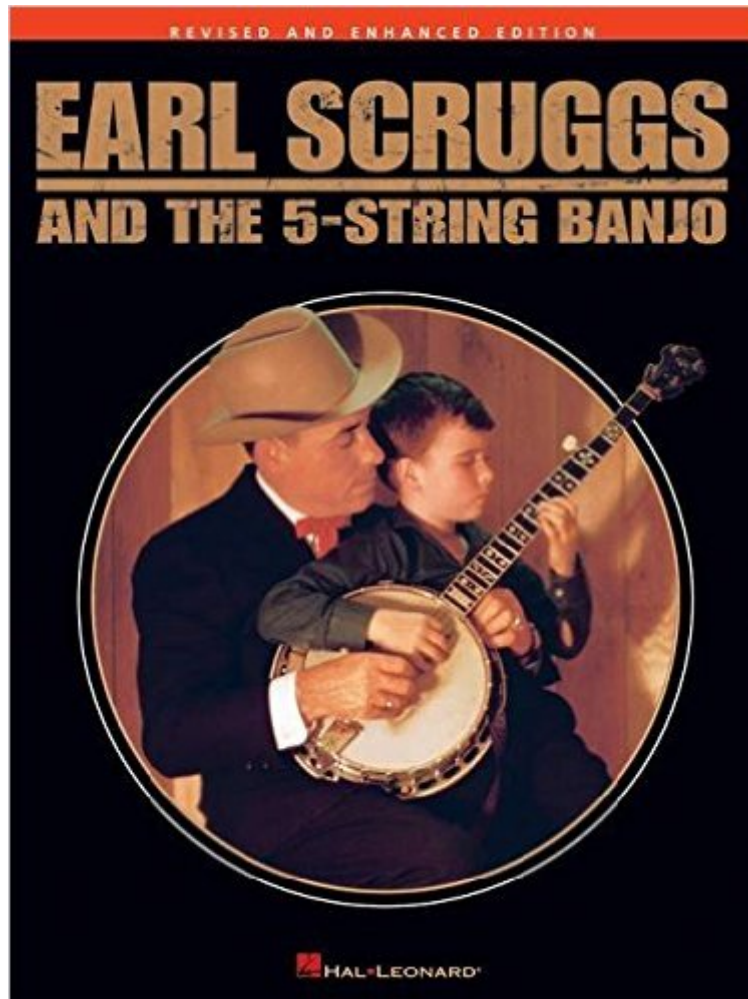


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Earl Scruggs And The 5-String Banjo: Revised And Enhanced Edition



Synopsis

Note: This item does not include CD. (Banjo). The best-selling banjo method in the world! Earl Scruggs's legendary method has helped thousands of banjo players get their start. The "Revised and Enhanced Edition" features more songs, updated lessons, and many other improvements. It includes everything you need to know to start playing banjo, including: a history of the 5-string banjo, getting acquainted with the banjo, Scruggs tuners, how to read music, chords, how to read tablature, right-hand rolls and left-hand techniques, tuning the banjo, exercises in picking, over 40 song tablatures, how to build a banjo, making Scruggs tuners, autobiographical notes, and much more!

Book Information

Series: Banjo

Sheet music: 200 pages

Publisher: Hal Leonard; 1 edition (July 8, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0634060430

ISBN-13: 978-0634060434

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.5 x 12 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (177 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

4 Stars. Great Tabs, and History, but somewhat dated even with revised tablature. 4 Stars because I think there MAY BE more helpful beginner books. 5 Stars based on the fact it is EARL'S - and we ALL love Earl and his music/songs - there is some great stuff in here!!!! This is a great book and probably considered a MUST HAVE for a banjo student. If you are SERIOUS about the banjo, you will probably want this. There are a ton of reviews for this product telling you how great it is, so I won't say too much about that. Although updated, this book is still based on the songs and playing of Earl Scruggs, a PROFESSIONAL banjo player credited with developing this style of picking. There is a lot of things a beginner CAN learn from this book, but most of the SONGS, in my opinion, are

N-O-T EASY songs to learn on or play. You will spend considerable time learning rolls before you are PICKING. Buy it if you MUST, but there ARE better beginner books, I feel, to help you get started, if you are a beginner. This book, to me, is aimed more towards intermediate pickers and the song tabs are most valuable to students who already know a few songs and are playing with at least a LITTLE experience. It does have the tablature to many of Earl's hits, and therefore makes this a VALUABLE book. But again, you won't just jump in and start playing them. I had already learned some beginner type rolls and a couple of songs when I got this book. At about the same time, I purchased Tony Trischka's book "20 Easy Banjo Solos." Tony's book also comes with a CD and he plays through the songs slowly and at speed. Many of the rolls and "runs" you learn early in Tony's book will be things you can build on.

Every banjo picker born after 1940, and every fan, student or performer of bluegrass music owes Earl Scruggs (1924 - 2012) an outstanding debt. Few musicians have ever accomplished for their particular instrument what Scruggs did for the 5-string banjo. He developed an extraordinary playing style from a suite of syncopated rhythmic devices that plucked virtue from the instrument's acoustic limitations, firmly established the banjo's role in the bluegrass ensemble, and revitalized the popularity of the instrument, in eclipse since the advent of swing music and electronic amplification in the early 1930s. Principal in his legacy is the instructional work "Earl Scruggs and the 5-String Banjo". Written in collaboration with Dr. Burt Brent (who wanted to expose the "anatomy" of Scruggs style) and Warren Kennison, Jr. (who transcribed the songs and exercises into tablature), the book was originally published in 1968 by Peer International Corporation and revised in 2005. The Hal-Leonard edition includes an audio CD of 60 lessons presented by Earl himself. In addition to practical lessons for playing the banjo, the book includes a treasury of autobiographical anecdotes, a recapitulation of Scruggs' career and valuable information about the instrument itself from "Getting Acquainted With Your Banjo" to "How to Build a Banjo". There are detailed instructions for maintenance and repair, as well as intricate descriptions of optional banjo hardware, such as Scruggs tuners, capos and 5th string hooks. Louise Scruggs (Earl's wife) contributes a "Brief History of the 5-String Banjo". There are lucid, well-illustrated chapters on the elements of musical structure, chords, inversions, tunings, and tablature.

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