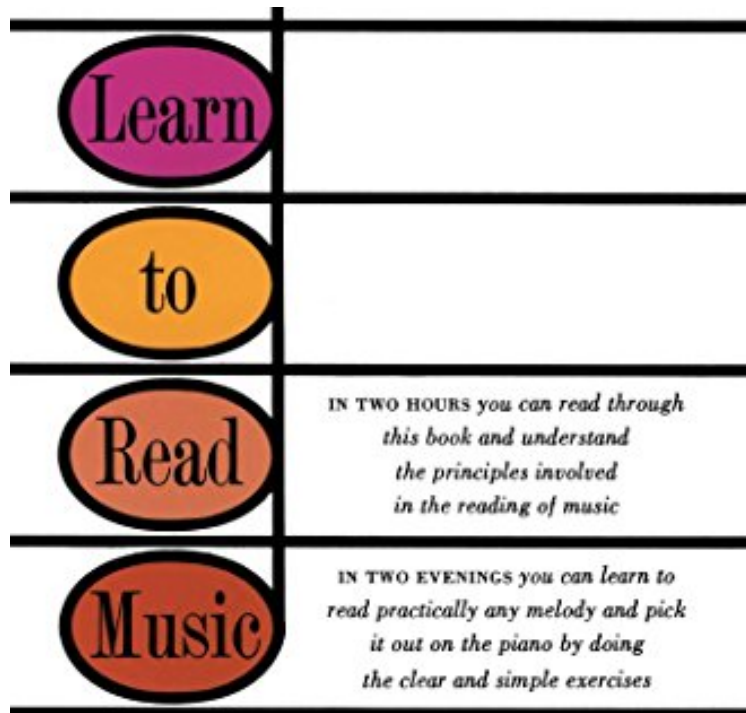


# Learn to Read Music

Howard Shanet

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*The author actually taught thousands to read music IN FOUR HOURS of class work with this method and these exercises*



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**Howard Shanet : Learn to Read Music** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Learn to Read Music:

7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. Wow!! This explains it all so clearly!By InglesWow! This guy explains everything so clearly that you may not need a teacher. I learned more reading this book - and understood it - than in many hours in music class at school. One of those perfect books - like The Elements of Style - short, sweet, crystal clear explanations, and engaging. This is a keeper.4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. This book

is easy to read and comprehend and if you follow the ...By Ct. YankeeThis book is easy to read and comprehend and if you follow the hints and directions given to you, your understanding of music increases steadily. I'm glad I spotted this book on . I couldn't find it anywhere else and that includes certain bookstores which will remain nameless.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Perfect book for anyone who wants to easily learn to read music or wants a refresherBy JJThis book was given as a gift to a very musically talented person who had never had the opportunity to learn to read music. Before giving the gift, I perused the contents and was so impressed with the layout and easy instruction. The recipient was grateful that someone actually wrote a book that addressed her desire to learn. After completing the book, she plans to join a community choir that requires music reading skills, something she thought she'd never be able to do.

This book Will -teach the notation of music to those who have never known it before -serve as a systematic reminder for those who once knew how to read music but have forgotten most of it -serve as a practical classroom text book in the rudiments of music -serve as a helpful reference book for the student in music appreciation and related courses This book Will Not -teach you to sing like Tebaldi -make you a wizard at the piano or any other instrument -turn you into an Irving Berlin or a Beethoven But it will teach Anyoneeven the tone-deafto read melodies and pick them out on the piano.

About the AuthorHoward Shanet is Associate Professor of Music at Columbia University and Conductor of the University Orchestra, which, under his guidance, has gained a reputation for the daring and unconventional programs it offers the public. He has been guest conductor of the New York Philharmonic in its Young People's series, the Boston Symphony Orchestra at Tanglewood, the CBS Symphony, and orchestras in Holland, Israel and elsewhere. Before that, he was assistant conductor to Leonard Bernstein and to the late Serge Koussevitzky. As a writer on musical subjects, he has been Program Annotator for the New York Philharmonic and the New York City Symphony. Subscribers to Music-Appreciation Records are familiar with the long series of recorded lectures and printed essays he prepared for that organization. He is also the author of a history of the New York Philharmonic. Mr. Shanet received his training in conducting from such masters as Serge Koussevitzky, Fritz Stiedry and Rudolph Thomas; in composition from Arthur Honegger, Bohuslav Martinu and Nikolai Lopatnikoff; in musicology from Paul Henry Lang. He holds two degrees from Columbia University. As Mr. Shanet explains in his Introduction, he taught the contents of this book to more than a thousand students when he was conductor of the symphony orchestra at Huntington, West Virginia. Since then, tens of thousands of others have taught themselves from this book, and untold numbers have learned from Mr. Shanet's television series, also called Learn to Read Music.Excerpt. Reprinted by permission. All rights reserved.PREFACEMany people who love music and have a wide hearing acquaintance with it suffer from a feeling of inferiority because they cannot read music and are timid about asserting their opinions in the company of musicians. They may have excellent taste and judgment concerning what they hear, but they wilt before the professional because of his technical knowledge. The layman in literature and art will stand up for his ideas, but the poor music lover is apt to back down and feel that somehow he has got beyond his depth. So music becomes something mysterious to him and the musician a strange fellow who lives in a world different from his.Obviously, musicians are the best judges of music, but non-professional opinion should not be brushed aside. The layman is the consumer and patron and what he thinks is important. He will find that with technical knowledge music loses none of its magic, but he will be able to see through some of the hocus-pocus now. The ability to read music is the first step and can make him feel that what he has to say about programs and performances is entitled to the professional's respect.Educators think wistfully that some day notation may be taught in the elementary schools along with the alphabet. Children could master it easily, and many of them would have a lifetime of pleasure from the skill. But it is not being done, and the concert halls are filled with eager people who have found out too late that they are missing something important.To these frustrated individuals, Howard Shanet's Learn to Read Music will come as a happy surprise. Not only because of its clarity and competence but also because of the author's infectious spirit of optimism, the reader will arrive at confidence and hope.Douglas Moore,MacDowell Professor of MusicColumbia UniversityCopyright 1956 by Howard Shanet