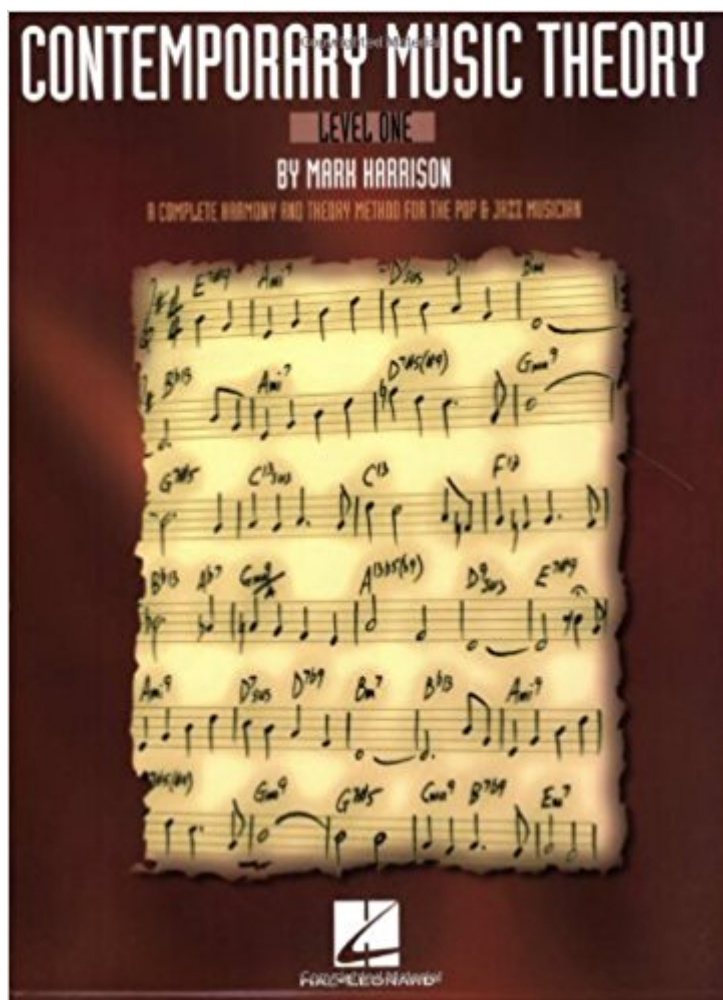


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# Contemporary Music Theory - Level One: A Complete Harmony And Theory Method For The Pop And Jazz Musician



## Synopsis

(Piano). The Music Theory series is designed from the ground-up to explain the terminology and musical structures needed for modern applications. Level One is an introductory course which covers music notation, key signatures, basic scales, intervals, modes, diatonic relationships and 3-and 4-part chords. Level Two is an intermediate-level course covering larger chord forms, "definitive" chords in major and minor keys, substitutions, analysis of key centers in tunes, "upper structure" chords, voiceleading, and pentatonic and blues scale applications. Both levels include reference appendices, a complete glossary of terms, and hundreds of written theory exercises with answers.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 25 customer reviews

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Genres > Jazz

## Customer Reviews

I'm self learning music theory to better understand what I'm playing on the piano. It seems like this book is written for a 1 quarter long music theory class. The way I've been using it is: \* i read through the new chapter over the weekend\* I drill the new chapter ideas with Music Theory Pro on my iPad; this is a great tool. It lets one select the specific areas to drill on and asks a number of random questions. Once I'm getting 100% on these in a fairly quick time, I use the questions at the end of the chapter as a "test" (I usually take this on the following Saturday.) I had previously taken a 1st quarter music theory class at a local community college, but did not learn nearly as much as I did with this book. I'm currently working through book 2 in the series.

This book has a lot of terminology and is full of music theory background. My purpose in buying the book was to become better at improving and to understand the theory behind the music. This book did not help much with actually improvising but book 2 did and I'm sure this background material was necessary. I really did like the exercises with answers at the end of each chapter.

I believe after ALL these years I am finally going to learn and understand music. Mark Harrison makes you do the work in such a way you have no choice but to learn. I have only completed a few chapters but am very excited to complete all three levels in his series. I really believe I'll be able to "play" and not just memorize a song.

"CMT - Level 1" serves it's purpose wonderfully. It taught me many things clearly where other books failed (such as intervals, and the Circle of Fifths/Fourths). Mr. Harrison is a good teacher, and I would recommend this book to my friends. But I will keep the praises brief seeing as there are many reviews here that do just that for me. The reason I give this book four stars rather than five is because of the typesetting used. The text is very large, and there is a \*lot\* of wasted real-estate on each page. If the typesetting had been improved, this book could have been truncated by at least 100 pages, allowing for cheaper production, and finally, a less expensive book for the public. If it's any revelation, I was able to complete this book in only four days, with two-three hours each day (this includes doing half of the exercises). Also, there is one more complaint. Mr. Harrison is a great teacher, but is not as fortunate in his writing skills. Although this does not take away from the things learned, it is a bit annoying at times. For instance, about every other sentence is terminated with an exclamation mark. There were times I felt like I was reading a chat log from an AOL channel. Also, there are numerous places where paragraphs (and sometimes several pages) were copied and pasted into another area of the book, with a few [music] notes changed here and there. About one-third of the book is a result of copy and pastes from the other two-thirds. All of that aside, it did exactly what it was meant to do: give me a clear introduction to music theory.

I borrowed this book from our local library for two months straight, and finally decided to just find a copy to buy. I really like the structure of these books. I was an instrumental musician for over 10 years, and have been working on vocal technique for almost two years, but there is still so much theory to learn, and this series of books teaches it very well.

I didn't know there was music theory before picking up this book. Coming from that starting point I

feel I've learned some basic concepts and am looking forward to learning how to put them into practice.

great resource material...a little complicated, tho. Going to take lots of time of study

Very prompt delivery. Reasonably priced. I have to say, I'm rather particular with books with dog ears or accidentally folded even though it's new. However, my order reached me in perfect condition! Very pleased with my purchase!

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