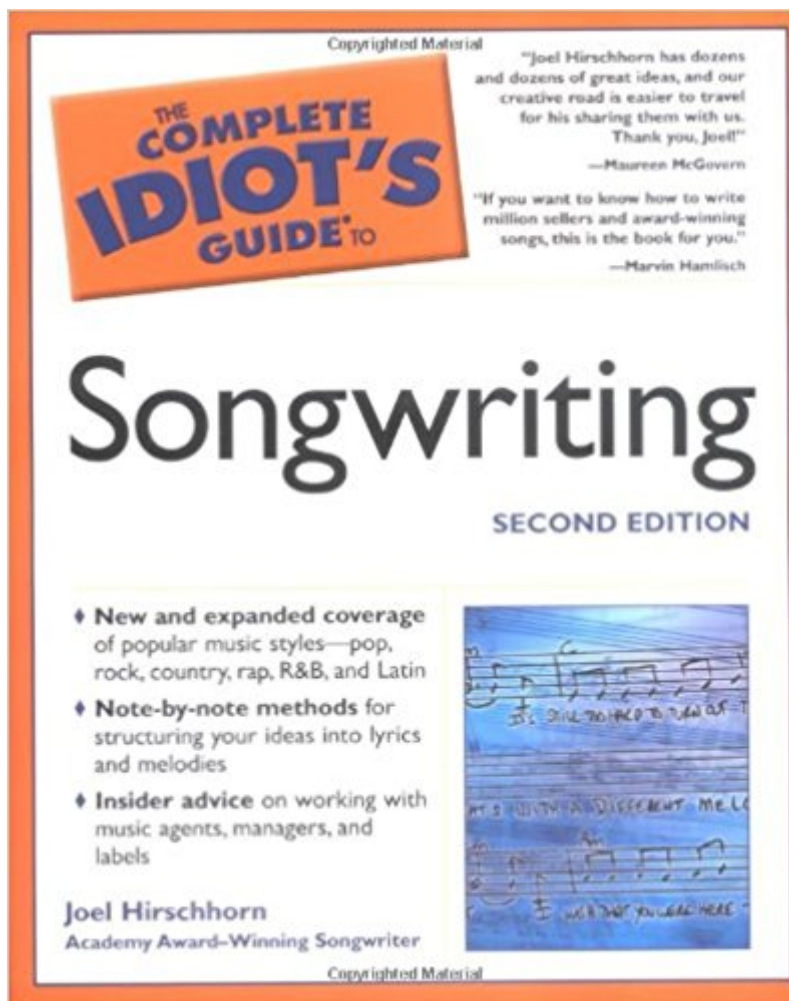




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# The Complete Idiot's Guide To Songwriting, 2nd Edition



## Synopsis

The most thorough guide to songwriting for the amateur musician. Written by an Oscar-winning and Grammy and Tony award nominated author, this is the most comprehensive book for today's amateur musician who is interested in creating and writing his or her own songs. It reveals everything the reader needs to know, including coming up with ideas, rhyming schemes, hooks, melodies, and lyrics; selling songs; working in the industry; and even coming up with titles.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Song has been a part of people's culture since the beginning. From classical and rock and roll to country and jazz-- there are hundreds of thousands of budding and established songwriters burning to write the next great hit. The Complete Idiot's Guide to Songwriting is the one-stop resource for all inspiring songwriters to learn how much musical training is needed, how to put together the basics of a song for various popular genres, how to tailor songs to different industries (TV and film), how to get great ideas, where to find collaborators, publishers and agents and how the Internet is impacting the world of songwriting. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Joel Hirschhorn is the winner of two Academy Awards for best song. His songs have sold more than 93 million records and have been recorded by such artists as Elvis Presley, Aretha Franklin, Roy Orbison, Frank Sinatra, and Julian Lennon. He has scored numerous movies, has garnered several

additional Oscar nominations for best song, and has been nominated for two Tony Awards for his musical scores. He does regular scores for the television shows JAG, SouthPark, and The Simpsons.

a lot of good basic information. thought the book would have been a little bit more in depth. good buy for the price.

Joel Hirschhorn has really given us a true masterpiece. This book makes the difficult task of songwriting so much easier thanks to his unselfish willingness to share the knowledge he has gained over the years. And with 2 Oscars, 4 BMI Awards, and more than 93 million records sold it hard to argue with his success and expertise.

lot's of good information

don't even waste your money. it just sucks.

Love this book.

I've been reading and studying a number of different books on songwriting. I got ideas from reading this book, but there isn't enough "meat" to get me real excited. It doesn't take long to read it. If you really want to learn the art and craft of writing music or lyrics, this is a poor book.

Although I always had a desire to write music, and have hummed a few melodies I thought worthy of more than just my own private enjoyment, I never gave much thought to writing a song, or much less of writing the lyrics to a song -- that is, until I picked up this book in Barnes and Noble the other day?With it, I now know how to go about writing a poem/song to my wife for Valentine's day. It is a simple process: Study people, and read everything you can to get ideas, especially the poets. Come up with exciting characters, use exciting, emotional and colorful words. Then think in terms of telling a good story that comes from your own heart. You breath life into this creation by using imagery and the rhythm of rhymes and the cadence of poetry.Thats it. You have just reviewed an iron-clad Idiot's way of producing a poem/song.But if you really want more; to go further and put that creation to music, then you must learn a bit more about rhyming structures and cadences, find a melody and "hooks" for a "beat." Now you also need to think about an audience and the mood you wish to set. It

helps to either know or be able to survey a catalogue of popular song classics. After which, you want to be able to "lay down" a set of simple chords that correspond to the mood of your words; perhaps even add a simple bass line in the background. Then you will want to add a beat, the rhythm, plus passion and viola, you've got music! Your own creation. The Complete Idiot's Guide, does it again. Another five star effort.

Some people wanted a "how to write a song, step by step" type of book. But honestly... that's not what I wanted. I'm trying to make pop hits and this is EXACTLY THAT. If you want to learn how to write songs around a campfire I suggest you get a music theory book, a book on guitar tabs/piano beginner lessons or whatever instrument you play to write your songs and just listen to music that you like and try to mimic it and put your twist on it. This book is very commercial and straight forward and pop, so if that is what you want to do, it's great! If not, stay away.

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