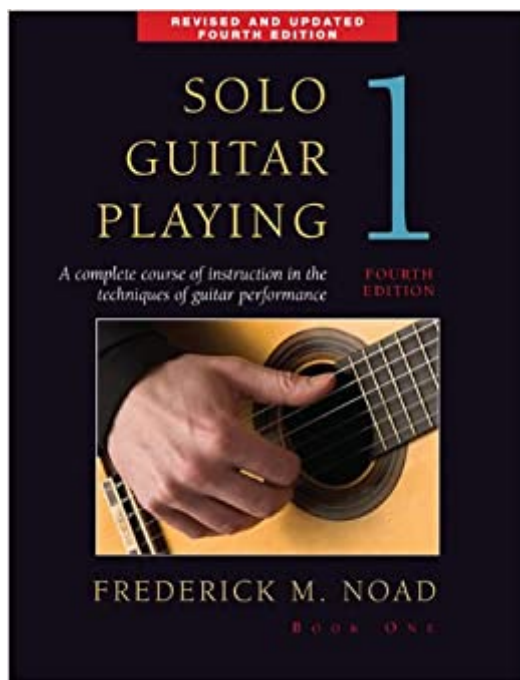


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# Solo Guitar Playing - Book 1, 4th Edition



## Synopsis

(Music Sales America). Express yourself through the beautiful voice of the solo guitar. Solo Guitar Playing can teach even the person with no previous musical training how to progress from simple single-line melodies to mastery of the guitar as a solo instrument. Fully illustrated with diagrams, photographs, and over 200 musical exercises and repertoire selections, this book offers thorough instruction in every phase of classical guitar playing. Complete coverage of individual skills includes: Basic technique; Reading music, memorizing, and ear-training; Mastering the fingerboard; Building dexterity and speed; Developing tone color and musical phrasing; Position playing; Interpretation; and more. Since its first printing in 1968, Frederick Noad's Solo Guitar Playing has been used by countless students and teachers of classical guitar. The fourth edition features revised and updated exercises and an expanded selection of solo guitar repertoire gleaned from the best-selling Frederick Noad Guitar Anthology.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Guitarist, lutenist, author and teacher, Frederick Noad grew up in England. Originally trained on the violin and piano he took up the guitar in his early teens. After graduating from Oxford he came to California in 1957 to organize a story department for the J. Arthur Rank Organization in Hollywood. When the film company suffered some setbacks and had to curtail its U.S. plans Noad decided to stay on. Soon after he was offered a job playing the guitar, which had become a favourite avocation, and he began to teach and to write for the instrument as well. Thus began a long and happy (if

unexpected) musical career. At this time he studied composition with Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco at the latter's home in Beverly Hills and attended master classes of Andres Segovia and Julian Bream as a performer. Noad's first book, "Playing The Guitar" became a paperback best seller in the sixties, and this success led to a succession of further instruction books and anthologies (listed below). In 1966 Noad launched the award winning TV series "Guitar with Frederick Noad" for PBS. The programs were enthusiastically received from coast to coast, and were credited with introducing 100,000 new players to the instrument. The currently running educational television series is a colour remake of the original with the benefit of the latest electronic techniques. Noad has been a faculty member of the University of California, Irvine, and the California Institute of the Arts. He has performed as a soloist, as part of a duet team, in concert with a lyric tenor and also as a continuo player in early opera. In addition to the guitar he plays the lute and theorbo.

I'm taking weekly lessons and this is the book my instructor teaches from. The material is presented very logically and methodically. Over the past 9 months of use, I can "see" the thought and effort that went into creating and organizing the material. I feel like I'm making progress yet am constantly challenged and engaged by the material. My teacher will also sometimes jump forwards and backwards in the material when he senses my eagerness and frustration, respectively. I will always recommend beginners study with a teacher, there's simply no better way to learn classical guitar IMO. But, if you cannot afford that luxury, you can't go wrong with this book. So why only four stars then? Because music books should ALWAYS be spiral bound so they will lay flat on the music stand. Publishers take note: release a spiral bound version, and I'll happily buy this book again.

As the author states in the forward, this book is designed to be played as duets with a teacher. The student parts are super simple, designed to instill confidence, and the teacher accompaniments are just tricky enough to keep the teacher focused too! The harmonies are nice, and as a teacher, it's more enjoyable than just playing the same part as the student, as is the norm with most other method books. One improvement I'd like to see is the addition of a plastic comb binder, to make page turns easier and to help it lay flat on a music stand.

I love seeing Mr Noad on YouTube. I have really tried to use this book but it will not stay open for me, not even with binder clips. So I was glad when I found his old pink and yellow first edition version that cooperates in letting me see the music! I guess I will have to learn how to get and use a plastic binder thingy. Any suggestions how to do this?

I purchased this as a requirement by my professor. It is suggested by many as a good book for beginning sight reading of classical guitar. My major criticism of the book is it would be nice to have a musical CD of the compositions in order to hear if you are playing correctly and to aspire to play as well as the expert on the recording. A track in slow motion as well as a track at full speed would be a plus. A DVD would be even better in order to watch fingering and technique as each lesson is played. If such a DVD accompanied this book, I would gladly rate it 5 stars.

A classic. What more can I say. If you want to learn to play classical guitar, this is the book to use. However, if your musical abilities are rather limited, as are mine, I would suggest getting the book with the CD. I also agree that this should also be offered in a spiral bound version, so that it can lay flat on the music stand. As it is now, I have to resort to clips, clamps, and breaking the spine of the book in order to keep it open.

The book is very nice, no regrets at all in buying it. Be aware, however, that 1) it is not spiral bound, so you'll need to get a large clip, 2) right-hand fingering is given on many, but not all, of the exercises, 3) the CD does not include samples of all the exercises, which isn't a problem if you have an instructor, but self-taught students will miss them (many of the more difficult exercises are on the CD, don't get me wrong, but just as many exercises are not, especially in the first several sections), and 4) the CD does not contain the other half of all the duet pieces in the book, so unless you have an instructor/partner, the duet portion of each exercise isn't useful. Remember, too, that you can find videos for free on the Internet to supplement the book (search YouTube) for things like finger technique. Overall, I'm happy with the book and would buy it again if it got lost today, I just can't give it five stars.

I was disappointed to find out this edition does not have the CD that other reviewers mentioned. I wish would stop combining reviews for different editions and versions of a title. While the description doesn't mention any CD, I was under the impression from the reviews that it came with the book. That said, I like the book. I played twenty years ago and never got into classical playing. From what I have seen so far, I think this book will be very helpful with my studies. The CDs can be purchased at the authors site. I think it would be a benefit, especially for someone learning on their own.

I studied classical guitar and music reading for approximately six months with a terrific instructor, but had to leave due to life's complications. I decided to look around for a book that could assist in furthering my studies. This book has hit the mark! Plenty of detailed instruction with a wealth of information. Plenty of practice pieces with each new introduction of notes and it does not stop at the first position like so many other instruction books. You learn to recognize notes on the entire fretboard. This book makes learning a true pleasure! I look forward to each new chapter.

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