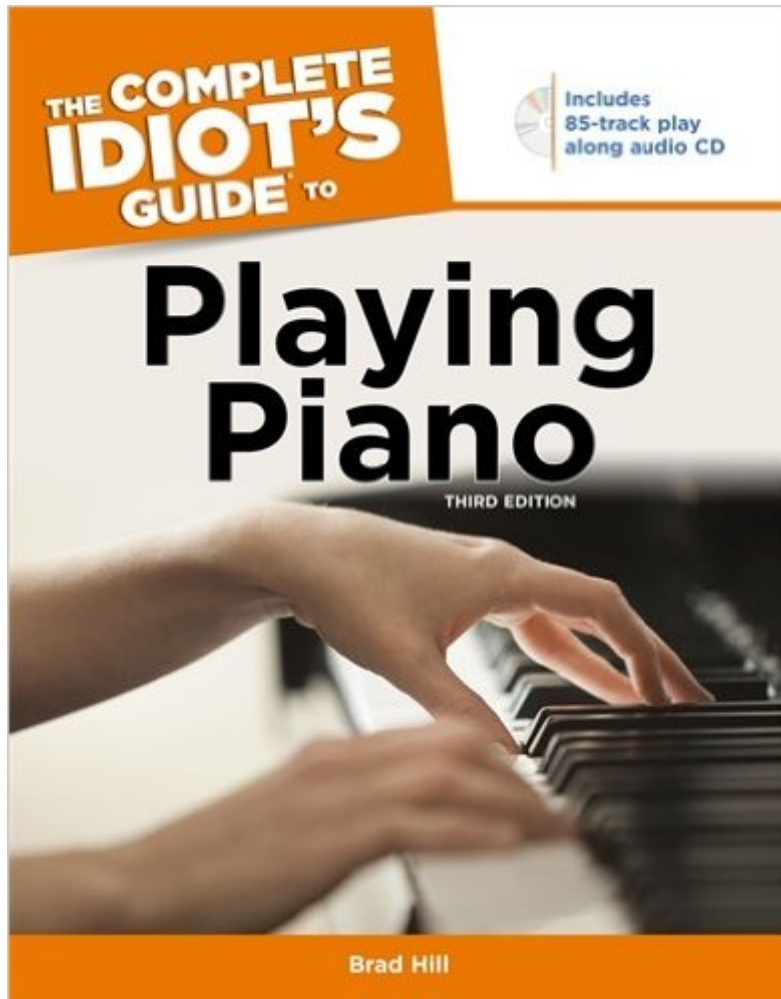


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# The Complete Idiot's Guide To Playing Piano, 3rd Edition



## Synopsis

From reading music and learning chords, to understanding music notation or buying an instrument, an expert author tells aspiring pianists how to get started. Learn posture, positioning, fingering, notations, and drills, with advice from a master. And this new edition features an introduction to music notation, explains how to use the pedals, and offers strategies for mastering major and minor scales. It also comes with a CD with all the music in the book so you can listen and learn.

## Book Information

Series: The Complete Idiot's Guide

Paperback: 288 pages

Publisher: Alpha; 3rd edition (October 3, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1592575641

ISBN-13: 978-1592575640

Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 0.7 x 10.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 3.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (28 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

This book is acceptable for those who have no idea how to play piano, read music, or understand anything about musical theory. Usually, I'll be a bit generous with my reviews, but this book is not for anyone except for a genuine piano "idiot". :) What Mr. Hill does cover is adequate for getting started: History of the instrument, how to sit, hand position, etc. You'll be taught how to read sheet music, what the notes are (quarter, half, whole notes, etc), scales, chords etc. Right and left hand technique, harmony and keys. But, I'm talking real basic stuff here. That's the first half of the book. 130 pages! The second half (Master Class???) covers a little more about notation, such as triplets, slurs, legato, etc. How to use music charts and fake books (honest) and some discussion on classical pieces. Using the pedals, some practice and technical tips. The book closes out with some coverage on purchasing a piano or electronic keyboard, and some maintenance and repair discussion. This spans roughly 100 pages. Now, granted, that's some pretty expansive ground to

cover in one book. So, you get basic and informative information throughout. My biggest criticism echos the previous reviewers. There is way too much talk, including plenty of the side remarks that are typical of the Idiot and Dummy series of books. I find them distracting and annoying. Finally, there is far to few musical pieces to play, and far too few practice exercises. Personally, I find that inexcusable since those are the necessary componants that will take someone from a beginner to the intermediate stages of development. That's what beginning books are for, correct? This book falls substantially short in musical pieces and especially practice exercises.

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