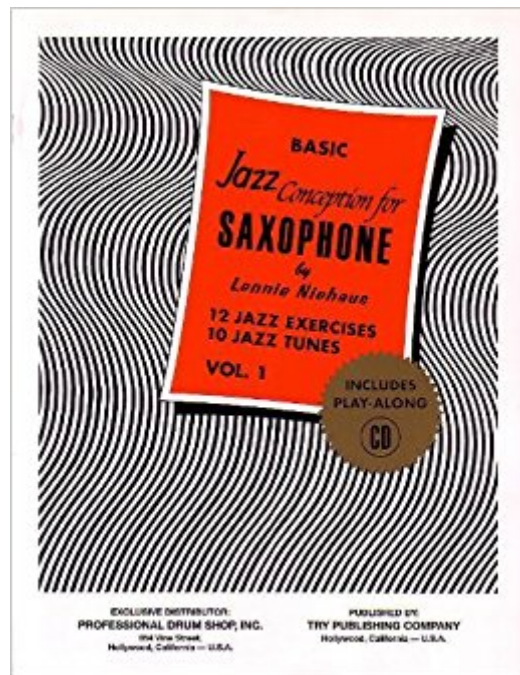


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TRY1057 - Basic Jazz Conception For Saxophone (Vol 1), 12 Jazz Exercises 10 Jazz Tunes Book/CD



Synopsis

One of the world's most popular Jazz etude books; popular because the etudes are hip and fun to play. Very popular among teachers! Designed for sax but suitable for all instruments. This Volume contains 12 easy level exercises and 10 etudes. Includes a play-along CD with a professional musician playing the etudes. Each etude is recorded in 3 keys (to facilitate Eb, Bb, and C instruments). The Eb track includes an Alto Saxophonist playing the etudes. The Bb track includes a Tenor Sax soloist and the C track includes a Jazz Guitarist. All are accompanied by a nice piano, bass, and drums rhythm section. Each track is stereo separated (solo instrument, piano, bass, drums on one track - piano, bass and drums on the other track) so that the soloist can be eliminated and the student can play along with piano bass and drums.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (18 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

When I first got this book because it was suggested by my saxophone teacher, I really wasn't impressed. I was really hoping to find some detailed instruction on how to play with jazz or swing articulation. The short intro that is given in this book is much like what I've read in other books I already own on this topic. After the intro, you get a collection of exercises and tunes. So besides playing a couple of really fun tunes, I wasn't getting much out of it on my own. I finally brought the book to my private lesson and explained that I didn't get much out of it. My teacher then explained the historical context of the tunes and made me sit down, play under the tunes and really listen to the articulation of the tunes on the CD. He is correcting my articulation and I'm now on the right path. In short, I think this book has a lot to offer. However, in my opinion you still need a

teacher/mentor to get the most out of the book and improve your playing.

The Niehaus Basic Jazz Conception book has been a classic and has helped countless saxophonists learn jazz articulation, rhythm, and phrasing for years and years. Compared with the tunes in the Intermediate volume, these are very basic; however, that's a good thing for students just starting out with jazz. The first half of the book features exercises that drill particular phrasings and rhythms within the context of a one-page jazz tune. These individual licks are then combined in the tunes that make up the second half of the book. As a teacher, I've used this volume for years. Since it's pretty basic for many saxophone players, I've tended to use it with clarinet and flute students. Fortunately, the book now comes packaged with a play-along CD that includes accompaniments to the pieces for C, Eb, and Bb instruments. The fact that Niehaus edited the pieces so completely really helps to set up the student for success. One of the keys to using all of Niehaus's volumes, though, is to move into jazz tunes in fake books and try to incorporate the same kinds of articulations and phrasings that one gets used to from these books. Highly recommended!

I have many Abersold and other jazz books. This is one of my favorites and I am looking forward to moving onto the next volumes. I am an adult late comer to saxophone and have been playing for 2 years. This book (along with my teacher) has improved my jazz articulation quite a bit. I can almost swing now! After working through a couple of exercises you will find that you can articulate the up beats without thinking about it. It just happens. It is a beginning book but I found work was required as I got into it. After working through the first 3-4 songs I was able to pick up the rest of the exercises and songs much quicker. Most of the exercises are in the key of C with a few other keys used minimally. Once you can play along with the CD and blend right in then you know you are getting it. I plan on continuing on with the Niehaus books.

As a self-taught student of alto and tenor sax, I struggled as for more than a few years on improving my skills. I seemed to reach a dead end. I wasted a bundle of money on an expensive 3 DVD tutorial that promised that I would start playing like a pro as soon as I finish watching. Well, nothing of the kind happened. There was nothing in there that I had not already known. Then someone recommended Lennie Niehaus's book. It turned out to be a wonderful book that came with a CD. It was a great value for the price--money well spent. My playing and non-ability to improvise improved right away, just by practicing the catchy exercises and tunes.

This book was assigned to my son by his private sax teacher, who is on the Stanford faculty and is a solid, credentialed musician. In the book my son worked on exercises to articulate jazz gestures, which involved different patterns of tonguing. He got a lot out of this book and a lot of the exercises were actually hip tunes.

I have used these books both as a student and a teacher and have found none better. Now with a CD they are even more usable in multiple situations. Organized very progressively and musically they introduce melodic and rhythmic patterns that play like actual tunes...even the exercises. This makes them very accessible for younger players. Advanced books are equally challenging for experienced players as they include the lesser played keys and rhythmic patterns. A true classic that never seems to age!

I am in love with this book and like the title of Lennie's first song, I am "Having a Ball"! The pieces are relatively easy (it is a Basic book) and are played in a nice easy swing style (120 beats). The CD is clean and simple and if you listen to the songs, you should have no trouble picking up the rhythm and flow of each piece. The only slight knock is the exercises are only recorded with the alto sax and I normally play tenor. There is only a drum accompanist and you can kill the sax channel for a clean sound, but if you want to play along with Lennie on the exercises, you'll have to pull your alto out of the case. The songs are recorded for both Eb and Bb instruments, so no worries there. This is a fun book to have!

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