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Mel Bay's Tenor Banjo Melody Chord Playing System



Synopsis

How can I read sheet music and play tenor banjo melody chord solos? Mel Bay's own step-by-step method for melody chord performance will show you precisely how it's done. Also suitable for tenor mandola. Written primarily in standard notation with tablature and fretboard diagrams given for chord patterns, this book might be considered a sequel to the Complete Tenor Banjo Method. After a few pages of elementary information, the author goes to the heart of the matter with challenging exercises and solos presented in order of difficulty in various keys. The book also includes a thorough education in chord construction from simple triads to thirteenth diminished ninth chords. Most importantly, the author offers a system for learning to apply tenor banjo chords in a creative manner.

Book Information

Sheet music: 116 pages

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Customer Reviews

Very few people will be able to get much use out of this book UNLESS they have a TEACHER. This is essentially a book of exercises. "Melody Chord Playing System"? The book never even says what melody chords are! There are virtually no words in the book, and most readers won't be familiar with a lot of the songs. This is NOT to say the book isn't valuable. Lots of five string banjo pickers seldom go above the fifth fret. Good tenor banjo players playing melody chords, however, go all over the neck and MUST know their chord inversions very well. Without really saying so and certainly without explaining it, this book teaches those quite effectively. Rather than emphasizing, say, A, C, D chords, it emphasizes I, III, V, V7, etc. Start by playing those chords hundreds of times until you go

into the position automatically and with ease. I was really sore when I started out, but after doing them several hundred times they suddenly started clicking. These are all closed chords that can be played anywhere on the neck. Then the book starts with the C chord and moves through all the inversions right up the neck. Once you get used to being able to move to the next inversion up and down the fretboard every two beats, the rest is easy. The inversions are the same in all the other keys--they just start on different frets. Then you learn your minor patterns, which derive from the majors. Then on to diminished and augmented chords, then to 9ths, 11ths, etc. By emphasizing the inversions, the book teaches what is absolutely crucial for tenor banjo melody chord playing. If you know what you need to learn, you can find a lot of it here (though nothing about combining melody chords with picking out the melody on separate notes by adding and subtracting frets). If you are clueless, you will do a LOT better by combining this with lessons from a good teacher--if you can find one--it won't be your local guy from the music store.

great book meets my expectation as a follow up complete tenor banjo method

I found this book to be too advanced it takes for granted that the reader has more musical experience than i have it does not explain everything clearly for a beginner

Ok

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