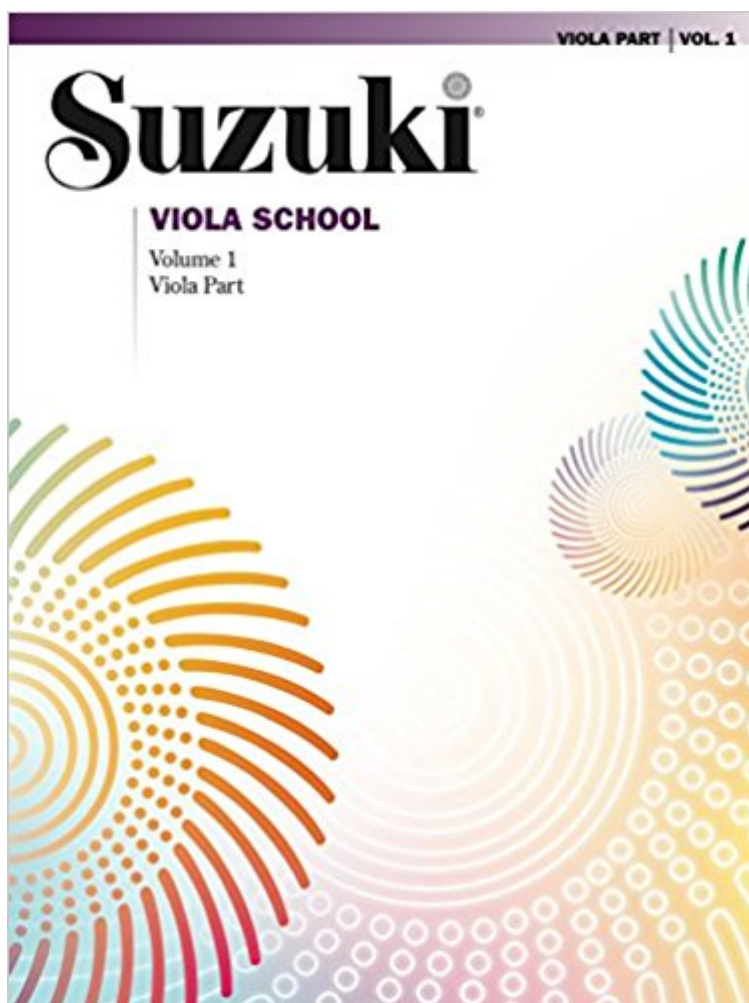


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Suzuki Viola School - Volume 1: Viola Part



Synopsis

Titles:* Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star Variations (Shinichi Suzuki)* French Folk Song (Folk Song)* Lightly Row (Folk Song)* Song of the Wind (Folk Song)* Go Tell Aunt Rhody (Folk Song)* O Come, Little Children (Folk Song)* May Song (Folk Song)* Long, Long Ago (T.H. Bayly)* Allegro (Shinichi Suzuki)* Perpetual Motion (Shinichi Suzuki)* Allegretto (Shinichi Suzuki)* Andantino (Shinichi Suzuki)* Bohemian Folk Song (Folk Song)* Etude (Shinichi Suzuki)* Minuet No. 1, Minuet III from Suite in G Minor for Klavier, BWV 822 (J.S. Bach)* Minuet No. 2, BWV Anh. 116 (J.S. Bach)* Minuet No. 3, Anh. II 114/Anh. II 183 (J.S. Bach)* The Happy Farmer from Album for the Young, Op. 68, No. 10 (R. Schumann)* Gavotte (F.J. Gossec)* Practice Suggestions (Doris Preucil)

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Customer Reviews

This past school year was my son's first year in middle school orchestra. He selected the viola, and borrowed an instrument from the school. In order to continue to borrow the instrument over the summer, we needed to enroll my son in lessons this summer. My son is actually the one who asked to take lessons this summer; we were happy he was the one who asked to take lessons. Our son's orchestra teacher does a great job. I had no idea that a bunch of beginners would sound as good as

they did by the end of the school year. However, the orchestra teacher cannot possibly walk around to each individual student to correct posture or the way they're holding the instrument, or even where their fingers are. The orchestra teacher directed us to a solid tutor for the summer, and he suggested that we get this book. We got it, and my son was immediately able to play several of the songs. The songs at the end of the book? Well, we did not get to those over the summer. What we did get from the private lessons was a better idea on how to improve posture, how to hold the instrument, how to angle the bow. . . all of the things that helped. BIGGEST TIP I CAN OFFER: If you are ordering this for someone who is just beginning, or who knows how to read music, ask that person to try to hum/sing what each song would sound like by reading the music. I did that with my son. It's been years since I laid my fingers on a piano, and unfortunately, I have forgotten how to read music. However, we discovered that it was a TREMENDOUS help to ask him to hum/sing (la la la) the songs before playing them. My son was 11/turned 12 while using this book, so please keep in mind that this input is from the standpoint of a parent trying to assist a middle schooler who has shown an interest in the viola. Our private music instructor happens to have a PhD in composition (!) and plays with the philharmonic here, in addition to teaching at a private school. This is the series he uses for his students, and it's what he recommends to everyone who comes to him for private lessons. My son said that he liked some of the tips in this book; it has information that he hasn't learned in orchestra at school. I would recommend this for beginners.

I gave this book 5 stars. Easy to follow and good music written clearly. The entire (CDs, music, instruction, etc.) Suzuki program I would rate 4 stars because of the minuses below. Read below for my opinion on the Suzuki program. I with my children have been involved with Suzuki violin (6 1/2 years), cello (5 1/2 years) and now viola (beginning). This is a great program when used in a private teaching situation and with sheet music. Suzuki includes quality music for your student to learn. The CD has a professional musician playing through each song and will help the student understand what beautiful tone should sound like on the string instrument. The pluses to this program: +Teaches classical music from the great composers of the past. +Teaches skills and techniques that all string instrument students need to know. +Advances the student through needed skills by song (skills/techniques increase in difficulty with each song learned) +Student advances quickly to quality music and builds confidence in their skills and development on the instrument +Ear training is very important when learning a string instrument and this will help establish good tone if listened to frequently, coupled with practice and good instruction + encourages lots of repetition and memorization which is great exercise for the brain + Dr. Suzuki believes that any child can learn to

play with correct instruction and repetition. He also wanted a to create a music program that produced good people/citizens not just great and important musicians. The minuses of this program:-Doesn't include theory or note reading training. Must supplement with other material.-CD music is played up to speed so student can't really use the piano accompaniment at the end until they have advanced much further then when song was learned.- Must purchase both the books and CDs, plus any supplemental material and have private instruction which adds up \$\$\$\$ This is probably the reality of any music book or private program offered. I feel the pluses outweigh the minuses. It is so good to help students achieve success on a musical instrument. However if you just listen to the CD it will help but will not substitute for the work of practicing, having a competent teacher, and support at home. Best of all it is really beautiful and up lifting music to listen to.

It was a quality book, but it does not show you the fundamentals. The songs are too long for a beginner. I am not a Suzuki fan. I would recommend Applebaum instead.

As you'd expect....

Tried and True

Perfect book for beginner students learning how to play a string instrument. This program helps students advance at a rapid pace. I highly recommend this item.

Re: Viola Books 1 + 2: I like the summary of practice suggestions for each piece at the back of the books - this layout is much, much easier to use as compared to the violin books which try to pack way too much information (including multiple language translations) on each tune page.

Happy

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