises for students to complete. I intend to continue using it and would recommend it not only as a classroom text but as a vehicle for independent study for practicing musicians without an extensive knowledge of music theory.

My class worked with Dr. Benward on this book--we were his test class. Although this may not be the best book for everyone, it is a very comprehensive text that requires the instructor's input. As Benward told us, if we were to teach theory we must work towards the student's understanding of the concepts and not allow the text to work magic. Hence, we must illustrate and re-inforce the principles with our examples and experiences. I hope I am lucid enough to help. Good book. Ian

For a first-volume textbook, this item is written poorly for teachers and students alike. It is not very informative, providing virtually no introductory knowledge and assuming a great deal of the reader's understanding of the subject matter. It is supposedly a first volume - thus, assumedly, useful for an introductory course on music theory - yet it is written and structured more for a second- or third-year course's work. Poorly organized and explained. I cannot recommend this product to anyone.

It is an excellent resource for basic theory and form. This book got me through 2 semesters of theory in college and I am currently using it for Form and Analysis. Its a bit pricy but has a vast amount of theory knowledge in one place. If you would like more advanced theory look into their Second Volume!

as someone who learned harmony from Arnold Schoenberg's 'Theory of Harmony' and other very good books like Macpherson's 'Melody and Harmony', I have found this book excellent. It is a very well-rounded book for undergraduates students and musicians who want to increase their well-roundedness in general music composition, regardless of styles. It comes bundled with a fantastic audio resource and the book has other optional additions, all very useful, like workbooks. Also, I liked its approachability, and the really good point of this book is that it spans illustrations from antique folk songs to baroque, classical and contemporary music as well as popular music, so you will find his material varied and kept interesting. Usually, the material of books that try to mesh and explain all these different styles, are very weakly assembled. It's usually a mesh of things explained without real expertise. Basically, you can't illustrate classical music unless you know what you are talking about, because the classical approach needs a special training, and the books about 'classical and rock' who try to 'illustrate it all' are written by average people who know nothing about classical harmony and composition. But a classical composer can easily write in any style, it's just a matter for him to figure out why things sound the way they sound. This book, has been written by such very good teachers with a large teaching experience on their shoulders, who can ALSO teach about contemporary music or any music style for that matter, and it's one of the best book I know in its genre. Highly recommended.

I wouldn't recommend this book for self-study unless you are well acquainted with music theory and are using this as a review. Some of the concepts are not that well explained. However, it is designed as a classroom text, and for that and with a good teacher, it is excellent. Well organized and logical in its progression. An intro to music notation would be very helpful before taking a class using this book. It progresses very quickly. The accompanying workbook is highly recommended for reinforcement.

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