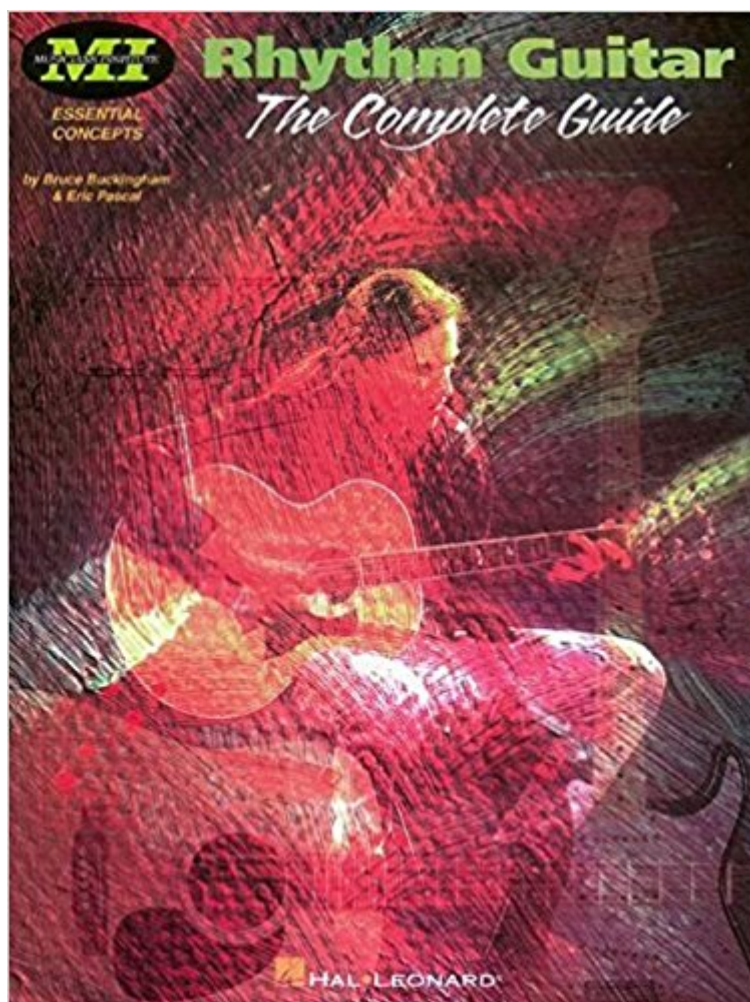


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# Rhythm Guitar: The Complete Guide



## Synopsis

(Musicians Institute Press). A comprehensive source for learning rhythm guitar in a variety of musical styles. It covers: open chords, barre chords, and other movable shapes; strumming, fingerstyle, flatpicking and arpeggiation; common progressions and basic chord theory; triads, sixth, seventh, ninth, and many other chords; and much more.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (37 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

This is an excellent book for all guitarists--beginner to advanced. The book starts with very basic chords and rhythm, but by 8th chapter (there are 37 chapters), I started feeling the limitations of my limited playing style. Note that the book is meant for serious guitar players and requires quite some dedication in terms of practice. My only complaint is that there is no accompanying CD, which I think is essential for any music book. In any case, it's a great book. I also recommend buying the book "Latin Guitar" by the same author, which is a little more advanced. All of MI's books are great, wish they had easier admission requirements :-)

Bruce Buckingham is a highly sought after and competent instructor from the Guitar Institute of Technology, at Musician's Institute, Hollywood, California. Bruce and Eric do an excellent job in laying out and presenting systems of information in regards to fretboard knowledge. They also present a very thorough presentation of all of the various facets of learning and playing rhythm guitar. With THIRTY SEVEN chapters, this book far outweighs it's competition on the market,

without beginning to consider the price comparisons. To find that it is more than competitively priced then becomes an added bonus. I had the wonderful experience of having Bruce as both a classroom guitar instructor and a private guitar instructor while attending G.I.T. I was considering trying to find something from the M.I. press and comparing it to other books available for use with my own guitar students. Not only is this book extremely thorough, I found that there were things that I still needed to review contained in it. After having classes with Bruce, it will be nice to take the learning one step further before passing it on to my own students. I will most definitely be using it as an intermediate guitar primer with my students, in supplement to my own additional curriculum.

Rhythm Guitar: The Complete Guide: This book seems to be design as a text book for a course, therefore is not easy to follow without the help of an instructor. Understanding of music theory and many music concepts are presume to be understood. In other words, if a have not read "Music Principles for the Skeptical Guitarist" by Bruce Emery before buying this book I would have lost my money. Exercises are presented in a "vacuum" and I find myself just strumming along a chord progression whose implication or role within chord music theory is not explained. Because the book does not have a CD, I am unsure if I am performing the exercises correctly. If you have a good understanding of chord theory or somebody that can help you with it, go ahead and buy the book as it is very comprehensive (141 pages) and I am sure you will get a lot from it. However, if you are just starting to play guitar, or you do not have a good understanding of chord theory buy something else because the book will sound to you like a chemistry or physics text book, perhaps even worst, because Rhythm Guitar: The complete guide do not have as much written explanations, but a ton of diagrams.

I actually bought the book to this video first as a music student, but by FAR the video is MUCH BETTER. It's ideal for an advanced beginner or intermediate player who 1) already knows 1st Position playing thoroughly and the major chords/chord shapes of C, A, G, E and D, and 2) understands basic theory like 'I-IV-V' chord progressions, etc., and 3) know the scale with each chord shape. If you've always admired rhythm guitarists and their ability to play all over the fretboard with ease (not to mention artistically) you need to buy this video. In a very logical, simple and step-by-step process, you will learn how to build up your chord knowledge so that you can play chord changes SMOOTHLY, anywhere on the neck. No more bouncing around from 8th fret to 1st fret 'cuz you don't know any other voicings besides the basic barre shape. One of my favorite aspects of this video are the sample tunes, in different styles. He shows you quite a few little

embellishments and tricks which add nicely to background playing. These help you sound more professional, and less like your standard garage band player. Overall an excellent investment of your money and time - if you practice and follow the instructor faithfully, you will increase your chord vocabulary hugely and not rely on simple barre chords all the time.

This is the review of Rhythm Guitar. When I purchased this product, I expected a lot from this DVD. After I watched the DVD, I am disappointed. The rhythm that Bruce shows is amazing, his control on the instrument is fun to watch, but what I expected is to do some practice while watching the DVD, which it lacks. You have to be an expert yourself to enjoy the DVD fully. And also, what I expected is that, I can use the rhythm guitar complete guide book, to follow this DVD. But, there is no relation to the book and DVD, even though, the title is the same and by the same author. If they have shown at least one exercise of each chapter from the book, that could have been great. This DVD, takes its own instruction booklet, which is too small, and it really is a booklet and not a book and difficult to follow with dvd, and with high probability of misplacing it, because of its so small size. They could have given a pdf, with dvd. Maybe if you practice with other resources, and if you keep coming back to this DVD, to assess yourself, this may work. After my disappointment, with this DVD, I bought Progressive Rhythm Guitar, in comparison, Progressive Rhythm is far better product. It really goes progressively from simple down down strum to very complex rhythms and DVD exactly shows how to do it. All in all, I give 3 stars rating.

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