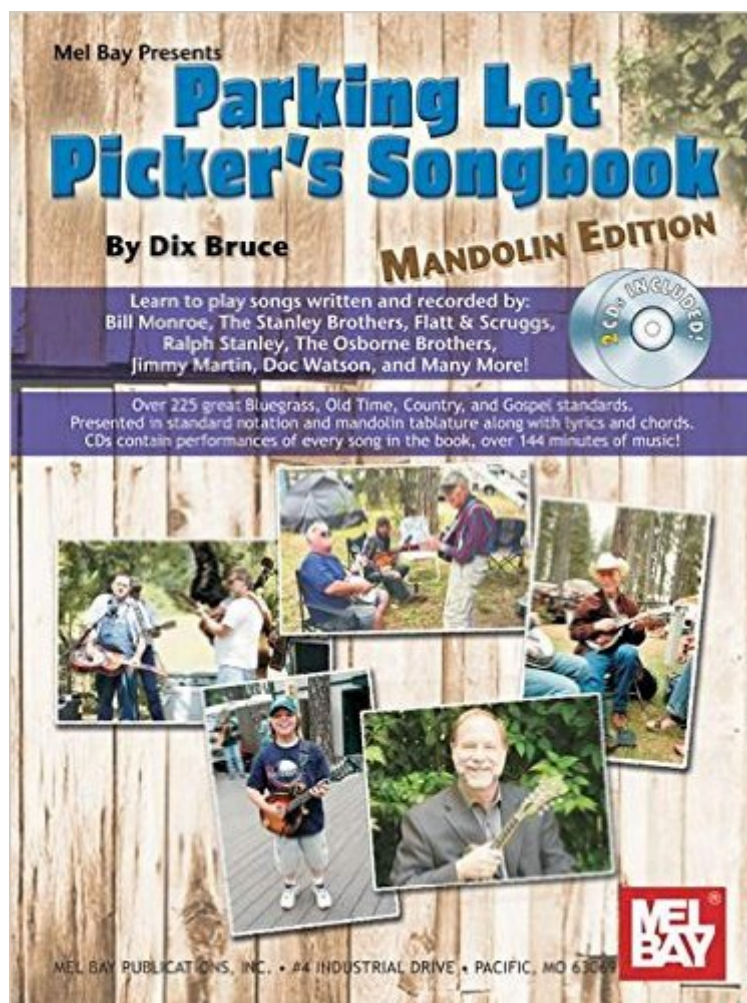


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Parking Lot Picker's Songbook: Mandolin



Synopsis

A collection of over 225 great Bluegrass, Old Time, Country and Gospel standards; Melodies are presented with standard notation and tablature along with lyrics and chords. Learn to play songs written and recorded by the giants of traditional American music: Bill Monroe, The Stanley Brothers, Flatt & Scruggs, Ralph Stanley, The Osborne Brothers, Jimmy Martin, Doc Watson and many more. Also included: Step-by-Step instruction on how to transpose and song to any key! The two CDs include recordings of EVERY song in the book.

Book Information

Spiral-bound: 304 pages

Publisher: Mel Bay Publications, Inc.; 16713th edition (August 21, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 078667492X

ISBN-13: 978-0786674923

Product Dimensions: 8.6 x 11.7 x 0.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (70 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

This is one of the best mandolin music books in existence with a wonderful selection of songs with music, chords, and tablature. It is arranged so that you can avoid the problem of turning pages, and the format easily stays open on a music stand. The CD only goes through a single verse of everything so it is not a play along, but it helps you know how things sound. There's also valuable information for transposing songs. This has become indispensable for me and my husband too, as he has a tenor guitar tuned like a mandolin. I play the mandolin. Of all my mandolin books, this is the very best value for the money. I highly recommend this as a must-have book for a mandolin library. Interestingly, I have not seen it in any stores around here and had to order it online.

Dix Bruce collects roughly 200 songs, most complete with lyrics (up to 9 verses, some of them), garnished with photos. The book includes short, but fantastic, recordings (entertaining even). Each

of the songs can be approached by a beginner, and the recordings give some idea of how to improve. The book suggests keys for male and female voices, and includes instruction for how to change key to accommodate vocalists. The only fault I find with The Parking Lot Picker's Songbook is that it is not mandolin specific, aside from tablature. None of the songs include any hint of double stops. Few of the songs use more than four chords, and there are no hints for how to embellish the simple chord progressions with alternate voicings (3-string chords) or transitions. The notation and tablature, like other fake books, is really for the singer, so it would be nice to have some suggestion for how to differentiate the mandolin parts from the vocal melody. The book is probably worth the price solely for the recordings and it's a good resource for bluegrass song lyrics. I would award a fifth star if it were really a mandolin book, rather than a fake book for mandolin players who want tablature.

This is a beautiful book. Very well done. It is very easy to play out of this book, as the notes and tabulature are very clear, and large enough to easily read. There is a great variety of songs, from bluegrass, to gospel. I especially like the spiral binding, to make it easier to turn the pages, and to lay flat on the music stand. My only wish is that the songs would be played through a couple of times. The CD's are of excellent quality. A great value for the price.

There are tons of songs in the book but it is very close to a fakebook. It nails the melody lines on the songs that I tried but you have to add the extra notes/tab to make solid mandolin solos. If you're a beginner or beginner/intermediate it's great. Anything above that and it falls short. It also has most of the songs in G and C. When I was in bluegrass we sang in A, Bb, and B about 80% of the time and G and C about 20% of the time. If you're looking for songs in the bluegrass keys of B and Bb, they are not in there.

I am new to the mandolin and bluegrass as a genre of music and this book has been a great fun book to learn from. It has loads of songs that even if you are new to bluegrass, you are sure to recognize a handful of the songs in the book anyway. The CD helps by giving a short blip of what each song sounds like though I wasn't super impressed with how the CD sounded in general. We use the book here in Reno for monthly jams and they make a version for guitar and banjo and fiddle I think. So you and a friend who plays the guitar can learn the same version of the same song and then play together. And with so many songs to choose from, you could never be bored. This book will keep you going for a long time. It also has tabbed out breaks in each song so you can get in a

little solo practice! Great fun. I would highly recommend this book to a new or intermediate player.

I have no musical background and bought a mandolin in a whim. This book is PERFECT for me. I have taught myself the songs using the tabs and can't stop playing! I have yet to listen to the CD, so I cannot vouch for that. I could not be more happy with this book. The songs are popular and well known, the music and lyrics are clear and easy to read. The tabs are, of course, my saving grace. Wonderful, wonderful book!!

This is a great selection of tunes, complete with chords and lyrics, wonderful for many different musical occasions. And Mel Bay publishes this with the kind of binding that lies flat on a music stand or leaning up against an instrument case. It's too bad they don't publish all their music books this way (see my review of Mel Bay Presents - Ryan's Mammoth Collection). This book is an excellent addition to the library of anybody who is just getting into bluegrass music as well as veterans who are looking for new tunes to add to their repertoire.

Very simple melody arrangements for common folk and old time tunes. Lots of religious/gospel tunes for the 'Sunday' musician. The included CDs are invaluable for some of the less well-known pieces, and are usually less than a minute long. Great for a student beginner to intermediate player, but not very challenging for an advanced player.

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