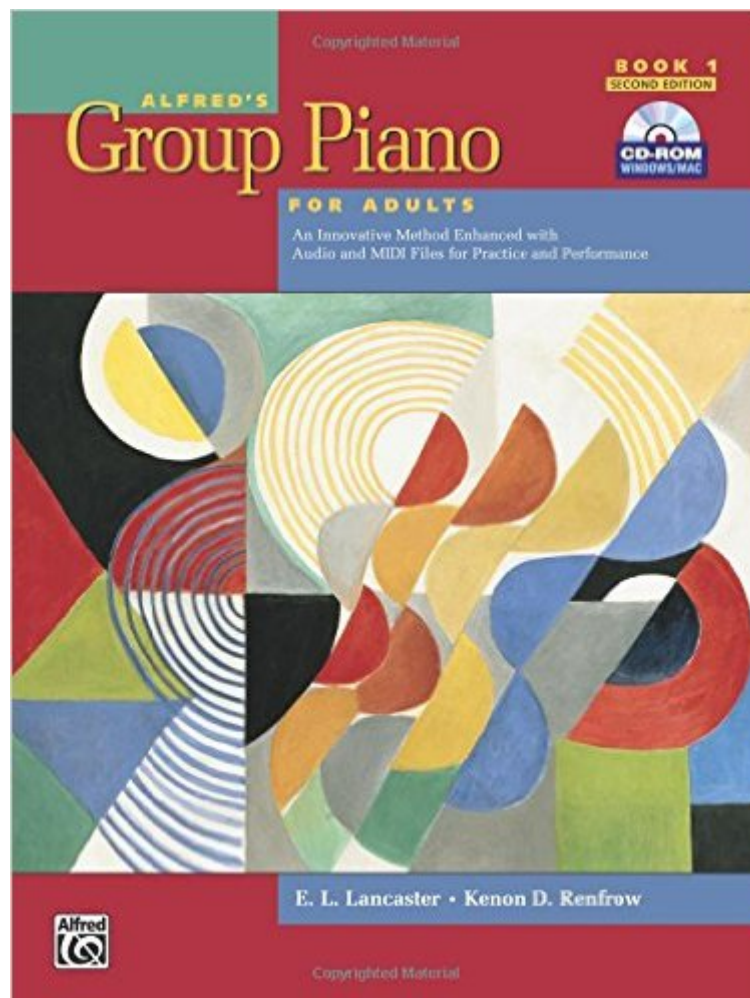


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# Alfred's Group Piano For Adults Student Book 1 (Second Edition): An Innovative Method Enhanced With Audio And Midi Files For Practice And Performance (Alfred's Group Piano For Adults)





## Synopsis

The Second Edition of Alfred's Group Piano for Adults Book 1, includes updates inspired by numerous recommendations from group piano teachers and students. This book includes a CD-ROM containing both Audio and General MIDI Files of the 500+ accompaniments included in the text, each with an interesting and engaging arrangement coupled with the piano part. Designed for collegiate non-keyboard music majors with little or no keyboard experience, the easy-to-use text contains 26 units, each intended to be covered in one week, thus fulfilling two semesters or three quarters of study. Theory, technique, sight-reading, repertoire, harmonization, improvisation, and ensemble activities are taught thoroughly and consistently throughout the text. The comb binding creates a lay-flat book that is perfect for study and performance. Book 1 is 360 pages. Selected sight-reading examples from this book are available in the Piano Maestro app that's downloadable at Piano Maestro. Learn more about JoyTunes, the maker of Piano Maestro at JoyTunes.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I have taught from this book this year and also used the first edition for several years. This is a good book with lots to recommend it to the teacher and student. The multiple-key approach dovetails very well with college theory courses. The instruction in lead sheet and figured bass harmonization is also excellent. Solo repertoire pieces have been thoughtfully integrated and offer the teacher and student plenty of choices. The only drawback I have found, from a teacher's perspective, is that the presentation of scales is, in my view, unsound. Stressing two octave scales and arpeggios at this

level is much too advanced. It would be better to spread the presentation of scales out more (one per week after they are first introduced) and require only one octave. Of course, a good teacher can adapt the scale presentation, but with so many other excellent features, I think that the authors could easily address this (maybe in the next edition). Also, since this is used as a college text, it is preferable to teach natural and melodic minor scales and fingerings too. But other than this slight quibble, I highly recommend this great book, which is useful for the entire first year of piano study.

Although this book is designed as a semester (college level) course for a group, I use it as a supplement to my regular lesson book. The exercises are very short and give me a good sense of accomplishment at being able to play them straight through with little practice. However, I wouldn't classify this as just a beginner's book. It may start out easy, but it progresses very rapidly. It helped me a lot with my timing and gave me lots of practice with difficult key signatures. Almost all of the exercises offer opportunities for transposing and improvising. I found this very helpful in understanding and reinforcing music theory. Some of the exercises are designed for groups (like the forty-finger exercise), but I either skip over them or play each part separately. There are also quite a few duets that I can play with my teacher. The CD is a great bonus! I was able to download the files to my computer and burn all 14 audio CDs!! I definitely recommend this book to any beginner or early intermediate student.

This is a very well arranged instructional book on piano. When I took my first year Classical Piano class with Maestro Ping-Cheng Wang, it was just our group, the pianos and this book. I learned so much and with a practically dismal musical background. One of the authors of this book is a professor at the prestigious University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida. I was able to do assemblies, preludes and boogies and play *accelerando* and *staccato*. This book helped me with my music theory classes, as well. The large sized book allows you to make notes and record assignments. My advice is to practice, practice, and practice. Especially, practice your scales.

I bought this book for a college piano class that I'm taking, and although I've struggled through other books to learn the piano before, I actually liked this one! I really like how it integrates classical, jazz, and blues theory in from the beginning, to teach a comprehensive view of piano skills and thought.

Since it is a required text (in the college piano classes), and because of that way overpriced, I think at the very least publishers could have chosen a better quality covers - they are thin and perforated

edges(where rings are inserted) start ripping apart after a about a month of daily usage. I had to make my own covers from thick cardboard and glue original ones on top. As far as book content goes, I think it is pretty good - nicely layed out topics, beautiful pieces to play. The only flaw would be(as our teacher pointed out), that it doesn't include many pieces for the very beginning - she had to give her own handouts for those. CD could be better - you get idea for the notes played, but pieces are played very dry - no musicality at all. And with some other instruments in the background which are disturbing to hear the piano part.Update: I went to Kinkos and had custom covers made out of thick plastic sheets(they just had black color)- it cost just 10 dollars for two books - I should have had them made right away, this way real covers would have been nice and safe inside.

The book is great, but when I want to listen along with the CD to hear how the piano part should sound, you hear other instruments that are very distracting! You can't really hear the articulations of the piece. The other instruments played make the pieces sound very juvenile like children's music. This book is being used at a top music university. If you make another edition of this book, please consider creating a CD that only plays the piano part which I thought was the whole point of including the CD. Thank you for your consideration as I look forward to hearing the pieces played without the juvenile oompah, oompah accompaniment and expecting Barney to come into my living room at any moment!

Piano teacher requested this book for class and I learned a lot. After class was over I try to finish lessons we didn't cover. but you need a teacher to explain it!It is very difficult to understand when learning on your own, specially when you are a beginner.

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