

Garage Band Theory: Music theory for non music majors - practical, useful theory for living-room pickers and working musicians who want to be able to think ... Tools the Pro's Use to Play by Ear Book 1)

By Duke Sharp

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This is non Academic, practical, useful theory for living-room pickers and working musicians who want to be able to think coherently about music in order to ask questions and understand answers about the music they want to play.

The stuff in GBT is about understanding The Beatles and the Rolling Stones, Cole Porter and Duke Ellington, The Grateful Dead and Vampire Weekend. It's NOT about analyzing Bach Fugues.

It was written for the 99% of musicians who are NOT music majors by a incorrigible honky-tonk guitar player who plays by ear ... but understands the relevant vocabulary and what's sensible and useful for MOST players.

"Garage Band Theory is a must for any musician." Rodney Crowell

"Don't be put off by this giant book - Duke's got the secrets of the universe in here. Quite simply, this is the most comprehensive book on music theory I've ever seen."
Bill Payne (Little Feat)

"Something for every musician at any level. Especially helpful is the musical notation and tablature for a variety of instruments. This book inspires me to learn and practice more."
Sam Bush

"Garage Band Theory is a veritable encyclopedia of useful tools and tips.This book lifts the lid off the "black box" of music theory and let's the light shine in - and in a fun, practical way.
This is a book which should be left handily lying around the living room, bedside, studio, classroom, (restroom?) - ready to be dipped into at any time for reference purposes or just to improve or refresh one's fluency in the language of

music.
A great resource for musicians young and old no matter what your training. For the price of a one-hour lesson, GBT offers a lifetime of learning."
Alasdair Fraser

"Garage Band Theory let me know how little I know... but in a good way. It's a great book!" Sterling C Ball CEO, Ernie Ball Inc.

"This book is written in the people's key." Kostas

"Garage Band Theory offers you everything you need to know to understand, play and make your own music. Because he is both an accomplished musician and teacher, Sharp's Garage Band Theory is an excellent guide for beginners and more advanced players alike."
Sam Barry, author, musician

No matter which instrument you want to play, the advice, inspiration and down-to-earth tips in this book will help you get to your goal.

Duke Sharp draws on a lifetime of experience playing, writing, recording and teaching music.

Garage Band Theory demystifies music theory and, in the process, shows how to apply basic music theory to the art of playing by ear and composition.

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Editorial Review

Review
Garage Band Theory: Review by Craig Hall, multi instrumentalist, composer, teacher, performer

In Garage Band Theory Duke Sharp has delivered to us the anti-textbook.

Apparently inspired less by the tired approaches of endless theory books on the local music store rack, than by, say, Dave Barry's delightful drollery, GBT reads at moments like a coffee shop conversation twixt rock band sidemen at a restaurant after a questionable gig, complete with puns both good and bad, musician inside humor and self-demeaning laments.

The genius within the madness is that after finally acquiescing to the har-har humor, the reader will find himself actually learning a lot about music along the way. More to the point, learning how band-stand musicians THINK about music.

There has forever been a gap between the way music theorist negotiate their topic and what a pianist is thinking about when he glances at an upcoming C#7#11. (The truth is, he may still be thinking about the joke he heard last break.) The gap between traditional theorists and the musicians who play mostly by ear is even wider. GBT comes very close to bridging those gaps.

Mr. Sharp has taken a shot across the bow of academia (this isn't how I was taught theory!) and delivered to us a quite accurate and unconventionally authoritative romp through the slightly circuitous logic of a guy making a hundred bucks on a stage somewhere tonight.

Funneling in most effectively on guitarists, other instrumentalists need not fret. (Sorry. It s contagious.)

The book also reads well to other fretted stringites, with a plethora of TAB and notation layouts for banjologists and mandolinonians.

Truthfully, any humor-deprived soul interested in how pitches relates to another might be advised to take the GBT plunge, if only to research just how absolutely twisted we habitual pickers are.

With dozens of relevant music examples ranging from the pen of King Henry the Eighth to recent pop, a few thematic threads are recognizable throughout the book, two being: Experiment. A lot. And, You can learn this stuff! If I can do this you CERTAINLY can do this!

