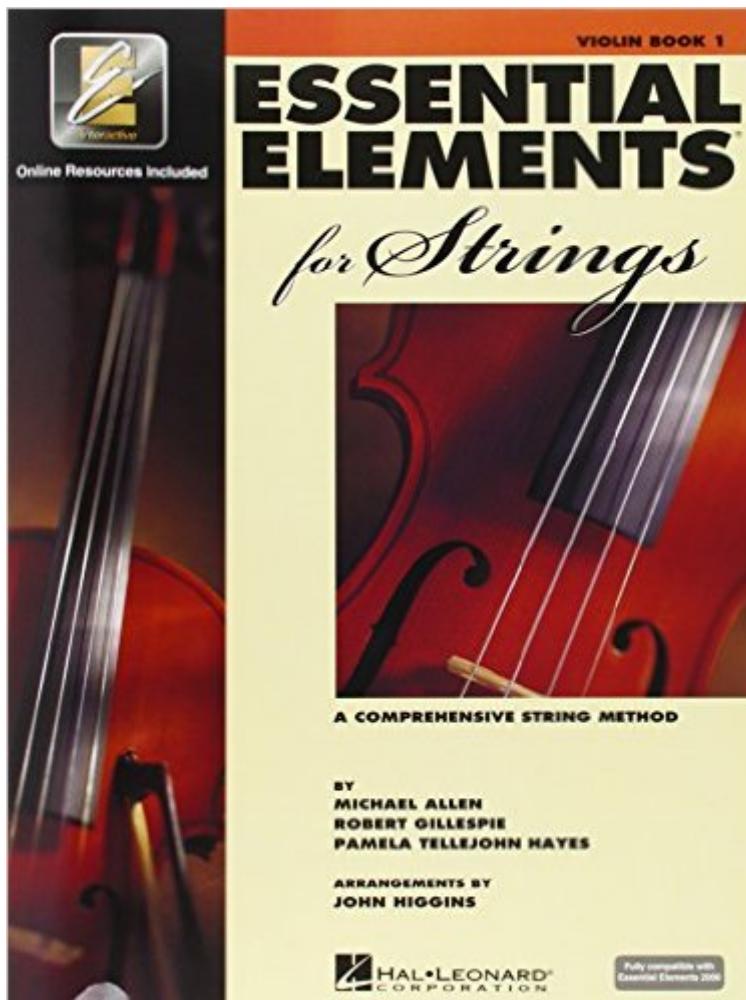


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# Essential Elements For Strings: Book 1 With EEi (Violin)



## Synopsis

(Essential Elements for Strings). (Essential Elements for Strings and Essential Elements Interactive are fully compatible with Essential Elements 2000 for Strings) Essential Elements for Strings offers beginning students sound pedagogy and engaging music, all carefully paced to successfully start young players on their musical journey. EE features both familiar songs and specially designed exercises, created and arranged for the classroom in a unison-learning environment, as well as instrument-specific exercises to focus each student on the unique characteristics of their own instrument. EE provides both teachers and students with a wealth of materials to develop total musicianship, even at the beginning stages. Books 1 and 2 also include access to Essential Elements Interactive (EEi) , the ultimate online music education resource - anywhere, anytime, and on any device. Go to [www.essentialelementsinteractive.com](http://www.essentialelementsinteractive.com) to learn more! Method features: \* Enhanced Starting System \* Optimum Reinforced Learning \* Pacing \* Theory, History, Cross-Curriculum & Creativity \* Performance Spotlights Book also includes My EE Library \* ([www.myeelibrary.com](http://www.myeelibrary.com)) -

## Book Information

Paperback: 48 pages

Publisher: Hal Leonard; 2012 edition (July 1, 2002)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0634038176

ISBN-13: 978-0634038174

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.2 x 12 inches

Shipping Weight: 7 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (460 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

"For a real violin study, go with Suzuki." While that might work for a child that is ages 3-4 in a one-on-one or small group setting (which is what the Suzuki Method was intended for), it does not work well in large group learning situation for kids who are twice that age, beginning instruments in fourth and fifth grade. And to be honest, almost everything in the Suzuki method \*IS\* an

arrangement of an original work (like the Bach Bouree from the cello suites set for violin), chosen because even in their simplified form they help teach the fundamental concepts. This is my third year using EE2000 in my school program. I usually have between 30-40 students at each grade level in the orchestra. The books and their accompanying CD/DVD work really well and are of the appropriate complexity for the students ages nine through eleven. As a private instructor myself, I recommend to all my students to seek outside instruction, but EE2000 provides a good balance of technical development with ensemble skills for the beginners. Students coming into my program who already play don't feel bored because I am able to append more complex tasks in bowing and fingering to them using the existing material, giving them helpful exercises to expand their current abilities, while they help in encouraging their beginning peers. Lastly, a smart child, if they are so motivated (as some of my kids are), can look at the directives in the EE2000 book and figure out a lot of things on their own ahead of the class, and they are provided with just enough information to accomplish those tasks fairly correctly, without doing awful things to their technique. The included instruction videos are very helpful in this case as well.

As a violin teacher, I love Essential Elements because it is a good balance of music for playing, exercises for perfecting technique, music theory (explanations), and even music history. The explanations are short enough to read during a lesson, and the diagrams make explanations easy. I love the CD accompaniment. It is fun to play along with, gives students some confidence to see if what they're playing sounds right, and helps keep students moving along so they don't get stuck if they mess up. The music styles from song to song are different and interesting: country, funk, classical, folk, and even Christmas music. There are loads of short songs to go through, which is great for learning to read notes and sightreading. So if the student doesn't get a particular song perfectly, it's ok to keep going because they'll get it again in a different form. There are two sets of performance pieces: one in the middle and one at the end of the book. These 5-6 duets can be done in 2 groups or by 2 individuals. At the end of the book, there is a short Bach Minuet solo with piano accompaniment (which is printed in the book). It is obvious this book is intended for use with youth/children's orchestras ("share your work with orchestra friends"), but my adult students have enjoyed this book too (just skip those exercises). One of my adult students says he really likes the DVD program which shows you (as you're playing) what notes you're supposed to be on and analyzes your playing so you see which notes you played wrong. I like how the book starts with just plucking (pizzicato). The first 12 pages help students focus on the left hand fingerings and reading music before they start bowing. That way, student's don't feel overwhelmed with both arms and

fingers doing different things all at once.

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