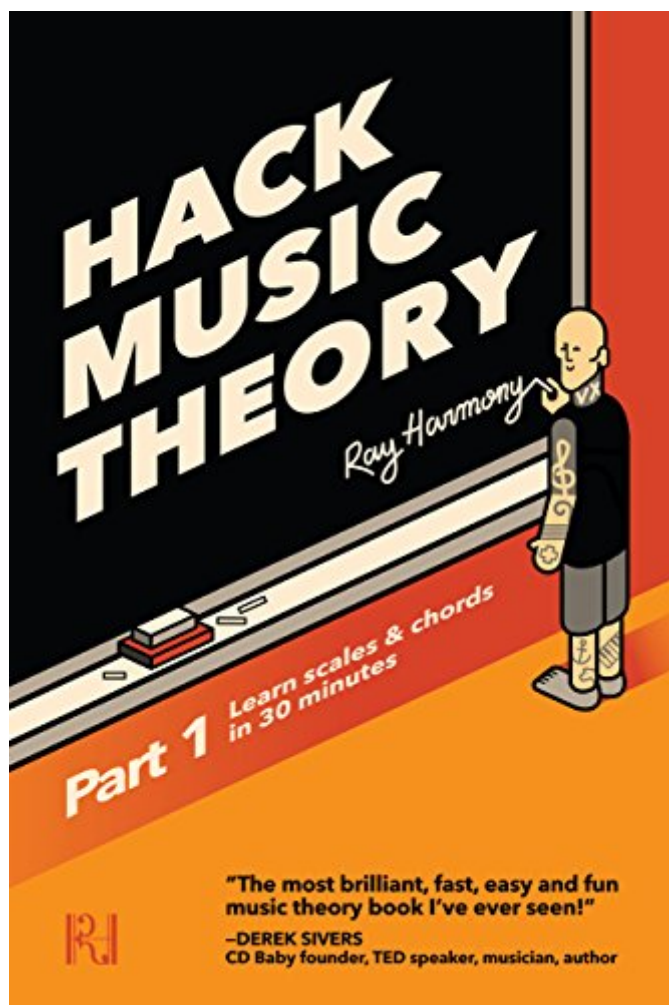




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# Hack Music Theory, Part 1: Learn Scales & Chords In 30 Minutes



## Synopsis

Theory is a six-letter dirty word to most musicians, but hey, musicians love dirty words, right? And just like all the other dirty words, theory is easy to learn and fun to use! After studying 'popular' and 'classical' music theory, Ray Harmony created a unique approach that he uses to compose his songs, which feature multi-platinum Grammy winners Serj Tankian (System of a Down), Tom Morello (Rage Against the Machine), and many more. Ray Harmony is an award-winning music lecturer and multi-instrumentalist, who is now sharing his top-secret music theory and songwriting hacks through this book series. Drawing on his two decades of teaching experience combined with his minimalist methods of explaining, Ray breaks down music theory into its simplest form via a series of simple hacks, deep insights, and bad jokes. Tuck in at HackMusicTheory.com

• "DEREK SIVERS, CD Baby founder, TED speaker, musician, author of Anything You Want

• "This is the kind of book I wish I had when I first started out.

• "IHSAHN, Emperor

• Trust Ray, and in no time you'll have a watertight music theory skillset you once thought impossible to obtain.

• "PAT LUNDY, Modestep, ex-Funeral for a Friend

• Ray manages to make learning music theory fascinating, digestible, and damn right cool!

• "JOE COPCUTT, AxeWound, Zoax

• If you have been put off music theory in the past, then this is the book to inspire and empower you.

• "VICTORIA WILLIAMSON, PhD, Vice Chancellor's Fellow Researcher and Lecturer in Music at the University of Sheffield, UK, author of You Are the Music

• Ray has a totally unique approach of hacking music theory, which gives you the essentials in a fraction of the time.

• "VESPERS, Warp Academy founder, music producer

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a must read. It is the perfect beginner's book. This author should write the entire "Very Short Introductions Series"- seriously.

For allergic to music theory this book is the serum! By the end of the book you'll have a solid foundation that will encourage you to seek more knowledge but also be able to finally apply music theory to your craft.

Ray is an excellent teacher and his depth of experience, knowledge and unique sense of humour make learning music theory from him a pleasure. I am lucky to have been taught by Ray and am now passing along his teachings to my students who thrive on the simple and straightforward methods of explanation found in this book. The Hacks provide a snapshot of all the important information you need to know about each topic. They are really useful as references when you want a quick overview or need a refresher. The accompanying Chapters are full of fascinating stories and metaphors about the language of music and how we can harness it to tell musical stories (i.e. songs). No matter how little or how much you know about music theory, no matter if you play an instrument or not, I highly recommend this book to you. I guarantee that you will find yourself smiling as you learn. What other music theory book can you say that about?

If you love to create music and want have a better understanding about music theory, then look no further. "Hack Music Theory, Part 1" written by Ray Harmony lays out music theory in an easy to understand straightforward manner. I bought the printed version to supplement the PDF version of this book. I want it handy in my studio so I can reference it when I'm not using a computer. If you are ready for the next step in your musical exploration then I highly recommend this book for you. It

really gives you the tools that you need to understand why what you are composing or writing isn't working. It allows you to discern how to structure something together that works creatively and allows you to get there much faster.

This was a great read. Of course, all of the information is accurate and spot on, but what I liked most was how everything was presented. The pages contain enough humour and wit to remind you that music is supposed to be fun, and indeed Ray even comes out and flatly reminds of that on several occasions. The book is filled with very well done diagrams and visually represent complex ideas, and despite already having a music background, I find that many of the diagrams gave me a new way to look at certain concepts. Another aspect that I found great was the mix of just enough history with regard to why we have the system we have today. Something I have discovered over the years is that I learn very well when facts are accompanied by an explanation, and I'm sure others benefit from the same thing. If only grade school mathematics classes had been taught this way.

Ray Harmony has really done something special with this book. Concise, easy to read and he absolutely breaks down music theory into tasty little bites. The best book on chords and scales I have ever read. Coupled with Ray's video series, I feel very confident that Ray is absolutely the real deal, and that by following this series I will actually have the ability to learn and absorb the fundamentals of theory.

Straightforward, cut to the chase explanations delivered with humour. Superb diagrams drive home the key ideas. This book will get you into the game fast. Recommended for the novice along with any musician/producer who has learned his or her trade by ear and is ready to expand their skill set.

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