String Builder Book One (Belwin Course For Strings, Viola)
I knew nothing about playing music and musical notation, let alone playing a string instrument. I wanted to learn and did a bit of research on self-study books. In the end I bought a whole stack from various sources, including Suzuki. I found the String Builder to be the absolutely most logical and user friendly approach. All other books frustrated me, but String Builder is very easy to follow, and takes you through very logical exercises that are never boring or too hard. Step by step I learned about the rhythm, how to recognize and play various keys, even when to bow down or up. With no experience I am able to play basic melodies in but few weeks. And I only practice maybe 30min every other day.. All other books made me want to quit, I stuck only with this one. There is a phenomenal gratification in learning how to play such a beautiful instrument..If you want to learn you only need this book and maybe Teach Yourself: Music Theory by Margaret Richer. Don’t spend money on anything else. Save it for a better violin :)

I am a violin and piano teacher for kids. I use a combination of Suzuki and traditional material as well as music that I write for my students. String Builder, Belwin’s Course for Strings, is an old standard. I like it because it is a common sense way to learn to read notes and get some basic theory. It’s not thrilling for me or my students--just one of those necessary things. And for that, It’s good.

I bought my Violin a year and a half ago. I’ve tried several Lesson types before(online, book,
in-person) none of them were successful when it came to learning songs. thank you String Builder!

This book has a nice approach for the first-time note-reader. My daughter learned with the Suzuki Method but wanted to be able to play songs outside of the study program. A teacher recommended this book, and she is enjoying how it builds quickly enough to keep her interested, but slowly enough that she is learning to read the actual notes.

Great book. It’s simple. It may draw things out too much, but it is very clear cut. I supplement other resources with this book. It is great for very beginners. I wish they would put the key signatures earlier on in the text. I think it will help students be more familiar with information in their learning. Introduction, and repetition through sight, and application promotes learning.

I got these and Suzuki Violin School: Violin Part, Vol. 1 at the same time. There cheap. So I thumbed through both of them now and I just like the layout of these book a lot more then the other. If your looking to start learn the violin there is a ton of free youtube stuff and free websites but for me nothing beats a hard copy of a book that I can look at. For me I just started learning about the violin about 6 months ago, I currently 31 years old. I've had no formal training or nothing. So I hit up google first, that’s where I find a wonderful youtube violin and piano teacher channel. From there I find the fiddlerman.com webservice and so other stuff. Long story short I got my violin and pickup Violin for dummies book. Im still reading it and building on what I learned from the web. But these book does have more to teach with practices and song that are easy to play. So a good word of advise is if you really want to learn to play its never to late. Good luck on your adventure.

It was my 1st book as a beginner taking a college course being new to the violin. My instructor liked this book well enough to recommend it and I liked it as well.

I've been teaching myself how to play violin I've found this book to be incredibly useful and not only does it allow you to go at your own pace it’s broken into small practice pieces with lots of practice on a new thing before moving on.

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