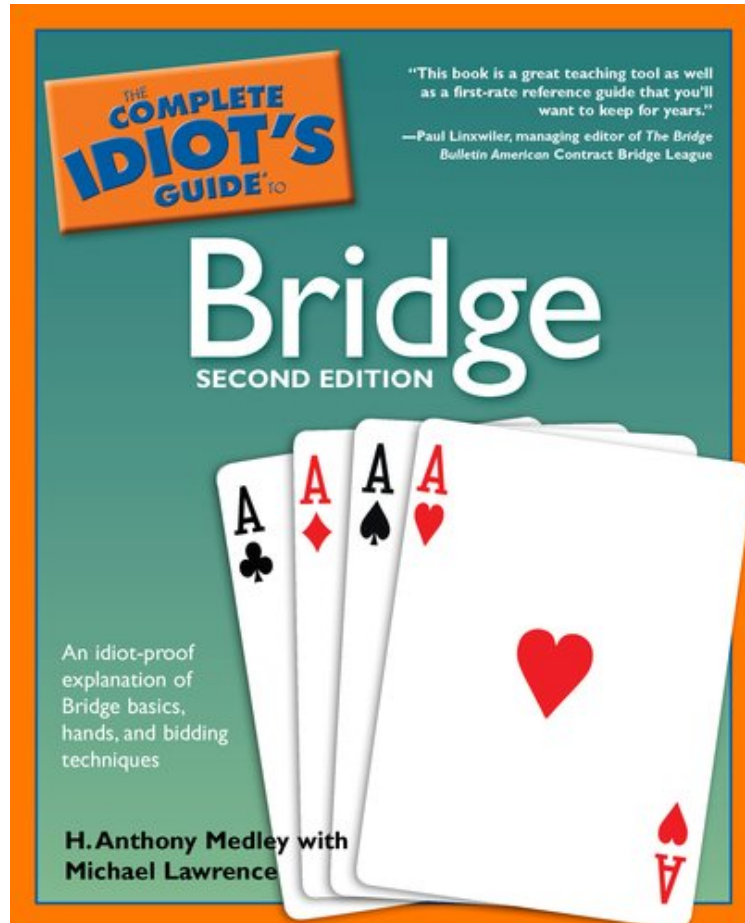


The Complete Idiot's Guide to Bridge, 2nd Edition

H. Anthony Medley, Michael Lawrence

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H. Anthony Medley, Michael Lawrence : The Complete Idiot's Guide to Bridge, 2nd Edition before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Complete Idiot's Guide to Bridge, 2nd Edition:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Inconsistent teachingsBy Stig B. HolmquistThe foundation of all bidding must be sound and conservative hand valuation for beginners. The Am. Contract Bridge League, ACBL, has established such standards but this book does not follow them fully and thus players schooled from this book will not be fully compatible with others, who have learnt the ACBL way. The most glaring deviation is about distributional values. Today's students should be told that shortness is no asset until a trump suit fit of eight or more cards combined has been found. Counting points for voids, singletons and doubletons as opener is premature and is a bad idea when they are located in major suits because the prime goal of bidding is to find an eight card fit in a major suit. Since modern bidding rules out opening bids on four card majors one must start with a minor suit bid thereby raising the hope with partner that one has at least three or possibly four cards in one or both majors. Thus being short in one or

both majors is a handicap and should not be counted as a point based asset when opening the bidding. In short: counting points for shortness before a fit has been established can be "a tragedy waiting to happen" according to bridge champion Eddie Kantar. Counting points for shortness in majors will lead to overvaluation of marginal hands and likely poor final bids as illustrated on p.58 with the grossly overvalued hand #4. As a teacher I warn students against such foolishness. Only length has potential value for opening suit bids. There are various other deviations from ACBL standards in the book, not proper to list here. The experts who reviewed this book before publication did not pay full attention to details. There is a lot of good material far beyond novice level in the book so look at all the other reviews before deciding to buy. 9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Bridge Made Truly Understandable By Tbear I am an avid chess player who has been told for years that I should play bridge. Well, I finally decided to give it a go. I began by attempting to read The ABC's of Bridge by Root. I felt that this book is anything but elementary and quickly became discouraged. I read some favorable reviews of Complete Idiot's Guide to Bridge and gave it a shot. I am 3/4 through the book in 10 days and can't say enough good things about it. It is clear, concise and packed full of excellent explanations, examples, and quizzes. The authors take you by the hand and gently lead you through the nuances of this fascinating and challenging game. I have already put my preliminary knowledge to use playing on the internet. I have already experienced the deep satisfaction of making a 3NT (3 No Trump) bid as declarer using finesses and ducking. I have enjoyed setting the opponents several times using many of the techniques outlined in the book. I am well on my way to learning how to communicate well with my partner. If you are interested in learning about Bridge, I strongly urge you to buy this book now! 10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. best on market for learning and maintaining By Ms.Firebird Get second edition as first is more out of date and 3rd is much shorter, suggests you find things online. Second edition great for beginners through intermediate to even an advanced section. Plus Medley is a writer first, player second and his excellent writing skills enhance the concepts, along with his sense of humor. Partnered with Lawrence who is a world class expert, it is perfect book for many levels and reference. I teach bridge in a senior center and we use this Idiot's book as our text, along with handouts I put together. I have a ton of bridge books and consider this book an essential and valuable mainstay.

Revised, now with the wisdom of a world champion! Learning to play bridge is much like learning a new language. But its enormous, worldwide popularity is evidence enough that people aren't discouraged by the game's challenging rules and concepts. And why should they be, when there's The Complete Idiots Guide to Bridge to teach them the game in a fun and easy-to-understand format? First edition has sold well. Only this second edition contains the wisdom of Michael Lawrence, one of the most respected bridge players in the world. New edition includes everything from the basics to the latest in bidding techniques.

Once again, it is a comprehensive introductory text with plenty of cartoons to take the edge off subject matter that can be difficult for a newcomer. Learning bridge isn't like learning poker or blackjack, where the basic rules can be explained in a few minutes. An entire book is probably the minimum needed for the basics. The bidding part of bridge is much like learning a new language. This book will teach you all the important translations and fundamentals of play as well. -- Sunday Denver Post, Nov. 30, 1997 From the Back Cover Discover quick and easy ways to... Objectively evaluate each hand you're dealt... Use convention bidding to communicate with your partner... Understand what your partner's bids and leads mean... Avoid playing mistakes that beginners often make... Play each trick like an expert... Double your opponents' bids for extra penalty points. About the Author H. Anthony Medley is the author of three books, and a columnist for the Southern California Bridge News. He holds the rank of Silver Life Master and is an American Contract Bridge League Club Director.