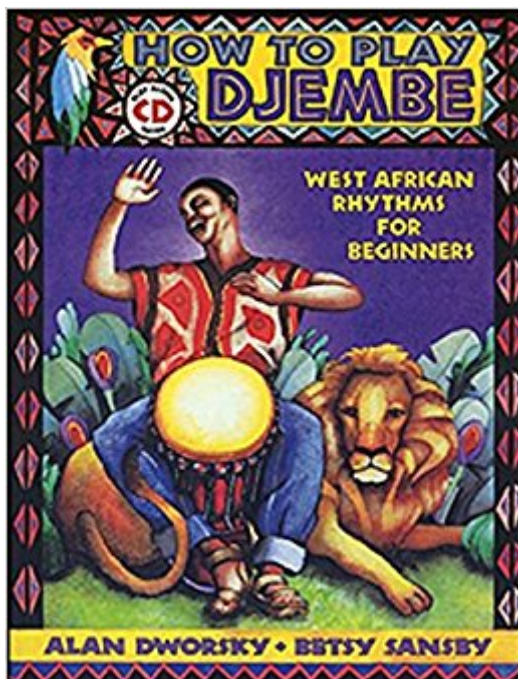


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# How To Play Djembe (Book/CD Set)



## Synopsis

This book is a complete, step-by-step, user friendly course on how to play djembe. Right from the start, in addition to learning how to make all the basic strokes, you'll be learning interlocking parts for some of the most popular West African rhythms; Kuku, Djole, Kassa, Madan, Suku, Sunguru Bani and Thiba. After working through only a few lessons, you'll be able to put the parts together and start playing these irresistible rhythms with your friends. The rhythms are written in simple charts, so no music reading is required. The CD that comes with the book gives you a chance to hear how each part sounds separately and how the parts for each rhythm fit together. It was recorded by John Camara, a master drummer from Bamako, Mali. Each rhythm lasts at least five minutes, so you'll have plenty of time to play along. And when John solos during the final three minutes of each track, you'll feel the thrill of playing your part along with an ensemble and lead drummer.

## Book Information

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Theory, Composition & Performance > Techniques

## Customer Reviews

Alan Dworsky, an attorney who'd rather be drumming, lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Yipes, no embedded sounds or the CD with the book! Instead, they refer you to a website. For heaven's sake, don't get the kindle version of this 14-year-old book.

In general, this book/CD combination is great. The text of the book is clear, the authors' approach in

starting with simple patterns and then adding to / subtracting from the simple pattern to arrive at the traditional pattern is very effective. The authors' present the material clearly and succinctly, and is paced very well. This book is a good resource for getting started on the djembe. There is only one thing that keeps me from giving this book/CD five stars. A previous reviewer says the CD allows you to hear what the "whole rhythm" is like, which isn't entirely true. The book doesn't address bell and djun-djun (bass drum) parts at all, and these parts are not present on the CD. These rhythms are incomplete with just the djembe parts. The book/CD never gives the student a complete view of what the African rhythms, as played by a proper ensemble, should sound like. I don't fault them for not teaching these parts, as this is a book about playing djembe, but much of the rhythm context is missing. With the excess space on the CD, the removal of the sample tracks from the "Jaguar..." album, and a bit of creative work, the authors should have been able to give the listener a taste of what the full rhythms sound like, even if only for a couple minutes each. I still recommend this book to the beginner, but recommend that the beginner seek another source as well that better emphasizes the whole of the rhythms.

This is a good book/CD for beginners and intermediate hand drummers. Dworsky & Sansby do well at the impossible task of turning writing into rhythm, but the CD really teaches the groove. You will probably still need a live teacher to show the difference between a slap and a tone, but the book gives several good lessons you can review over and over. It will definitely give you something to play at your local drum circles. Chuck Murray

I bought this book and CD and also the DVD Gentle Djembe for beginners. I didn't like the book and CD. The instruction in the book is good but the CD is only useful if you can separate the left and right sounds to hear each part of a rhythm. It is designed for using the CD on a stereo player that can control each part independently. Neither my CD/DVD player, or an iPod has this capability. It would have been more useful if the author had played each part separately so that you could hear them individually. I don't think I would recommend this book/cd to anyone.

I purchased this book at the suggestion of other consumers who recommended it. I have not been dissatisfied. The book comes with a DVD which enables the viewer to get two different views of the instructor while he is playing. He starts out slow making it easy to follow and builds with repetition to a quicker pace. Before you know it you are performing with a group of other drummers on the DVD. I would highly recommend this book/DVD to anyone who has the desire to learn how to

play an african drum.

There is no CD or mp3 download for the kindle delivering . For this price, I expect more from .

I have the Conga Book by the same authors and have been pleased with both. Their system of notation makes learning rhythms easy, and their helpful hints and comments enhance the learning experience. The CD is what truly makes this book 5 stars. It has a multitrack feature. You can adjust the balance on your stereo to hear one drum part at a time. I like to play one part while my stereo plays another. In addition, the tracks go for about five minutes so you can really get into the rhythm, build stamina, and maybe practice soloing! Happy drumming!

Very good! If you are a beginner and you order a djembe then order this book.

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