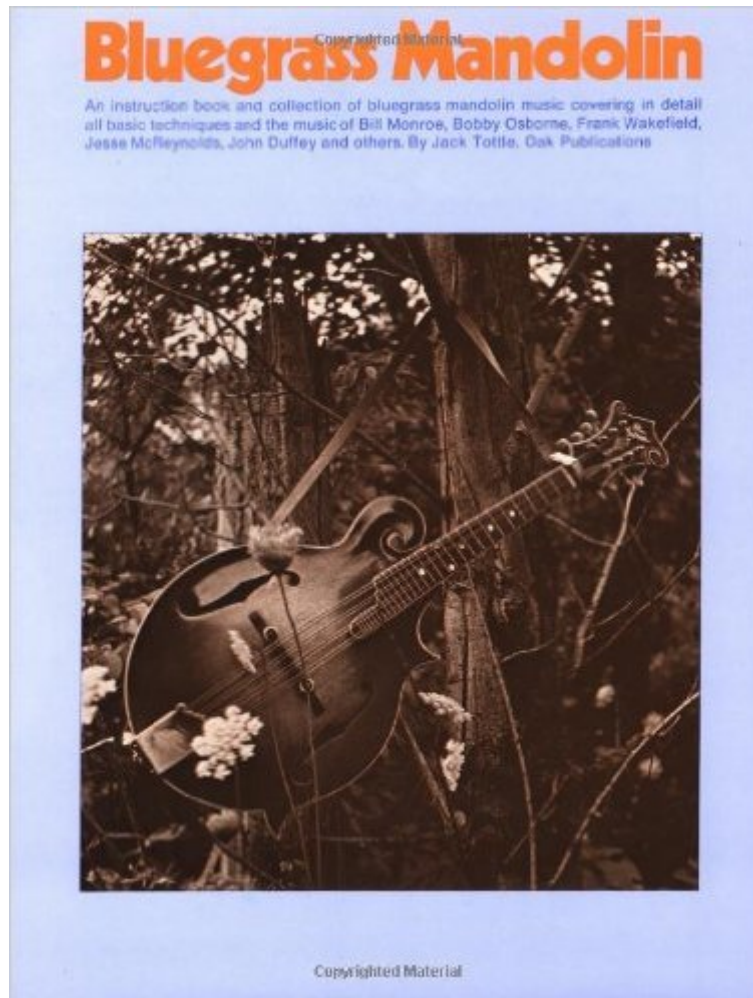


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# Bluegrass Mandolin



## Synopsis

(Music Sales America). Learn from the music of Bill Monroe, Bobby Osbourne, Jesse McReynolds, Frank Wakefield, John Duffey and others. This instruction book and collections of bluegrass mandolin music covers in detail everything from simple basics to fancy fingerwork. Songs include: Arkansas Traveller \* Banks of the Ohio \* Boil Em Cabbage Down \* Cripple Creek \* Fisher's Hornpipe \* Lonesome Road Blues \* Oh! Susanna \* Will the Circle Be Unbroken \* and more.

## Book Information

Series: Mandolin

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Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.4 x 12 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (22 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #514,768 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #35 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Songbooks > Guitars & Fretted Instruments > Mandolins #57 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Instruments > Strings > Mandolins #253 inÂ Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Musical Genres > Country

## Customer Reviews

Tottle starts with some musical fundamentals -- general points like reading TAB and musical notation, time signatures, rhythm, etc., as well as mandolin-specific issues like tuning. If you have another instrument under your belt, this makes quick reading and then Tottle immediately starts you on learning simple pieces. Since I already play the guitar, for instance, I opened this book and almost immediately learned my first rag. After you have half a dozen dance numbers under your belt, Tottle breaks out a small chord dictionary and introduces the idea of the structured bluegrass song, with instrumental breaks in between verses. Starting with "The Banks of the Ohio", he then demonstrates how to construct a mandolin break around a song's melody. As he adds numbers, Tottle increases in complexity, and it pretty quickly adds up to an impressive repertoire. Tottle's writing is clear and straightforward. All music is presented in standard notation and in tablature. Occasional charming photographs of mandolin greats add a nice touch. The book I have does not

have the CD, but the CD can only add to what is a great instructional book.

This book is the gold-standard for learning mandolin. I was trying to teach myself and getting nowhere (I was trying to play it like a guitar!) He really caters to students of all skill levels, particularly with his song choices and arrangements. They're simple enough that even a beginner can play them slowly, yet more intermediate players will have difficulty playing them fast without practice. Tottle provides tips for potentially troublesome sections in each song, as well as general advice when learning a new skill. They're bluegrass songs, but the skills learned can be cross-applied to whatever genre you wish to play. The songs are presented in both tablature and musical notation. Tottle gives about the most concise, informative primer on reading tab that I've ever read. The tab includes written-in chord changes, so you won't be completely unaware of the notes you're playing if you don't read notation. This book is a great place for learning that, too, as it teaches you how to count the note lengths, which are the same as for notation, and give you the chord names, making it easier to figure the notes. I actually borrowed it from the library, but I intend to purchase it, as I feel it will be a great source to refer back to. Very helpful book, even if you don't want to play bluegrass.

When I started playing mandolin 15 years ago this was the only book I could find. It turned out to be a great investment. Easy to read, easy to follow. The music is timeless and Jack has a very unique style. For beginners or experts alike there's a lot here I'd highly recommend it

I really feel this is one of the best books I could have found to learn Bluegrass Mandolin. Inside it teaches bluegrass composition, method, and what really makes a song "Bluegrass style". Written both in standard notation and TAB for mandolin, it's easy to use for anyone. Please understand if you do not already have a beginner grasp of mandolin, this is NOT your book. It starts with assuming you read Mandolin TAB or notation. Then moves straight into playing bluegrass style on your mandolin. A great Book to learn with.

The collection of bluegrass tunes in this book is fantastic! The way Jack Tottle also takes the beginner mandolin player through each section is great too! Nice mandolin book for both beginners and intermediate players!

Highly recommended for beginners. His scope of various styles is wide. Focused on standard

notation, not so much tablature. This book should work very well for those trained in classical musical beginnings.

I've used this book before but lost it in moving. I had stopped playing the mandolin for a few years and needed to brush up. This is an excellent manual and I recommend it to beginners and to those who need some brushing up.

If you have some "stick-to-it-ness" about you, this book will surely teach you how to play mandolin. It starts slow enough to hold a beginner's interest and then it allows you to move up quickly at a pace your practice effort will set for you. It is for the serious mandolin student who probably should have at least some background in guitar. JFS

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