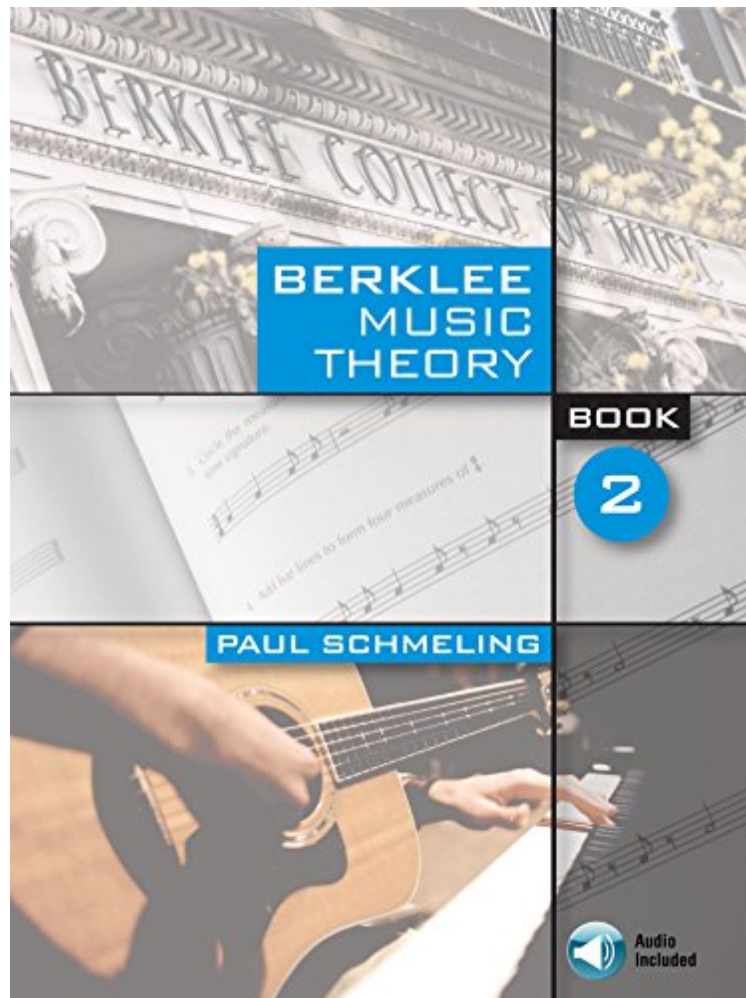


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Berklee Music Theory Book 2

Paul Schmeling

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Paul Schmeling : Berklee Music Theory Book 2 before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Berklee Music Theory Book 2:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Do not buy this bookBy CustomerDo not buy this book, On the very important topic of voice leading, the book correctly says look for smooth voice leading, but does not cover the preliminary and essential topic of the circle of fifths and alternative chord progression which also control where voices move NOR does it say anything about the 3rd stepping up or the 7th stepping down - rudimentary voice reading concepts. Also, the book shows how to build many different kinds of chords but says NOTHING about how to use the chords or where the chords fit into a musical chord progression - knowing how to construct a chord is of little use unless you know how to use the chord. The book also briefly covers chord inversions, but does not say anything about inversion qualities or uses. The best introductory music theory book I have seen (I have more than 2 dozen in my library) is any version of Tonal Harmony. If you are taking a music theory class, you need the version the class uses. If

you are studying theory on your own, get the cheapest used version you can find. Tonal Harmony covers all of introductory music theory and explains concepts in a straight forward manner. 12 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Very good music theory workbook - now includes answer key By SeekingTraveler Berklee has been in the business of teaching music to a diverse population of students for decades. They are experienced professionals at this. So there should be no surprise that the instruction in their music theory books is clear, concise, complete, well organized, and well-sequenced. The instruction is specifically targeted to piano/keyboards; even so, guitar players may also benefit from this training. This book was designed to be used in a class at a music college, with a music teacher. As a student workbook for such a course, this book would deserve a five star rating. I gave it a four star rating because it does not include the explanations that the instructor would (perhaps) normally provide. It would probably be best if you went through these music theory books with a music teacher (perhaps two or three chapters per week) as an integrated part of instrument instruction. Because of the lack of detailed explanations, I doubt that a self-studier could learn this material. Book 1 focuses on learning how to read and write music notation, as well as the major and minor scales. Book 2 focuses on harmony, including chords (triads, seventh chords, etc.), inversions, and voice leading. Each book develops listening, reading, and writing skills through exercises and "ear training" (included on audio CD). By way of contrast, The Complete Idiot's Guide to Music Theory, 2nd Edition is much better at providing detailed explanations (with an easy-to-read narrative). I would highly recommend reading the Idiot's Guide before starting the Berklee Music Theory books. List of lessons: major triads; minor triads; augmented triads; diminished triads; chord symbols; triad inversions; bass/chord theory; voice leading; open-position voice leading and chorale notation; contrary/parallel motion voice leading; major 7 chords; dominant 7 chords; minor 7 chords; minor 7 flat 5 chords; diminished 7 chords; inversions of seventh chords; voice leading seventh chords; contrary and parallel voice leading of seventh chords; third, fifth, and seventh over bass; harmonic accompaniment chords; arpeggiating accompaniment chords; using the third, fifth, and seventh over the root as accompaniment chords; accompaniment pattern; melodic motion; writing chord-tone melody; melodic motion over change of harmony; repeating a melodic phrase on different chords; the melodic sequence. My book came with an answer key. A great number of people have given this product a lower rating because they were mad that their book did not have an answer key. If you obtain an older edition without an answer key, simply contact Berklee (at berkleemusic.com/contact) and ask for the answer keys to Music Theory 1 and Music Theory 2. For a (literally) heavier book on music theory, take a look at Tonal Harmony by Kostka and Payne. This is a textbook that is intended to support a music college classroom/lab course with a music teacher. I really doubt if anyone could self-study their way through this book. You might want to try to get your public library to buy one, so you can take a look before buying. (It is rather expensive.) 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Nothing spectacular By Customer As stand alone books, these really aren't that great. They are probably much better with an accompanying course.

(Berklee Methods). The second in a two-volume series based on over 40 years of music theory instruction at Berklee College of Music. This volume focuses on harmony, including triads, seventh chords, inversions, and voice leading for jazz, blues and popular music styles. You'll develop the tools needed to write melodies and create effective harmonic accompaniments from a lead sheet. This edition includes an answer key for all exercises and lessons to check your progress.