The Quick Easy Way To Learn To Play The Banjo



A complete step-by-step 5 String Banjo Learning Plan with Pre-Beginner through Advanced Intermediate Levels using Watch & Learn instructional material.

Pre-Beginner Warm-Up



Beginner - Level 2





Beginner - Level 1







Intermediate - Level 1





Intermediate - Level 2



Beginning Banjo Package Pre-Beginner Warm-Up



This stage is basically a warm up to playing the banjo and is the equivalent to strength training if you were playing a sport. Proper technique is explained in detail and warm up exercises are included to help you practice.

Note: If you have a lot of experience with music, particularly the guitar or mandolin you may choose to skip this step and proceed to the Banjo Primer Level 1.

Products Used In This Part:



Let's Begin

Start with Lesson 1 and work through the book in order as follows:

Lesson 1 - Starts with showing the parts of the banjo. It then covers correct right hand technique and includes simple practice exercises. (Note: As you play through the exercises make sure to play slowly and watch your technique.)

Lesson 2 - Talks about pitfalls to avoid when playing and has you play the forward roll exercises along with songs to improve timing.

Lesson 3 - Shows you how to play two finger chords along with popular bluegrass songs.

Lessons 4-6 - These are speed builder lessons that help you to play faster, in better time and with correct technique. (Note: As a reminder, make sure you are playing all of the exercises in this course with the correct technique. As you speed up each exercise make sure that your playing is clear.)

Note: As you work through lessons 4 through 6 play along with the audio tracks included with this DVD. These tracks are speed builders that start playing at one speed and then gradually increase within the track.

Once you have completed this course you are ready to move on to Beginner Level Part 1.

Watch & Learn Banjo Primer Beginner Level Lesson Plan - Part 1 Watch & Learn, Inc.

This is a step-by-step, comprehensive plan that will have you playing quickly and correctly. This lesson plan gives you the optimum order for learning each song and exercise using the Banjo Primer lesson materials including: *The Banjo Primer Book with CD, The Introduction to Banjo DVD,* and *The Banjo Primer Practice CD.*

Products Used In This Part:



Let's Learn The Fundamentals...

The first 6 steps will use the Banjo Primer Book with CD and the Introduction to Banjo DVD.

Step 1	Parts of the Banjo	Page 1	
Step 2	Holding the Banjo	Page 2	DVD Chapter 4
Step 3	Tuning the Banjo	Page 3	DVD Chapter 5
Step 4	Right Hand Technique	Page 5	DVD Chapter 6
Step 5	Basic C and D7 Chords	Page 12	DVD Chapter 12
Step 6	Reading Tablature	Page 16	DVD Chapter 14

Now Let's Learn Our First Songs...

These steps will use the *Banjo Primer Book with CD*, the *Introduction to Banjo DVD* and the *Banjo Primer Practice CDs*. Learn 6 easy song arrangements that will teach you all of the techniques that banjo players use in a simple, stepby-step fashion to establish a firm foundation to build upon. Here is the recommended sequence for learning:

Song 1 - Boil Them Cabbage Down

Boil Them Cabbage Down Exercises - Pages 16-17:

□ Step 7 Practicing the Exercises

Image 16Exercise APage 16DVD Chapter 15-17Practice Exercise A to Boil Them Cabbage Down at multiple speeds along with the CD that comes with the
Banjo Primer Book and the Introduction to Banjo DVD. Use the same approach that you used for Exercise A
for Exercises B through E:

Step 9	Exercise B	Page 16	DVD Chapter 15-17
Step 10	Exercise C	Page 16	DVD Chapter 15-17

Watch & Learn Beginner Level Lesson Plan - Part 2 Watch & Learn, Inc

This is part two of a step-by-step, comprehensive plan that will have you playing quickly and correctly. You should work through Part 1 before beginning these steps. The objective of this stage is to improve and stabilize technique and to learn more songs.

Products Used In This Part:



Learn More Songs... Using Easy Banjo Breaks 1-6 Package on DVD

The following songs are listed in order of difficulty. We recommend that you start with songs that you like or are familiar with because you will be more motivated and have more fun. If you do not have a preference, then use the order listed:

Song 1	Cumberland Gap	Lesson 1
Song 2	Sally Gooden	Lesson 4
Song 3	Shady Grove	Lesson 5
Song 4	Wildwood Flower	Lesson 1
Song 5	Will The Circle Be Unbroken	Lesson 5
Song 6	John Hardy	Lesson 2
Song 7	Old Joe Clark	Lesson 3
Song 8	Whiskey Before Breakfast	Lesson 2
Song 9	Soldier's Joy	Lesson 6
Song 10	Amazing Grace	Lesson 6
Song 11	Devil's Dream	Lesson 3
Song 12	8th of January	Lesson 4

Learn To Play With Others Using Banjo Rhythm & Backup 101 DVD

This DVD course will teach you what to do so that you feel comfortable playing with others. It will show you all of the major, minor and 7th chords everywhere on the neck and show you how to play backup rhythms that your friends will love.

