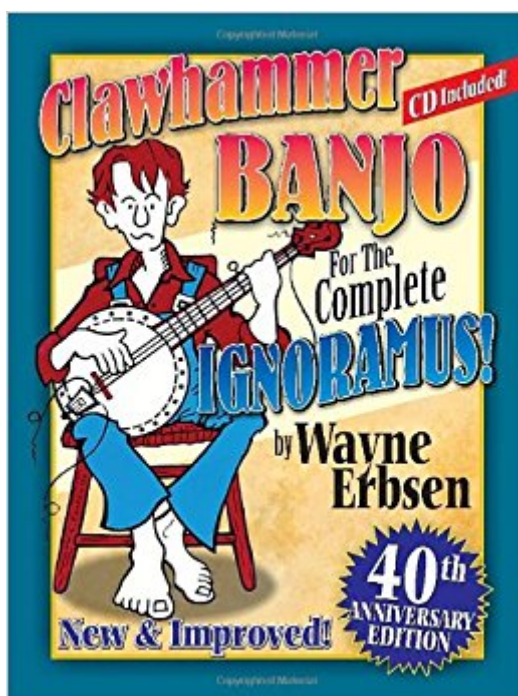




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# Clawhammer Banjo For The Complete Ignoramus 40th Anniversary Edition Book W/ CD



## Synopsis

Finally, clawhammer banjo instruction that is for 100% beginners! Originally written in 1973, this book has taught more people to play clawhammer banjo than any other book. This brand new 40th Anniversary Edition is newly updated and improved, complete with spiral binding. It contains the same friendly, clear and simple instruction as the original book, and it will teach you to play 31 old-time classics from the ground up. You will learn to play: Buffalo Gals, Cluck Old Hen, Cotton-Eyed Joe, Cripple Creek, The Cuckoo, Cumberland Mountain Deer Chase, Darlin' Cory, Down in the Willow Gardens, East Virginia, Groundhog, Handsome Molly, Little Birdie, Little Sadie, Lynchburg Town, Muley's Daughter, New River Train, Old Holly Hare, Old Blue, Old Joe Clark, Polly Put the Kettle On, Poor Wayfaring Stranger, Rain and Snow, Red Rocking Chair, Shady Grove, Shortening Bread, Sugar Hill, Swannanoa Tunnel, Sweet Sunny South, Wild Bill Jones.

## Book Information

Series: For the Complete Ignoramus!

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Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 9.2 x 12 inches

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Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars 80 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #86,975 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #4 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Instruments > Strings > Banjos #121 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Instruments > Guitar #359 in Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Performing Arts > Music

## Customer Reviews

"I'm a big fan of your 'Ignoramus' book. I love the sense of humor and the laid back approach." -- Richard Hefner, banjoist  
"The Ignoramus is as simple as they come." -- Pete Roehling, banjo picker  
"You couldn't have made the Ignoramus any simpler. To my dying day, I'll always recommend this book." --Martin Liebschner, Music Hall

Wayne Erbsen entered his first banjo contest in 1962 after playing banjo a mere three weeks. He walked away with third place in the beginner's division and instead of a ribbon or a trophy, the

judges awarded him a book on how to play the banjo. Wayne understood the judges were sending him a message, but when he sat down with book, he discovered that the instructions were confusing at best. He vowed to someday write a banjo book that could actually teach beginners to play. In 1973 he fulfilled his dream when he wrote and published "A Manual on How to Play the 5-String Banjo for the Complete Ignoramus!" Thirty-one years later Wayne decided to up-date the book and the result is "Clawhammer Banjo for the Complete Ignoramus!"

Great book to start learning the clawhammer style banjo. I have Erbsen's Bluegrass banjo book as well. I'm glad he wrote two books as I find I like the clawhammer style better and look to continue in this style of banjo. But, I will have the ability to play Bluegrass as well or mingle both as some do. Overall a great book that introduces songs(tabs) that help develop the clawhammer style and also introduces hammer ons and pull offs. It is this book as well as his other book that made me truly enjoy the banjo. Further, the songs(tabs) provided are much much older songs that I enjoy playing as well as enjoy the lyrics of a time gone by.

I'm sitting here happily playing a few tunes on my banjo when i suddenly realized I owe it all to this book. I've been playing for about five years. The first two and a half years I struggled with various on-line stuff and books with minimal results. Then I stumbled on the ignoramus book. Since it was obviously written for me I thought I'd try it. It is great. Its starts you out immediately playing real music and through that process you progress. I found myself practicing for hours (I'm retired and actually have hours) and found myself getting better without even knowing it. Like everything else, you have to practice. After a while though, you don't even think you are practicing. You are just playing. From this book I was able to move on to Erbsen's Southern Mountain Banjo and other books. I 100% recommend it.

I bought the kindle version and am glad I did. A link in the book will take you to the download of mp3s. Or you can visit with the info given on your computer. After I downloaded them I uploaded to the music app which is awesome because I can access the mp3s on my kindle, on my phone or even on my firestick. So no matter where I'm learning something will be nearby I can listen to the song. Easier than a cd if you're up on your technology. The book itself is awesome! I grew up around all the instruments, my Dad plays awesome banjo, but I never played. Don't know a stitch about music besides listening. Being in my upper 30's I kinda thought it would be impossible. I read this before my banjo arrived and every time I felt self doubt, this book gave me confidence. The humor

and laid back attitude really put me at ease. Seemed less intimidating. My favorite line is a simple one. "You can play the banjo". Everything is explained so simple, it's easy to catch on. If something seems confusing, just look it up on YouTube or Google it. Something will click. It won't turn you into Clarence Ashley, but it starts you off playing some of the greatest traditional songs there are. Something I didn't think I'd be able to understand, but a few weeks and a few songs later and I'm obsessed with my banjo!

Pickin to Clawhammer. Started out pickin on the banjo and didn't take long to realize that to get the full range out of the instrument I would need to add clawhammer style to my playing toolbox. This is not a compare/contrast or review of the two styles, just the book in question. Like all Wayne's other books this one is fantastic. The instruction is basic enough for someone who picked up a banjo for the first time and then opened to page 1, but still offers enough variation in each lesson that as one progresses they are still growing as a player. The included CD is a godsend because you know what you're shooting for as you play. This is the third book by Wayne I have picked up on my banjo journey and they are without a doubt the most useful items in my music library.

Wayne knows how to get the basics across to this ignoramus... I could have saved big bucks if I had started here, and I love the spiral binding...

This book is outstanding! It is great for beginner pickers or experienced players that want to learn this style of playing. I started out playing 3 finger learning from Earl Scruggs book but I wanted to expand my repertoire and I have heard great things about this book so I ordered it. I can't say whether or not the book helped me specifically with actually learning the technique of playing clawhammer because while I was waiting for the book to arrive I was on youtube watching instructional videos on clawhammer so once the book arrived I kinda just glanced through that part. So please read other reviews about the technical aspect that the book goes through. Once you understand the technique it's time to start putting it to use, so the tab is very clear and easy to read. This book comes with a cd which has 2 recordings of every single song! Most books I have that come with cd's only cover a few of the songs in the book so I thought that was pretty cool. And there a few different tunings which I believe a couple are reserved for clawhammer style songs which I thought was really fun to learn such as Double C and Sawmill. (I haven't come across the tunings in any other books I have and I have alot of banjo books!) My only minor complaints which shouldn't affect a buyer's decisions but more of a constuctive critique for the author is that I wish the song

recordings had a fast tempo and a vocalist. It would be really fun to burn through some of these songs and sing along too! But I love this book and suggest anyone wanting to learn to bum-ditty BUY THIS BOOK!

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