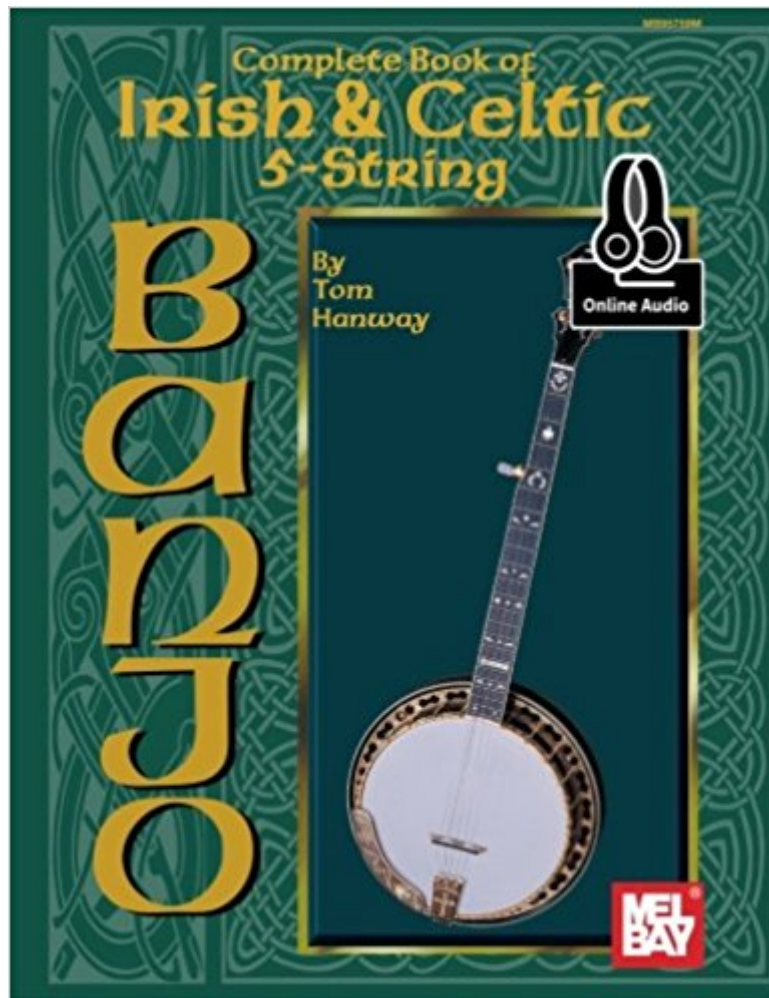




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Complete Book Of Irish & Celtic 5-String Banjo



Synopsis

An important anthology of Irish and Celtic solos for the 5-string banjo featuring a comprehensive, scholarly treatise on the history, techniques, and etiquette of playing the banjo in the Celtic tradition. Includes segments on tuning, pick preferences, and tablature reading followed by 101 jigs, slides, polkas, slip jigs, reels, hornpipes, strathspeys, OÃ¢â¬â¢ Carolan tunes, plus a special section of North American Celtic tunes. A generous collection of photos of Irish folk musicians, street scenes, and archaeological sites further enhances this fabulous book. All of the solos included here are written in 5-string banjo tablature only with a few tunes set in unusual banjo tunings. The appendices provide a sizable glossary and a wealth of information regarding soloists and groups playing Celtic music, Irish festivals, music publications, on-line computer resources, cultural organizations, and more. If you are serious about playing Celtic music on the 5-string banjo, or if you donÃ¢â¬â¢t play the banjo but simply want to expand your knowledge of the Celtic music tradition - you owe yourself this book. The first-ever audio collection of Irish and Celtic music for 5-string banjo provides 68 lovely melodies and demonstrates revolutionary techniques for playing highly ornamented tunes and rolling back-up. Recorded in stereo with virtuosos Gabriel Donohue (steel- and nylon-string guitar and piano) and Robbie Walsh (bodhran- frame drum played with a stick), the five-string banjo is Ã¢â¬â¢out frontÃ¢â¬â¢ and plays through each melody in real-life tempo with authentic Celtic chordal and rhythmic backing. The recording features the music of all Six Celtic Nations and includes jigs, reels, hornpipes, slides, polkas, marches, country dances, larides, andros, slipjigs, strathspeys, airs and OÃ¢â¬â¢ Carolan tunes. 35 songs in the book are not recorded. Audio download available online.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a book for a more advanced intermediate player but there are a few things missing for such a player. I like the selection of songs, some mainstream and some less widely known. I think the author missed the boat by not including chords with the tunes; or including music notation in place of the chords to aid the customer in writing them in. This is probably my biggest problem with the book and why I did not give it 4 or 5 stars. I don't mind the additional information on the descriptions of the various types and structure of songs in the book. The musical notation and/chords would help an intermediate player in playing backup. An intermediate to advanced player would not need the right hand rolls and fingers used laid out for him/her. I have found other ways of playing the same notes that are easier for me and if the fingering was omitted then the chords or notation could be put in instead (if cost effectiveness is the issue for leaving them out). Despite these observations, I am glad I have source of these Celtic tunes for a five string banjo, playing bluegrass style. There is a lot out there for Clawhammer style and it's nice not to have to always play standard Bluegrass songs or mainstream fiddle tunes.

