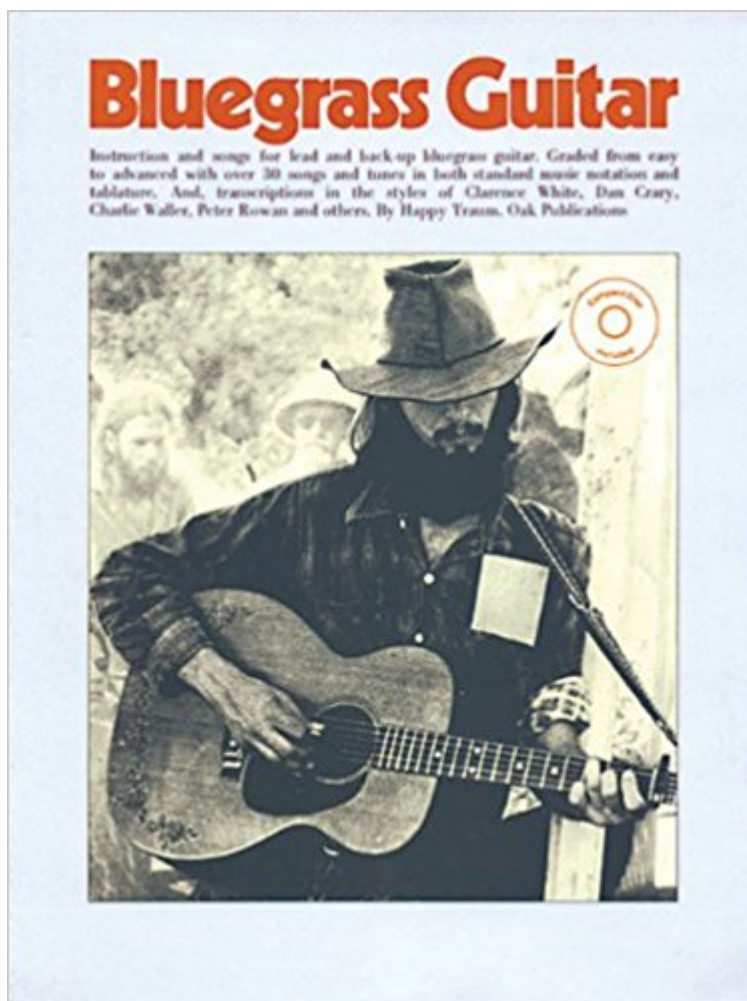




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# Bluegrass Guitar (Guitar Books)



## Synopsis

(Music Sales America). This guitar workbook covers every aspect of bluegrass playing, from simple accompaniment to advanced instrumentals. Over 30 bluegrass and traditional songs are included in the styles of Clarence White, Dan Crary, Charlie Waller, Peter Rowan, and others. The tunes are graded from easy to advanced in both standard music notation and tablature. Includes photos and a CD.

## Book Information

Series: Guitar Books

Paperback: 128 pages

Publisher: Oak Publications (January 1, 1992)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0825601533

ISBN-13: 978-0825601538

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.3 x 12 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 20 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #978,983 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #14 in [Books > Arts &](#)

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## Customer Reviews

This book isn't exactly what I wanted, but it's still got some good points. There is decent amount of discussion of bluegrass. There is a page with some common chords and then a few "G-runs". After that it's essentially a songbook. There is some discussion of each song, but nothing in depth. I'm not sure if this was just my version or what, but sometimes it seems like he wanted to put examples in the book and they're not there. Specifically on Dill Pickle Rag it says something like, work on some of these before you try the song and half the page is blank. Also, there are only 2-3 songs on the CD. I get that he probably wants people to buy albums and actually listen to real bluegrass. I don't fault him for that.

Good Points: Lots of good information on Bluegrass (mostly old school bluegrass). The songs included are varied and fun to play. There is an emphasis on songs and there is a lot of good music/tab.

Negative aspects: Little instruction. CD doesn't have much on it. Songs may be a little advanced for a complete beginner and instruction is too elementary for someone more

advanced. Books seems to be missing practice sections.

I bought my original copy of this, back in the mid 70's as a teenager, and in the good ol' days (!) you got one of those flexible vinyl records inside the book, that you removed and put on a turntable to hear the examples. Thirty-something years later, I decided I wanted to actually learn how to play "Under the Double Eagle", as I never did, and my original copy is long since lost. My new copy just arrived, and in 2009, you get a CD, not the record, but everything else is the same. I think this is a great book, you get tab and notation for 30 songs, some history, tips, and a reference guide in the back. Sure, it would be nice if ALL the songs were on the CD, but they are not, but for the price, how can you complain? By the way, for the songs I wanted to learn to play but was not familiar with, you can find them all on youtube, get the basics of the song, and easily work with the tab in the book. I think this book is a classic, and I am quite happy to have it back in my collection.

I cut my teeth on this book in the mid- 1970's and still appreciate it. Good stuff for beginners to advanced, and wonderful pictures for the Bluegrass fan. I've seen it other places for twice what I paid on . The cover shows Artie Traum playing a guitar he picked up in a NY City pawn shop for...\$75 if memory serves me. I saw one sell for \$125,000 24 months ago!

"Bluegrass Guitar" by Happy Traum was probably the best book of its kind when it was published in 1974, but time and technology have passed this book by. There are better alternatives available, especially if you are a beginner. This book does have a lot of great bluegrass songs and includes standard music notation, tablature, and lyrics. As a collection of bluegrass sheet music it's just fine. My disappointment with this book is mainly with the included CD and it's instructional value. The CD contains less than nineteen minutes of material. Only five of the thirty songs in the book are included on the CD and only one of those is played at a slow tempo for practicing. For guitarists wanting to learn bluegrass, I recommend, "Teach Yourself Bluegrass Guitar" by Russ Barenburg. It contains many of the same bluegrass tunes as Happy's book and all of them are included on its CD. Each song is played twice, once with lead guitar and once with rhythm only for practicing. (Which is a nice feature because most instructional CDs want you to use the balance control to isolate the rhythm part, but most "boom-boxes" these days don't have that control anymore.) While none of the songs are played really slowly for beginners, Russ isn't burning up the strings either. The songs are played at a moderate performance pace - suitable for learning. The music on this CD is so good that I often listen to it in my car just for fun. For the true beginner interested in country/bluegrass and

flatpicking, I suggest "Acoustic Guitar Primer" by Bert Casey. It's a great book for those just starting out and has some great bluegrass arrangements for beginners. It comes with an excellent instructional CD that has all of the songs played slowly and at performance tempo.

pretty straight forward book, i would advise having at least some experience prior to getting this book. it has beginner stuff in it and some good instruction and history in it. LOTS of songs too! I got a good laugh out of the listening instruction aid: not a cd like i expected but a no kidding record! all in all not bad, just make sure you have patience just like any other instructional book

It's ok.

Does not disappoint. Nice arrangements. Get the DVD Easy Bluegrass and Country Guitar to go along with it.

I bought this book back in the 80s when I was learning guitar. I love the style this book presents and now that my son is learning to play, I got him his own copy. Great Book!

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