

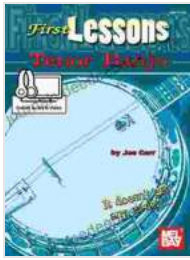
First Lessons Tenor Banjo: Jarvis Cocker's Guide to Playing the Tenor Banjo



The tenor banjo is a four-string banjo with a high-pitched sound. It is often used in Irish traditional music and American old-time music. Jarvis Cocker, the lead singer of the band Pulp, is a self-taught tenor banjo player. In this article, he shares his tips on how to play the tenor banjo, from choosing the right instrument to learning basic chords and strumming patterns.

Choosing the Right Tenor Banjo

The first step in learning how to play the tenor banjo is choosing the right instrument. There are many different types of tenor banjos available, so it is important to do your research before making a purchase. Here are a few things to keep in mind when choosing a tenor banjo:



First Lessons Tenor Banjo by Jarvis Cocker

★★★★☆ 4.2 out of 5

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- **Size:** Tenor banjos come in a variety of sizes, from 17 inches to 26 inches. The size of the banjo will affect the sound and playability of the instrument. Smaller banjos have a brighter sound and are easier to play, while larger banjos have a deeper sound and are more difficult to play.
- **Material:** Tenor banjos are made from a variety of materials, including wood, metal, and plastic. The material of the banjo will affect the sound and durability of the instrument. Wood banjos have a warm, mellow sound, while metal banjos have a brighter, more twangy sound. Plastic banjos are less expensive than wood or metal banjos, but they are not as durable.
- **Price:** Tenor banjos range in price from a few hundred dollars to several thousand dollars. The price of the banjo will depend on the size, material, and quality of the instrument.

Learning Basic Chords and Strumming Patterns

Once you have chosen a tenor banjo, you can start learning how to play. The first step is to learn basic chords. There are many different chords that

can be played on the tenor banjo, but the most common chords are the C, G, D, and Am chords. These chords can be used to play a variety of songs.

Once you have learned basic chords, you can start learning strumming patterns. Strumming patterns are used to create rhythm and movement in a song. There are many different strumming patterns that can be used on the tenor banjo, but the most common strumming patterns are the down-stroke, the up-stroke, and the alternating strum.

Playing Songs

Once you have learned basic chords and strumming patterns, you can start playing songs. There are many different songs that can be played on the tenor banjo, from traditional Irish tunes to modern pop songs. You can find sheet music for songs online or in books.

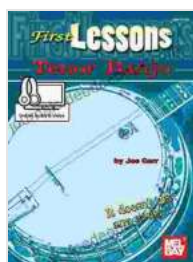
Playing the tenor banjo is a fun and rewarding experience. With a little practice, you can learn to play a variety of songs and enjoy the unique sound of this instrument.

Additional Tips

- **Be patient:** Learning how to play the tenor banjo takes time and practice. Don't get discouraged if you don't progress as quickly as you would like. Just keep practicing and you will eventually reach your goals.
- **Find a teacher:** If you are struggling to learn how to play the tenor banjo, consider finding a teacher. A teacher can help you learn the basics of the instrument and provide you with feedback on your progress.

- **Join a band:** One of the best ways to improve your tenor banjo playing is to join a band. Playing with other musicians will help you learn new songs and improve your timing and rhythm.

The tenor banjo is a versatile and rewarding instrument. With a little practice, you can learn to play a variety of songs and enjoy the unique sound of this instrument. So what are you waiting for? Pick up a tenor banjo today and start learning how to play!



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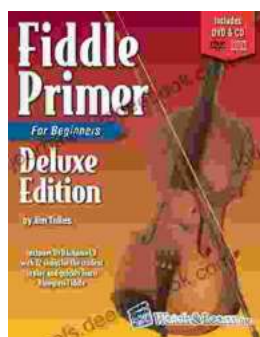
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