Hanway's insight has led the 5 string banjo into Irish/Celtic music & enhanced the way I play the 5 string banjo. I'm a bluegrass player from the '70s; this reference has impacted my technique as much as Earl's did with his book from the '60's. This is the Bible of Celtic 5 string banjo as his scholarly narrative adds much to the volume & understanding of the genre. The tab layout is outstanding as the font is a pleasure to read. The accompanying CD priceless. Outstanding value. Thanks Tom.

I worked through about 10 of the songs so far and listened to the entire CD. I would agree with other posted reviews. The tunes are fun to work though and playing along with the CD works well. Players that are strictly bluegrass will have a little trouble at first. It would have been a 5/5 if the chords were printed, spiral bound so the book would lay flat, and some of the provided fingerings were a little clunky.

Do you want the quick version of this review? If you want to expand your banjo technique and repertoire into the pan-Celtic realm, BUY THIS BOOK. Fin. Alright, a slightly longer review... Tom

Hanway has put together a fantastic "middle point" to learning how to integrate your 5-string banjo playing into that large, mashed realm of "celtic" music. You get tunes of Irish, Scottish, British, Canadian, and American origin all played with an ear towards the Celtic tradition. It's a "middle point" because the book is NOT for beginners. The book assumes that you have facility with playing melodic (and some single string) style on the 5-string, and it takes you from there. You learn techniques that many Scruggs style players will consider advanced. Lots of inside rolls - often on the same string or combining two strings for a run of several notes and multiple hammer-ons and pull-offs are used. There is light at the end of the tunnel, though. These techniques will make you a better banjo player. There are a _ton_ of tunes in this book so you can get a flavor of the various sub-styles to determine where your interests lie. It also comes with a CD where the author plays through about two thirds of the tunes in the book as well as playing through the exercises to learn the techniques. The banjo in these recordings is VERY prominent with just a hint of guitar and bodhran percussion in the back. Finally, the book is packed with the history of the music as well as tips on jamming, playing etiquette, and how to approach playing backup (probably the most important thing in a jam). Oh, and the author is a great guy who will answer your e-mail with any questions that you might have. Given the general dearth of material in this area and the fact that this is a fantastic resource for playing the 5-string in this style, making the decision to buy shouldn't be too difficult.

It's just a book with minimal melody line. Nothing that helps you play the tunes on a banjo. Very disappointing, especially for the money. Don't bother.

I'm a beginner and will have to work into much of this but the CD will help a lot. Lots to work with.

I've just started into the book. Having the CD to listen to is very handy. I've played guitar and mandolin for years but this is the first time I've picked up a banjo. This book looks like it will take me through the early stages and hopefully up to "competent". Enjoying it so far!

Gives a solid grounding in Irish and Celtic music in regards to the five string banjo. Tom Hanway does a brilliant job of taking you through his experiences in learning to play the traditional type of music.

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Pete Seeger Banjo Pack: Includes How to Play the 5-String Banjo book and How to Play the

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