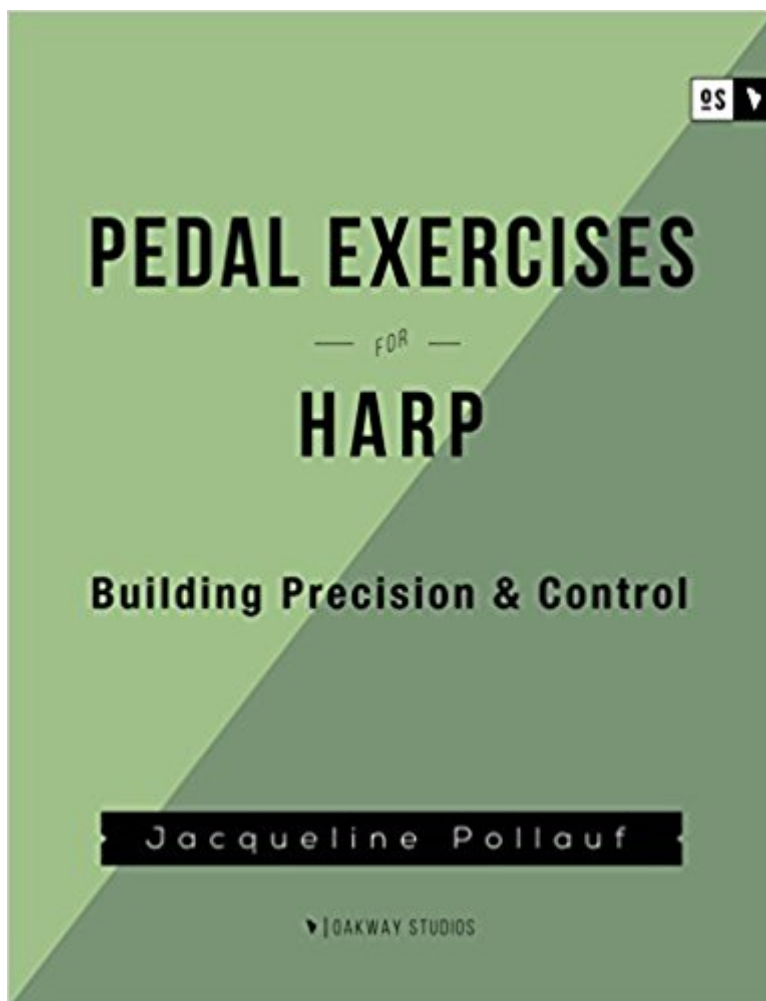




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Pedal Exercises For Harp



Synopsis

With seven pedals and three positions for each pedal, how many possible combinations are there? An overwhelming number! In this book of forty pedal exercises, you'll find an incremental and logical approach to tackling pedals. Each exercise is written to drill a highly specific aspect of changing pedals, including moving individual pedals, moving two pedals simultaneously, moving pedals in opposite directions, moving pedals from flat to sharp, and using the left foot on the E pedal. In addition, such deliberate focus on the pedals improves your ability to make each pedal change quiet and efficient.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Jacqueline Pollauf has written a variety of works for the harp, including original works, pedagogical exercises, arrangements, and transcriptions for both solo harp and harp ensemble. A dedicated performer and teacher, Jacqueline resides near Baltimore, Maryland and is on the faculty of the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. She holds degrees from the Peabody Conservatory. More information is available at: jpharp.com

I used this as an exercise book when I began to learn pedal harp. The exercises progress in a logical order, beginning with very simple exercises and moving up to increasing complexity and difficulty. For example, Exercise #1 is left foot flats and naturals, with the first line being B flat/natural, second line C flat/natural, third line D flat/natural. The final line incorporates all three notes. These exercises progress to flats, sharps, and naturals in a single exercise, moving more than one pedal in a measure, moving pedals simultaneously in the same and opposite

directions...by the end I was using my left foot to go back and forth between the E and D/C/B pedals, while my right foot worked the remaining pedals. Learning this way was so much easier than other methods I tried, such as moving each pedal as I went through a scale. I highly recommend this for both the beginning harpist as well as those who want to polish their skills. What other books do for finger skills this book does for foot skills.

As a harp teacher, I found this an excellent book for a student transitioning from the lever harp to the pedal harp. Students don't need to have any prior knowledge of moving pedals, and it starts out with moving one pedal at a time, a perfect beginning to set up good pedal technique. The first several exercises are great for getting used to moving pedals, feeling the differences between going to flat or sharp, and learning to find the pedals without looking. After this solid foundation, students take off! The incremental approach in the book works really well, and students move on to more complex skills, moving two pedals at once, moving in opposite directions, flat to sharp, and so on. All possible combinations of the two sides are covered, and for skills that require a lot of coordination, having an exercise that thoroughly drills each skill is extremely effective. By the end of the book students are cross pedaling, with their left foot on the E pedal. It's amazing to watch someone go from no pedal knowledge to having complex skills at their disposal. This book is a much-needed addition to the harp repertoire. There's nothing else like it for thoroughness and its extremely logical approach. Highly recommended!

After transitioning to pedal harp, I found this book to be extremely helpful in developing a strong command of pedals. This book helps build many essential skills in a well-paced series of exercises so that even as one makes rapid progress on pedal harp, it does not feel at all like an overwhelming amount of work. This book is also quite helpful in ensuring that pedal changes are made quietly. In addition, the ability to mark pedals in both letter names and solfege is great practice for learning how to read solfege, which is necessary in reading a greater breadth of harp music. I would highly recommend this book to all beginning pedal students!

I've just started to practice with this book and really enjoy it! For someone starting in the middle the logical progression makes these exercises both interesting and encouraging/engaging. Learning this way was so much easier than just doing drills. And most of the exercises are quite melodious with the occasional discord thrown

in! I highly recommend this for anyone interested in improving their skills.

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