I recommend this superficially light but painstakingly complete and well-crafted book to anyone who enjoys pondering, for example, one of its many included quotes: I know canned music makes chickens lay more eggs and makes factory workers produce more. But how much more can they get out of you on an elevator? (Victor Borge.)

Craig Hall

Garage Band Theory: Review by Rich Robiscoe, performer, multi-instrumentalist

It s a fresh approach, a we're in this all together vector not often found in theory texts.

Duke Sharp makes a solid hit with a work aimed at players that want a comprehensive manual, but don't want to wade through Walter Piston's Harmony.

Mr Sharp provides a user friendly platform for players of all abilities, with a special emphasis for the gigging musician looking to touch up the zen behind that tricky chord change or progression.

A certain sense of humor is an essential part of Garage Band Theory.

The perspective of a working musician gives this primer a unique vantage. This ain't your standard Mel Bay!

A strong emphasis on analytical listening is evident throughout Duke's book. In order to play by ear, a musician must be able to understand what he or she is hearing.

Mr Sharp has many tips that will help the player who can hear a tune, yet find themselves at a loss when describing what it is they hear!

A wealth of practical examples are a feature of this work.

Although Mr. Sharp can't always give specific notation/tab for your favorite songs, the tab and notation supplied is deadly accurate and very helpful.

Of particular interest is the chapter/section entitled Song Structure/Reading the Road Map.

Over the years I've found that a solid knowledge of a song s structure will help any musician play a song by ear more confidently and correctly, and Mr Sharp's explanations of common symbols and practices is an area often overlooked by methods primarily intended for guitarists.

As advertised, this is a theory text, and as such, has certain portions that are not as sexy as others (don t we all), but these concepts are well thought out and easily accessible to the serious student.

You may end up learning to read music despite yourself!

Mr Sharp does not promise any miracles. Practice and repetition are as much a part of a musician as talent and a penchant for odd hairstyles.

Be prepared to live with this book for a while, at three pounds and 500 plus pages, it s a work that will take some time to assimilate.

I've been a gigging musician for thirty plus years now, completed a degree in Music Education in the misty past, yet I find myself reaching for a guitar every time I pick up Garage Band Theory.

Rich Robiscoe

Garage Band Theory: Review by Kyle Brenner, multi instrumentalist, performer, teacher

I love this book and will recommend it for all my students looking to pursue ear training!

As a teacher, I ve often heard students complain that they wished they could figure out what chord that was that just went by.... How do you know that s a minor chord there? or Why are you using that voicing or inversion for that?

And as a teacher, I tell students that I d like them to be able to figure out songs for themselves, instead of relying on my ear or a potentially bad TAB from the internet, but how to get there?

Now there's a tool for the teacher and the student of ear training, and it s called Garage Band Theory.

Duke Sharp s book is, simply put, the first book I have ever considered putting on my required materials list as a guitar teacher.

There are lots of worthy books out there, but students would have to buy five books or more to cover this material in the way that Duke has in just one book.

And, its focus is not on reading notes; rather, it helps to train oneself to break free of reading notes and to use one's ear!

I was classically trained as a cellist, and by classically trained, I mean, I was taught to read everything on a sheet of music and interpret everything just as the composer wanted.

But most of us classically trained musicians tend to feel glued to the page, or shackled by what the composer wanted. What about me? we d ask.

I feel strongly that ear training and mastering an ability to free oneself from the page are not only desired traits, but empowering as well.

This book covers everything you need to know about music theory, and it covers a wide variety of instruments and musical genres, so it s not limited to being just a manual for guitarists.

Starting simple, with note names and counting, then moving into intervals, scales, and chords, this book takes a very in-depth approach to seemingly simple material, fleshing out many ideas that most of us musicians have either glossed over or have only scratched the surface.

I'm very impressed with the versatility of Garage Band Theory, covering such things as moveable forms of scales for guitar, but also mandolin, mandola, violin, viola, cello, and tenor (eleven) banjos as well.

Not only does Duke address various instrumentation; he addresses a wide variety of musical genres as well jazz, rock, blues, folk, classical, and even ska.

Chapter quizzes are followed by inspirational quotes, and the glossary of musical terms is worth the price of the book alone. Duke does a great job of referencing and directing the reader to things he s covered with a clear and concise road map throughout.

If you re looking for a manual that will help train your ear and fill in the gaps in your music theory, Garage Band Theory is it.

