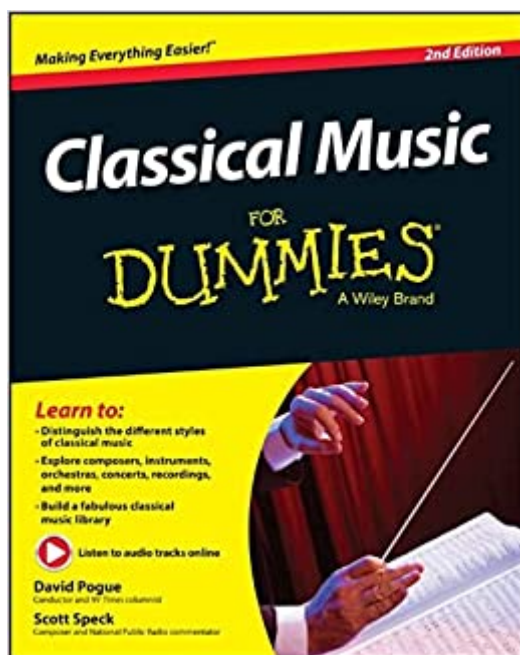


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# Classical Music For Dummies



## Synopsis

Haydn, Tchaikovsky, and Brahms, oh, my! The beginner's guide to classical music *Classical Music For Dummies* is a friendly, funny, easy-to-understand guide to composers, instruments, orchestras, concerts, recordings, and more. Classical music is widely considered one of the pinnacles of human achievement, and this informative guide will show you just how beautiful and rewarding it can be. You'll learn how Bach is different from Beethoven, how Mozart is different still, and why not all "classical" music is actually Classical if it's really Baroque or Romantic. You'll be introduced to the composers and their work, and discover the groundbreaking pieces that shake the world every time they're played. Begin building your classical music library with the essential recordings that define orchestral, choral, and operatic beauty as you get acquainted with the orchestras and musicians that bring the composers to life. Whether you want to play classical music or just learn more about it, *Classical Music For Dummies* will teach you everything you need to know to get the most out of this increasingly popular genre. Distinguish flute from piccolo, violin from viola, and trumpet from trombone. Learn the difference between overtures, requiems, arias, and masses. Explore the composers that shaped music as we know it. Discover the recordings your music library cannot be without. Classical music has begun sneaking into the mainstream. — if your interest has been piqued, there's never been a better time to develop an appreciation for this incredibly rich, complex, and varied body of work. *Classical Music For Dummies* lays the groundwork, and demonstrates just how amazing classical music can be.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Learn to: Distinguish the different styles of classical music Explore composers, instruments, orchestras, concerts, recordings, and more Build a fabulous classical music library The fun and easy way to get the score on classical music Haydn, Tchaikovsky, and Brahms, oh, my! In this beginner's guide to classical music, you'll discover how Bach is different from Beethoven and how Mozart is different still. Plus, you'll be introduced to a wealth of classical composers and their work and figure out just how enjoyable and rewarding classical music can be. In the beginning... get an easily digestible history of music and discover how the Classical style and those that came before and after it came to be Cogs in the wheel uncover the role and intricacies of rhythm, pitch, intervals, harmony, tempo, dynamics, and more and how they work together to make beautiful music Strings attached get the lowdown on what makes up a classical orchestra, from keyboards, strings, and woodwinds to percussion and top (and bottom) brass Arrive in style find the guidance you need to take the intimidation out of attending a classical music concert, from knowing where to sit, what to wear, and when to clap and everything in between Open the book and find: Plain-English explanations of the different styles of classical music The major classical composers and their famous works Everything you need to know about rhythm, intervals, and other fundamentals Tips on building an impressive classical music library The ten most common misconceptions about classical music The who's who of today's up-and-coming composers

David Pogue studied music at Yale and has been a conductor on Broadway and worked as a columnist at the New York Times. Scott Speck, an award-winning music director and conductor, has led symphony orchestras from coast to coast and around the world.

This is an excellent book for classical music lover and those who just want to know more about classical music. The authors make it fun to learn and I use this book as a reference all the time. This would also make a great gift for a classical music fan.

There's a lot of useful information in here - not sure how that helps me better appreciate the music though.

great for our homeschool course where we listen to audio files & this gives info on the composers

Somehow, in earning 3 degrees.....I overlooked music.....and learning about it. So this is perfect for a "late bloomer" who enjoys music and wants to learn both quickly and conveniently about the inner workings of it all. The book is well written and easily understood.....I now find myself "listening" for certain elements....because I read about something specific in this book. It's helpful, and a wonderful reference when I have questions, or seek specific information about a piece of music. I expect to use it as a reference, forever!

Hear we go !!!! Music madness!!! Love this book! (Where's the CD?)

I really enjoyed the read. Simplified without talking down to me. Wish it came with a CD, but classical music is easily found online, so it's ok.

I bought this book for a friend and it turned out to be very useful. It is a great way to acquire the basic knowledge of many time periods in music from the middle ages up to modern music. It also has a great listening guide for references classical works

I've read many of the dummies books and Classical Music for Dummies is now my favorite. Prior to that, DOS for dummies was the best that I had read and that was back in 1998. This book is packed with great info and tons of listening suggestions. Thanks to this book I'm listening to Debussy's La Mer right now and I probably would have never known about this wonderful piece of music had I not bit the bullet and bought this book. Don't listen to the reviews that say that the humor is overpowering. Those reviews are coming from stuffy snobs that have no sense of humor. The humor in this book makes it an absolute page turner. Its fun when you're reading serious material for five or ten minutes and then along comes a zinger. The nicest surprise about this book is that I learned far more than I thought I would being that I have a pretty solid musical background being a guitar player.

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