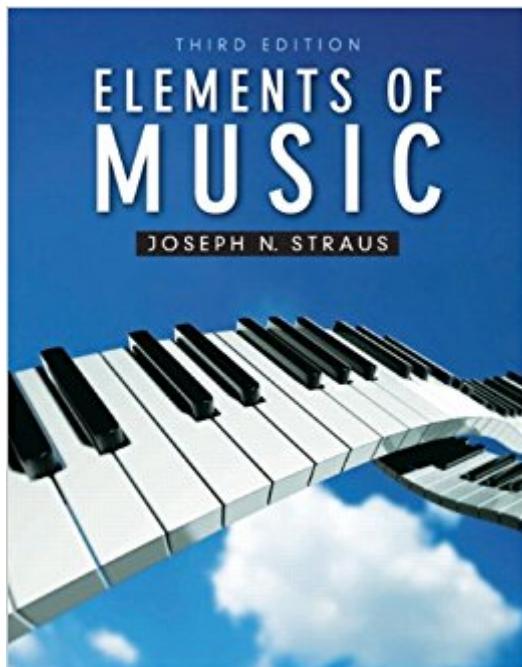


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# Elements Of Music (3rd Edition)



## Synopsis

The Fundamentals Text That Emphasizes Music Making    This music fundamentals textbook is for both aspiring music majors and non-majors. Based on an anthology of works from music literature, it features clear, concise explanations, extensive written exercises, and a variety of suggested in-class activities. It emphasizes process of making music "emphasizing, at every stage, that music is to be heard and made" "not merely seen and learned in the abstract. All of the key topics are covered: music notation; rhythm; scales; intervals; triads; basic harmonic progressions. Several supplements are available for this text. An Audio CD ISBN 0131584197 / 9780131584198 is available including performances of key works analyzed in the text. The examples are also available in Finale files on MySearchLab so that students can directly work on exercises on their computers.    Teaching and Learning Experience    Personalize Learning - MySearchLab delivers proven results in helping students succeed, provides engaging experiences that personalize learning, and comes from a trusted partner with educational expertise and a deep commitment to helping students and instructors achieve their goals.    Improve Critical Thinking- Written exercises and assignments both in traditional written and electronic formats reinforce concepts.    Engage Students- In-class activities, including singing, dictation, and keyboard exercises are designed to supplement and reinforce the theory lessons.    Support Instructors- Supported by the best instructor resources on the market; MySearchLab and an Instructor's Manual.    Note: MySearchLab does not come automatically packaged with this text. To purchase MySearchLab, please visit [www.MySearchLab.com](http://www.MySearchLab.com) or you can purchase a valuepack of the text + MySearchLab ISBN 0205858201 / 9780205858200 Elements of Music with MySearchLab, 3/e. Package consists of: 0205239927 / 9780205239924 MySearchLab with Pearson eText -- Access Card 0205007090 / 9780205007097 Elements of Music

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## Customer Reviews

Elements of Music by Joseph Straus is arguably the best textbook currently available for the course it is designed for (i.e. Music Fundamentals for music majors as a pre-theory review course, as well as for non-music majors). It covers topics in a comprehensive progressive manner - pitch recognition, rhythm and meter, scales, intervals, triads and 7th chords, introduction to 4-part harmony and music organizations - and at the same time leaves the instructor and students a great degree of flexibility. The 2nd edition varies little from the 1st, but the improvements are noticeable and welcomed: larger font sizes, rearranged music examples in certain exercises (in accordance with the level of difficulty), and the addition of a self test at the end of each chapter.

This book is exactly what it claims to be... an entry level music theory book. It takes you through the essentials needed for understanding the fundamentals of music. The book teaches concepts such as notes, melodies, chords, and scales through the layout of a piano (which I think is a good idea). The book also teaches concepts of rhythm, time and chord signatures by providing the student with an abundance of exercises to make sure the concepts sink in. **Weaknesses:** Overpriced. There is no way this book should cost \$100+ bucks because it doesn't teach anything that can't be discovered by entering "Music Theory" into a search engine. Any book that crosses the \$100 threshold better be hard cover, include a CD, and not have any perforated pages. Another weakness of this book is that it assumes that you will be in an actual class when you are using it. The book contains tons of exercise pages that require teacher participation to complete them. It also has group exercises. Small print text and cramped space to complete written exercises. Reads like a math book. **Strengths:** Good subject material. Chapters are short.

I needed this book for my intro to music theory class and I was disappointed when it was missing a bunch of pages and in pretty bad condition. There was a lot of writing in it and the pages that were missing were pages of practice material that would've been really helpful for the class. Not the worst but not the best either.

This is an excellent textbook for anyone looking for a comprehensive book in the fundamentals of music theory. I successfully used this textbook in teaching music fundamentals for non-majors at the university level. *Elements of Music* requires no previous music experience from its readers/students. It begins with the very basics, teaching fundamentals of pitch and rhythm through an introduction to roman numeral analysis of harmony (typically halfway through the first semester of a freshman level music major theory course). Among the strongest aspects of the text is its use of the same 12-14 musical examples, drawn from songs and pieces from both the classical and non-classical repertoire, and arranged as necessary to demonstrate a particular concept. This repetition becomes very helpful as the book progresses since the familiarity they establish with music helps the reader to make more meaningful connections between the material from earlier and later chapters of the book. Worksheets are provided within each subsection of the chapters and are more than suitable as homework assignments in a classroom setting. Each assignment is perforated for easy tear-out and is formatted such that only the worksheet and not explained concepts are separated from the textbook. The only problem I encountered was that even though there are CD icons throughout the book to indicate where the reader could listen to an example or piece of music, none of my copies actually included a CD (I ended up making a separate CD for my class so that at least had access to recordings of the music). I highly recommend this textbook for both teachers of music fundamentals or interested novices and music hobbyists and enthusiasts alike.

Great book. I used it for music theory 1 in college. It will teach you how to read music and basic chord and scale theory. I learned allot and would recommend this to anyone who wants to learn Theory.

Before buying this book, I had no previous musical experience besides playing the guitar in an incorrect way. After buying this book, I was able to develop new musical skills such as reading notes, identifying intervals, learning new scales, and chords.

This book is great not only for experts but for anyone who wants to get into playing music. It's detailed but sometimes doesn't explain things more than one way, but if they did..it would be like, a million pages long! For the most part, you're getting just as the item describes. I wanted to know if it will provide me with some sheet music to practice with and to help me brush up on the basics again, as I've been rusty for quite some time now. I got the book and it does start from the beginning with a

diagram of a keyboard and also provides some exercises like, speed exercises to help advance your skills. It provides a few pages of sheet music to help you get started; the pieces vary from two pages to even five, you know, to help you get going. I recommend this book to anyone who would like to start with music or advance in it; with good lessons and a little test, you'll be playing music in no time!

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