

INTRODUCTION

A fake book, or lead sheet, is one of the most useful tools for musicians, amateur and professional alike. A fake book has just a single line of music, similar to the right hand in standard piano music. To make it even simpler, there is only one note at a time, representing the melody of a song. If you ever struggled with playing two hands together, reading the two staves simultaneously, you can rest assured that your task here will be easy by comparison.

You will also notice symbols consisting of letters and numbers above the musical notes, such as Cm, B7, etc. These symbols provide flexible guidelines for creating chords, leaving you the freedom to play in whatever style, at whatever level of difficulty you like.

Despite its simplicity, a fake book allows for unlimited complexity and musical creativity. Don't let the name fool you. A fake book is so called because the performer improvises or "fakes" the chords and accompaniment. Yet, despite the name, this is a "real" musical experience, mastered by Mozart, Beethoven and countless others — in fact, some of their greatest compositions were improvised or "faked" and then written down.

Why the FIRST Fake Book?

Although the layout is simple, using a fake book to its maximum advantage takes a high degree of skill. Many of the fake books commercially available are designed for experienced musicians. The beginner may find that even with the simplified format, there are other complications. There may be such challenges as playing in various keys (lots of black notes), various time signatures, and difficult rhythms.

How Your First Fake Book Makes Playing Easier

We have taken special care to make this book as easy to use as possible. Melodies have been simplified, the number of chords needed has been reduced to a minimum, and rhythms have been reduced to what anyone with a few months of study will know. The print is large, and the songs are laid out to emphasize their simplicity. Where the melody repeats with different words, that is made obvious as well.

The Key of C: Keeping Black Notes to a Minimum

If you have had any classical music study, you may be aware that when a collection of sharps or flats appears at the left of every line, that tells you that the piece is in a certain key. Practically, that means that every time you encounter those notes, they are automatically played as sharps or flats. In this book, you will not have to be concerned with any of that, as all the songs are arranged in the key of C.

A Few Chords to Play Many Songs

Unlike professionally oriented fake books, where you will find many different chords, and some of those quite difficult, most of the songs in this book can be played with a dozen or so chords. In fact, many of the songs can be played with only three or four chords. All the chords chosen for this volume are easy to play and fit naturally under the hand.

Finally, the songs have been chosen to represent a variety of styles, including many of the best-loved and most requested standards. I hope this collection helps start you on the path of creativity and comfortable music making. Using melody and chords is one of the best ways to understand the structure of all music and will lead you nicely to further study in classical, jazz, rock and any other type of music you like. Enjoy the journey!

Alexander Citron

ALL THE THINGS YOU ARE

from VERY WARM FOR MAY

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Lyrics by OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II
 Music by JEROME KERN

Moderately

Am Dm G7 C

You are the prom - ised kiss of spring - time that

F B7 E

makes the lone - ly win - ter seem long. _____

Em Am D7 G

You are the breath - less hush of eve - ning that

C F#7 B

trem - bles on the brink of a love - ly song.

C#m F#7

You are the an - gel glow _____ that lights a

ALLEY CAT SONG

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Words by JACK HARLEN
Music by FRANK BJORN

Moderately slow

C G7

He goes on the prowl each night like an al - ley cat,

C

look - in' for some new de - light like an al - ley cat.

G7

{ She can't trust him out of sight, there's no doubt of that.
{ He don't know what "faith - ful" means, there's no doubt of that.

He just don't know wrong from right like an al - ley
He's too bus - y mak - in' scenes like an al - ley

ANNIE'S SONG

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Words and Music by
JOHN DENVER

Moderately

N.C. **F** **G** **Am** **F**

You fill up my sens - es _____ like a night in a
 storm in the des - ert, _____ like a sleep - y blue
 Come let me love you, _____ let me give my life

C **C/B** **Am** **G**

for - est, _____ like the moun - tains in
 o - cean. _____ You fill up my
 to you. _____ Let me drown in your

F **Em** **1** **Dm** **G**

spring - time, _____ like a walk in the rain. _____
 sens - es, _____
 laugh - ter, _____

2 **Dm** **G7** **C** **F/C** **C** **D.S. (take 3rd ending)**

Like a _____ come fill me a - gain. _____

CHORD SPELLER

C chords

C	C-E-G
Cm	C-E ^b -G
C7	C-E-G-B ^b
Cdim	C-E ^b -G ^b
C+	C-E-G [#]

C[#] or D^b chords

C [#]	C [#] -F-G [#]
C [#] m	C [#] -E-G [#]
C [#] 7	C [#] -F-G [#] -B
C [#] dim	C [#] -E-G
C [#] +	C [#] -F-A

D chords

D	D-F [#] -A
Dm	D-F-A
D7	D-F [#] -A-C
Ddim	D-F-A ^b
D+	D-F [#] -A [#]

E^b chords

E ^b	E ^b -G-B ^b
E ^b m	E ^b -G ^b -B ^b
E ^b 7	E ^b -G-B ^b -D ^b
E ^b dim	E ^b -G ^b -A
E ^b +	E ^b -G-B

E chords

E	E-G [#] -B
Em	E-G-B
E7	E-G [#] -B-D
Edim	E-G-B ^b
E+	E-G [#] -C

F chords

F	F-A-C
Fm	F-A ^b -C
F7	F-A-C-E ^b
Fdim	F-A ^b -B
F+	F-A-C [#]

F[#] or G^b chords

F [#]	F [#] -A [#] -C [#]
F [#] m	F [#] -A-C [#]
F [#] 7	F [#] -A [#] -C [#] -E
F [#] dim	F [#] -A-C
F [#] +	F [#] -A [#] -D

G chords

G	G-B-D
Gm	G-B ^b -D
G7	G-B-D-F
Gdim	G-B ^b -D ^b
G+	G-B-D [#]

G[#] or A^b chords

A ^b	A ^b -C-E ^b
A ^b m	A ^b -B-E ^b
A ^b 7	A ^b -C-E ^b -G ^b
A ^b dim	A ^b -B-D
A ^b +	A ^b -C-E

A chords

A	A-C [#] -E
Am	A-C-E
A7	A-C [#] -E-G
Adim	A-C-E ^b
A+	A-C [#] -F

B^b chords

B ^b	B ^b -D-F
B ^b m	B ^b -D ^b -F
B ^b 7	B ^b -D-F-A ^b
B ^b dim	B ^b -D ^b -E
B ^b +	B ^b -D-F [#]

B chords

B	B-D [#] -F [#]
Bm	B-D-F [#]
B7	B-D [#] -F [#] -A
Bdim	B-D-F
B+	B-D [#] -G

Important Note: A slash chord (C/E, G/B) tells you that a certain bass note is to be played under a particular harmony. In the case of C/E, the chord is C and the bass note is E.