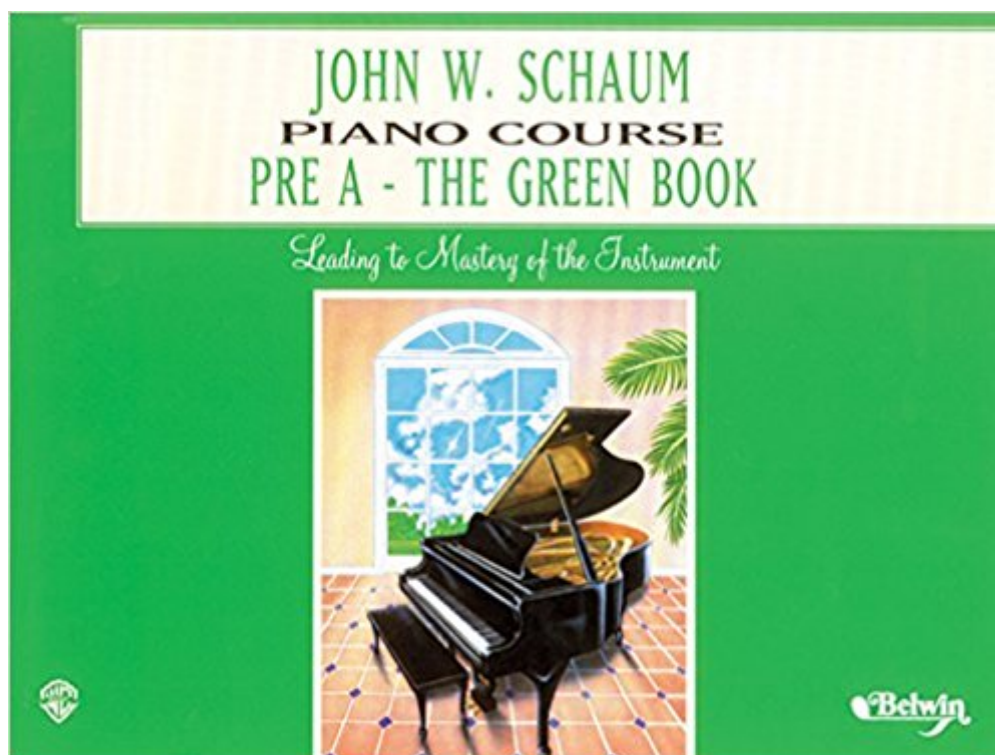


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John W. Schaum Piano Course: Pre-A : The Green Book



Synopsis

A time-honored tradition just got better! The John W. Schaum Piano Course has been newly revised with 100 percent new engravings and typesetting, color highlighting for concept emphasis, updated song titles and lyrics, and full-color illustrations. This is the Primer level.

Book Information

Series: John W. Schaum Piano Course

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (106 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

My wife and I purchased this book for our nine year old daughter so she could learn how to play our family piano. We thought we would try a book and let her go at her own pace to see if she enjoyed it. First of all, the kid loves the book. She's stuck with it and loves to show off her new chops. It's been about three months and she plays everything in the book without a problem. Recently, she's started doing it from memory. We're ready for the next volume to see where it goes, but obviously this book does exactly what it says it will do and she's had a great time doing it. It's light hearted, fun, encourages practice and teaches what it's supposed to. Nuff said!

I purchased this book for a student who was new to the piano and just beginning lessons. She is a month into it now and is excelling, which I believe can be attributed to the excellent style of this book. It eases beginning students into first knowing the proper hand position, then learning note names, and finally learning to read music on the staff. I especially appreciated that the first few "songs" in the book were repetitive finger exercises, yet still helped the student feel as if she was playing music right away. I will be happy to continue using this series.

You can follow right along with the books and it is easy to understand. Don't expect to learn overnight. It has to sink in little by little. Just keep practicing as much as you can while enjoying it. You can do one or two lessons a day and repeat as much as the old lessons as you want to do. You will be amazed how you improve. What was hard becomes easy.

This (and *A Dozen a Day* by Edna Mae Burnam) was the first piano book I learned to play piano from at age 9 in 1989. It's the book that I continue to use with my students today. I will also be starting this book with my own daughter, now age 3. It's a great book because it starts with the middle c position and remains in that position for a long time before switching positions. It also starts teaching the student how to read notes right away. If the teacher or student NEEDS to, you can write the letter answers below the note. Other books START with just writing the letter names, or finger positions. Then those beginner books TOO quickly jump to other hand positions before the student is ready. The ONLY thing I don't love about this book is that there aren't too many songs that the student will recognize except for about 4. Also, I have seen other piano books with better graphics.

I like this book because it introduces the grand staff near the beginning, so students begin learning to read music from the second or third lesson. I use it with beginning students, most of whom are 6-9 years old. I have never had 3-5 year old beginners, but it may progress too quickly for most children this age. 21 of the 32 songs are in middle C position. Besides the basic quarter, half, dotted half, and whole notes in middle C position, the book introduces eighth notes, G major and F major key signatures, accidentals, and, near the end, playing hands together in C position. There are a more finger numbers given in the beginning songs than I think is best, but they thin out quickly. I believe all the songs are original except Old MacDonald and the themes from Haydn's Surprise Symphony and Grieg's Watchman's Song.

This old favorite course is the best in my opinion. I use it for all my beginning piano students because it is the one I was taught as a child, so I'm most familiar with it. Kids today are different than they were when I was young, so it takes quite a lot of explaining and patience with them, but I think this beginner book does very well in attempting to teach the young student how to begin to read notes.

I have used this book for about 5 yrs now and I love it. It is set up the way I like to teach. The child starts playing the piano the first lesson. The discount on buying 3 and getting 1 free was great and the delivery was good. Thank you!

This is just how I remembered this series when I used it many years ago when taking lessons. It arrived quickly and in perfect shape too. It offers a great progression from initial finger positioning, letter names and then introduces the notes on the staff. I was looking for this in a series and glad to find it. I also like the technical information that it gives the student and I was happy to see the fun, kid-friendly song selection. That makes it fun for the child to play! I can't wait to start teaching my child!

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