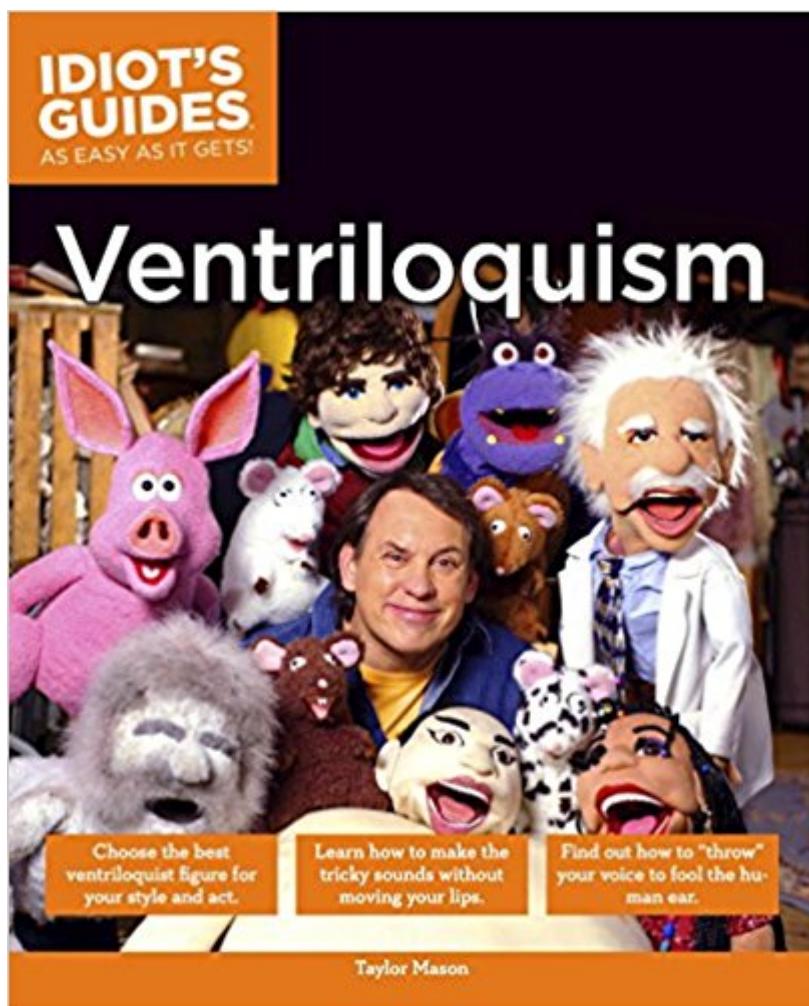


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# The Complete Idiot's Guide To Ventriloquism (Idiot's Guides)



## Synopsis

The art of "bellyspeaking" isn't for dummies. The Complete Idiot's Guide(r) to Ventriloquism teaches everyone to speak from their bellies, create and substitute sounds, use all the registers of their voice, and create diversions to attract the listener's ear-whether they invest in a fancy puppet or create their own figure out of a sweat sock. Includes tips for making, manipulating, and talking with their dummy and for it-both at the same time Advice for getting an act together and taking it on the road-getting gigs, getting paid, and how to improve performances How to write dialogue and jokes and rehearsal techniques

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Taylor Mason is a world-class ventriloquist, a prolific writer, a talented musician, and a successful comedian. He has written for The Second City Theater in Chicago, the Emmy- winning comedy series Bananas-TV, and his children's television program, Taylor's Attic. He also wrote a six-week course through the extension program of Columbia College where he taught ventriloquism to students in the Chicago suburbs.

This is a solid, across-the-board book on every aspect of the art of Ventriloquism. Despite what a few Reviewers say, the lesson on how we breathe is vitally important. Until you can breathe using your diaphragm, your ventriloquial voice will be thin, and you will easily feel out of breath. As a practicing Vent for over 50 years, I greatly and confidently recommend this book.

While I am a practicing ventriloquist, I am always looking for ways to improve my craft. I have read many books and watched, "How To", Videos over the years and I have to say, this book has loads of information in it and I did pick up some good pointers to add in my own pursuit of excellence. This Book is all inclusive and I believe a must for any aspiring or even for the accomplished ventriloquist! I would recommend this book, especially to beginner Vents, as it covers not only the craft but how to get the all important, "Stage Time" and how to sell yourself, once you have attained the degree of proficiency you will need to actually begin to perform for people. I could not put the book down until I completed it and I expect I will use it as a reference for many years to come. It is that chocked full of excellent information. Good luck to all who read it and take up Ventriloquism! Joe Radle

I am in the process of re-learning ventriloquism. I bought two resources. One was the classic training program for ventriloquists, The Maher Home Course of Ventriloquism, and the other was The Complete Idiot's Guide to Ventriloquism. The Maher Course has always been the standard by which all other ventriloquism training has been judged. Most of the pros learned with this course. Then, along came The Complete Idiot's guide! I initially bought the Kindle version, because I travel a great deal. I Liked it so much that I also bought the print version! The instructions are very clear, and the author also helps you to develop ways to actually say "the impossible sounds", rather than just using substitute sounds. As I understand it, The Maher Course will soon be unavaialable. I think The Complete Idiot's Guide To Ventriloquism will fill that gap nicely. In fact, I think it raises the bar even further. Congratulations to the author for producing such a high quality product that will help ventriloquists entertain audiences for a long time to come!

I bought this for my 2 sons who have developed an interest in ventriloquism. This book was suggested by a ventriloquist from our church. They are working together to not only work up skits, but also to make their own puppets.

I knew I wanted to learn ventriloquism, but I didn't know where to start. So I purchased a few books and was left clueless about many aspects of the trade. Then suggested this book by Taylor Mason. I saw him perform live a few years ago with Bill Gather and he was fantastic. Then I saw him on TV a few times so I decided to get the book. You can tell in the introduction that Mason is a highly educated man. The book #1 is well written. Some of the other books I got on the subject are written by Ventriloquists attempting to be authors, Taylor Mason is a Ventriloquist who is also an author. #2

Everything else about the book is amazingly informative. I could go in more detail but really why bother. If you want to learn Ventriloquism then you MUST buy this book. I've read others, looked online, bought the videos but nothing compares. When I practice I can easily find information if I need to review! And he gives advice for writing scripts and actually getting into the business.

Good book.

Covers all aspects of Ventriloquism including how to advertise, develop acts and possibly go professional.

If you want to learn ventriloquism, this is a very good starting point. You get all the information and know-how from a professional ventriloquist. The only thing missing is a video link to see and hear the actual examples given in the book.

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