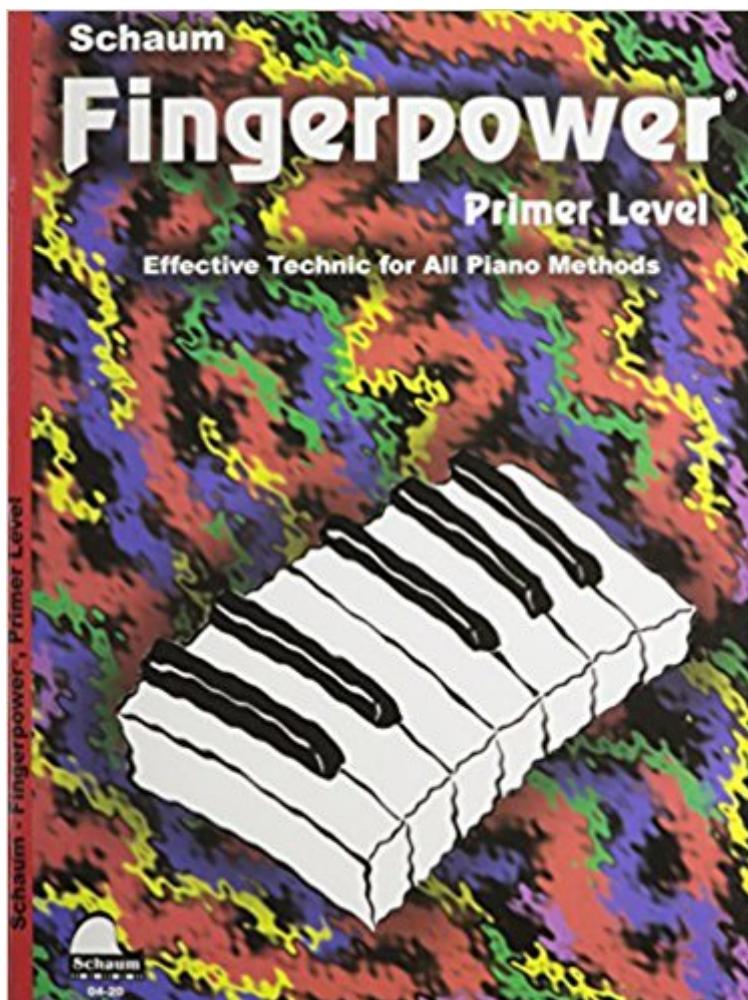


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# Fingerpower: Primer (Schaum Publications Fingerpower(R))



## Synopsis

This time-tested series provides effective technical exercises to augment all piano methods.

## Book Information

Series: Schaum Publications Fingerpower(R)

Paperback: 24 pages

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Product Dimensions: 8.7 x 0.1 x 11.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (13 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #17,241 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #104 inÂ  Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Instruments > Piano #192 inÂ  Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Theory, Composition & Performance > Instruction & Study #4993 inÂ  Books > Reference

## Customer Reviews

I've used the Fingerpower series from primer through Level 5, for hundreds of students over the decades, with various method books. The pieces in the primer level are set mostly in the Middle C hand position, in quarter notes. There are metronome settings on each short exercise. My students really like Fingerpower because they think it's an easy "star" each week, and the pieces are not long and boring. I like them because in addition to sightreading notes and rhythms, the students learn phrasing, slurs and staccato, melodic and harmonic intervals, playing a louder melody and softer accompaniment, and the easiest-ever introduction to eighth notes. It can be taught with counting aloud, or singing the letter names aloud, depending on which needs more work. I use the primer level Fingerpower for children from about the third piano lesson, but I start older teens and adults in Level 1, after about 4-6 weeks (because they're using accelerated lesson books for their intellectual level). If you're debating whether to spend the extra money on the book with CD, save your money. It's a pain to play a CD and try to keep up or parrot back the piece if you're a student. Just buy the book on its own.

Fantastic book for my daughter. Although she has been playing piano by ear and from You Tube videos rather successfully for years, her new piano teacher recommended Fingerpower by Schaum.

She is really doing great through this book.

Fingerpower is my "go-to" series for developing finger strength and independence in new pupils. Through brief 2-4 line studies, it also helps develop understanding of note reading, note values, intervals, legato/staccato, and varied rhythms. I have found it helpful to use several 4/4 time signature pieces and then to use the 3/4 pieces; otherwise some students try to play everything in 3/4! Assigning just one exercise each week, or grouping 2-3 similar pieces, will build piano skill.

As a music teacher, I've used this book for some students, but found it more handy to either write an exercise for them, or introduce them to a piece that has a technique they need to learn. This book certainly introduces concepts, but that's about it. The exercises in it are short, which is nice for students, but hardly memorable. I've found a lot of teachers rely on books like these and their pedagogy and, well, it just isn't meant to make a lasting impression on the student. There's good theory and technique in this book, but the exercises are over so fast it's almost like it never happened. Teachers need to explain these exercises more, and focus on relevance. Quality over quantity. **BOTTOM LINE:** If used with a teacher this book can be used to teach basic theory and technique. However, if that teacher is simply going to breeze through the book it's useless.

This is an excellent technique book for beginning piano students. I have used Finger Power books for over 30 years. I'm glad they haven't changed the content. They're perfect for beginners.

This is an awesome practice book for new piano students to help strengthen the fingers and learn techniques. As a piano teacher myself, I highly recommend Fingerpower coursework for every student.

I was taught through this book when I started piano and now I use it for my students. It's a fun exercise book for new piano students:)

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