Learn Moveable Chords 1

Learn Moveable Chords 2

Learn Moveable Chords 3

Watch & Learn Intermediate Lesson Plan - Part 1



The objective of this stage is to learn more songs at a more advanced level and to continue working on backup and rhythm patterns.

Products Used In This Part:



Learn More Songs... Using the Banjo Songs Book

Song 1	Boil Them Cabbage Down	Breaks 1, 3, 4, 5	Page 51
Song 2	Cumberland Gap	Break 1	Page 38
Song 3	Will The Circle Be Unbroken	Break 1	Page 15
Song 4	Saints Go Marching In	Break 1	Page 61
Song 5	Grandfather's Clock	Break 1	Page 73
Song 6	Train 45	Breaks 1, 2	Page 91
Song 7	Blackberry Blossom	Break 1	Page 89
Song 8	Swing Low Sweet Chariot	Break 1	Page 25
Song 9	Old Joe Clark	Break 1	Page 8
Song 10	Soldier's Joy	Break 1	Page 29
Song 11	In The Pines	Break 1	Page 44
Song 12	Amazing Grace	Break 1	Page 17

Learning More Rhythm & Backup...

Using Banjo Rhythm & Backup 101 DVD

- Lesson 4 Moveable Minor Chords
- Lesson 5 Using Chord Clusters
- Lesson 6 Putting It All Together

Step 11	Exercise D	Page 17	DVD Chapter 18-19	
Step 12	Exercise E	Page 17	DVD Chapter 18-19	
Step 13	Learn and practice Boil Them Ca	Them Cabbage Down with the CD that comes with the Banjo		
-	Primer and also the Introduction to Banjo DVD.			
Step 14	Once you can play Boil Them Cabbage Down perfectly along with the DVD and CD you			
	should memorize it so you do not need to look at the tablature.			
Step 15	Once memorized, play Boil Them Cabbage Down along with the Banjo Jam CDs starting			
	with the first speed which is 50 beats per minute. As your playing improves increase to the			
	faster speeds.	-		

Song 2 - Shady Grove

□ Step 16 Page 24 - Follow the learning sequence for Song 1, Boil Them Cabbage Down.

Song 3 - Worried Man Blues

□ Step 17 Page 25 - Follow the learning sequence for Song 1, Boil Them Cabbage Down.

Song 4 - Cripple Creek

□ Step 18 Page 23 - Follow the learning sequence for Song 1, Boil Them Cabbage Down.

Song 5 - Boil Them Cabbage Down - Variation

□ Step 19 Page 20 - Follow the learning sequence for Song 1, Boil Them Cabbage Down.

Song 6 - Cripple Creek

□ Step 20 Page 27 - Follow the learning sequence for Song 1, Boil Them Cabbage Down.

Learn More Songs...

□ Step 21 We recommend that you learn the first variation or break for Basic Breakdown next and then learn the 1st variation for all of the songs and then learn the 2nd variations for all of the songs. Use the same sequence of learning that you used for the first songs. At this point choose the songs that you like. The order is not important since you have learned the basic techniques in the beginning songs.

Watch & Learn Intermediate Lesson Plan - Part 2



The objective of this stage is to learn up-the-neck breaks to songs you already know.

Products Used In This Part:



Learn More Songs... Using the Banjo Songs Book

Choose songs that you like from the Banjo Songs Book and learn additional breaks.

Learning Backup Licks and Rolls...

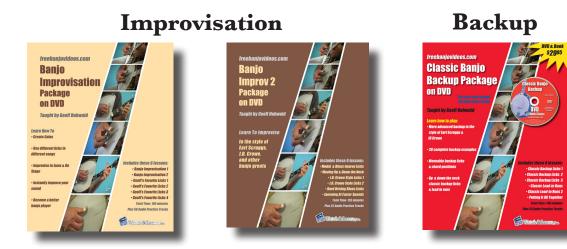
Using Banjo Backup Licks and Rolls DVD

- □ Backup Licks and Rolls Lesson 1
- □ Backup Licks and Rolls Lesson 2
- □ Backup Licks and Rolls Lesson 3
- □ Backup Licks and Rolls Lesson 4
- Backup Licks and Rolls Lesson 5
- Backup Licks and Rolls Lesson 6

Watch & Learn Advanced Banjo Packages



Now that you have completed the Intermediate Level you can work with the Advanced Level packages that are listed below. Choose whichever package you are interested in. The order you work through these is completely flexible.



Classic Banjo Songs





Gospel Songs

