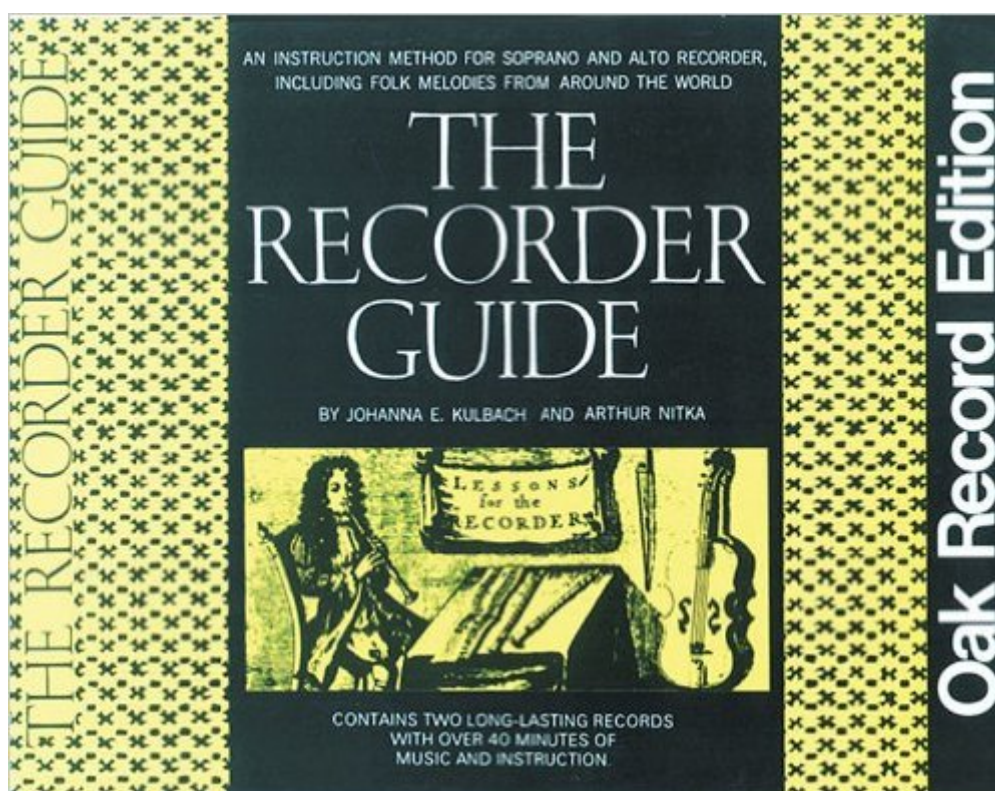


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# The Recorder Guide: An Instruction Method For Soprano And Alto Recorder, Including Folk Melodies From Around The World



## Synopsis

(Music Sales America). An instruction method for descant (soprano) and treble (alto) recorder which combines progressive learning with a repertoire of folk melodies. It features a concise outline of the "mechanics" of music, names of notes, rhythmical notation, and musical symbols. Basic recorder techniques are explained in easy-to-understand text and diagrams, and guitar chords are also included.

## Book Information

Plastic Comb: 128 pages

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Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.4 x 12 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (48 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

The Recorder Guide (c. 1965) bills itself as an instruction method for soprano and alto recorder "including folk melodies from around the world". It's 128 comb-bound pages long, the longest "method book" I have by far. Its print orientation is "landscape". There is lots of white space and sometimes the layout seems a bit amateurish, but the printing is clear and in fairness the layout works when it comes to trying to play music from the book. No piece is over a page long. Much of its length derives from being a method book for both C and F class recorders. This is unique in my experience. It also includes a lot more than the barebones songs. There is a short introduction to the mechanics of music, numerous notes on musical theory and recorder technique and fingering charts. Many of the songs are presented in both alto and soprano (F&C) versions, or arranged for duos or trios (SA and SAT) (although there is always a clear melody line for either the soprano or the alto). Some songs are also presented in basic and more advanced versions later on. Guitar chords are included for many of the songs and lyrics for some of them. There are also several old

illustrations. This is by far my favourite recorder book of the several dozen that I know. You may have heard of "desert island disks", well this would be my choice for a "desert island method book", provided I had both a trusty alto and soprano with me, and had already learned the basics of recorder somewhere else. It has so many great songs and it is so beginner-friendly.

"The Recorder Guide" is a wonderful collection of folk music arranged for recorders. It includes music from Germany, England, Israel, France, South America, Austria, Switzerland, Hungary, Finland, and the Czech Republic. It also includes a round by Johannes Brahms and a Hungarian folksong arranged by Bela Bartok. These are real folktunes of various genres, including love songs, springtime songs, lullabies, folk dances, traditional children's songs, and several pieces of sacred music. I would recommend this book not only for beginning recorder players, but also for more advanced recorder players who are looking for a good introduction to folk music. It would also be a really wonderful book to use with children, although it is not a children's book. As a textbook, I would recommend using it as a supplement to one of the "Enjoy your Recorder" books by the von Trapp family. The von Trapp method is much more thorough than the method in this book (important if you are learning to play the recorder on your own) and will eventually get you to the point where you can play Baroque music (Bach, Handel, Telemann, Vivaldi) as well as very complex pieces of folk music (their books also teach you how to play trills and other embellishments). This book, however, will provide you with a lot more folk music to choose from, as well as with some pieces that are better for beginners than those in the von Trapp books, although still real, beautiful pieces of music. If you are still learning to play the recorder, I would recommend buying this book and one of the von Trapp books together. I should also point out that this book is designed to be used with both C and F recorders.

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