As a seasoned musician with 30 years of classical training and 25 years of ear training, I still learned a lot from this book.

Empower yourself and start using this book now!

Kyle Brenner, multi instrumentalist, performer, teacher --Kyle Brenner

From the Back Cover
Garage Band Theory is the only book that recognized that a beginner won't always be a beginner and that everyone wants to play better.

It's loaded with easy to understand approaches to playing by ear and traditional theory, using popular examples as well as the traditional favorites.

About the Author
Raised in a rhythm loving California family, Duke Sharp always knew his career would include music, but never expected to write a book about music theory.

After 30 years as a professional musician and a decade as a music teacher, Sharp was inspired to write the resource book he searched for but had never found.

Garage Band Theory was created as a comprehensive, practical guide for beginning and experienced players alike.

He plays and teaches several instruments, and wanted a book that was not restricted to just one instrument and that would be useful to teachers and students alike.

His CDs of mostly original music include 'Yucca Pie, Duke Sharp and Friends' described by one reviewer as "a unique blend of western, latin and jazz sounds," 'Two Grass Crew, Gavotte in A Minor' a collection of duets with Mike Parsons, an outstanding musician playing mandolin and violin, Two Grass Crew- The Big Lost, a collection of traditional tunes and a few covers with unique arrangements, 'Pickin After Midnight In The Moonlight' a solo project, 'Bozeman All Stars, Contrafactually Yours' a jazz-lite CD with some of Bozeman's finest musicians, and 'Matkatamiba' - music inspired by Grand Canyon rafting trips.

When he's not gigging or teaching, you can find the 'accidental' author hiking backcountry trails, white-water rafting rivers of the west or riding his bicycle.

He lives in Montana among guitars, mandolins, rivers and mountains.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Lucille Renner:

Now a day folks who Living in the era exactly where everything reachable by connect to the internet and the resources inside it can be true or not involve people to be aware of each data they get. How individuals to be smart in having any information nowadays? Of course the correct answer is reading a book. Reading through a book can help men and women out of this uncertainty Information specifically this Garage Band Theory: Music theory for non music majors - practical, useful theory for living-room pickers and working musicians who want to be able to think ... Tools the Pro's Use to Play by Ear Book 1) book because this book offers you rich information and knowledge. Of course the knowledge in this book hundred per cent guarantees there is no doubt in it you know.

Rosa Tarpley:

Do you have something that you enjoy such as book? The book lovers usually prefer to decide on book like comic, short story and the biggest the first is novel. Now, why not seeking Garage Band Theory: Music theory for non music majors - practical, useful theory for living-room pickers and working musicians who want to be able to think ... Tools the Pro's Use to Play by Ear Book 1) that give your satisfaction preference will be satisfied by simply reading this book. Reading addiction all over the world can be said as the method for people to know world a great deal better then how they react towards the world. It can't be said constantly that reading behavior only for the geeky person but for all of you who wants to be success person. So , for all of you who want to start looking at as your good habit, you can pick Garage Band Theory: Music theory for non music majors - practical, useful theory for living-room pickers and working musicians who want to be able to think ... Tools the Pro's Use to Play by Ear Book 1) become your own starter.

Richard Cary:

Is it an individual who having spare time then spend it whole day by simply watching television programs or just telling lies on the bed? Do you need something totally new? This Garage Band Theory: Music theory for non music majors - practical, useful theory for living-room pickers and working musicians who want to be able to think ... Tools the Pro's Use to Play by Ear Book 1) can be the response, oh how comes? The new book you know. You are thus out of date, spending your time by reading in this new era is common not a geek activity. So what these guides have than the others?

Ana Gaskill:

Reading a reserve make you to get more knowledge from the jawhorse. You can take knowledge and information originating from a book. Book is created or printed or highlighted from each source in which filled update of news. In this modern era like today, many ways to get information are available for you. From media social just like newspaper, magazines, science guide, encyclopedia, reference book, fresh and comic. You can add your understanding by that book. Ready to spend your spare time to open your book? Or just looking for the Garage Band Theory: Music theory for non music majors - practical, useful theory for living-room pickers and working musicians who want to be able to think ... Tools the Pro's Use to Play by Ear Book 1) when you needed it?

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