



How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of Beautiful Sounds, from Beethoven to the Beatles and Beyond

By John Powell

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) 

How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of Beautiful Sounds, from Beethoven to the Beatles and Beyond By John Powell

What makes a musical note different from any other sound? How can you tell if you have perfect pitch? Why do 10 violins sound only twice as loud as one? Do your Bob Dylan albums sound better on CD or vinyl? John Powell, a scientist and musician, answers these questions and many more in **HOW MUSIC WORKS**, an intriguing and original guide to acoustics. In a clear, accessible, and engaging voice, Powell fascinates the reader with his delightful descriptions of the science and psychology lurking beneath the surface of music. With lively discussions of the secrets behind harmony, timbre, keys, chords, loudness, musical composition, and more, **HOW MUSIC WORKS** will be treasured by music lovers everywhere. The book also includes a CD of examples and exercises from the book.

 [Download How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of Bea...pdf](#)

 [Read Online How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of B...pdf](#)

How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of Beautiful Sounds, from Beethoven to the Beatles and Beyond

By John Powell

How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of Beautiful Sounds, from Beethoven to the Beatles and Beyond By John Powell

What makes a musical note different from any other sound? How can you tell if you have perfect pitch? Why do 10 violins sound only twice as loud as one? Do your Bob Dylan albums sound better on CD or vinyl? John Powell, a scientist and musician, answers these questions and many more in **HOW MUSIC WORKS**, an intriguing and original guide to acoustics. In a clear, accessible, and engaging voice, Powell fascinates the reader with his delightful descriptions of the science and psychology lurking beneath the surface of music. With lively discussions of the secrets behind harmony, timbre, keys, chords, loudness, musical composition, and more, **HOW MUSIC WORKS** will be treasured by music lovers everywhere. The book also includes a CD of examples and exercises from the book.

How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of Beautiful Sounds, from Beethoven to the Beatles and Beyond By John Powell Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #85634 in Books
- Brand: Little Brown and Company
- Published on: 2011-12-02
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.25" h x .75" w x 5.50" l, .58 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 272 pages



[Download How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of Bea ...pdf](#)



[Read Online How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of B ...pdf](#)

Download and Read Free Online How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of Beautiful Sounds, from Beethoven to the Beatles and Beyond By John Powell

Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

In this enlightening book, Powell, a British scholar and professor, sets out to explain how we experience music. He selects examples from all manner of disciplines--music composition, simple mathematics, physics, engineering, history--and offers his insights, such as how Bach's Prelude in C Major is similar to Led Zeppelin's Stairway to Heaven. In the first half, he defines the elements of music like pitch, frequency, harmony, rhythm, and decibel. Building on this foundation, Powell hits his stride in the book's second half as he demonstrates, using both classical and pop music, how musicians create sound and how we listen to it. Some of the information can get scientific but Powell conveys the material with enough humor (I think the decibel was invented in a bar, late one night, by a committee of drunken electrical engineers who wanted to take revenge on the world for their total lack of dancing partners) and cocktail party facts (when we listen to Mozart's music nowadays, we are hearing it a semitone higher than he would have intended) to keep the book light and fun. Included in the book is a 10-track CD.

Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Review

"By reading Powell's book we can gain a more solid knowledge of the foundations of music and therefore be better able to appreciate it." *Amanda Mark, New York Journal of Books*

"Any readers whose love of music has somehow not led them to explore the technical side before will surely find the result a thoroughly accessible, and occasionally revelatory, primer." *James Walton, The Spectator*

"An exceptionally informative discussion of the hows and whys of music...The presentation is clear and logical—even for a layman like myself. Yet it is never pandering, or overly simplified. In short, this is just about the best book on the subject I have come across." *Greg Barbrick, Seattle-Post Intelligencer*

"In this distinctive combination of scientific treatise and laugh-out-loud commentary, composer and physicist Powell...has carved out an intriguing niche by using humor to enliven what could have been an otherwise dry introduction to acoustics...readers...should glean some useful background for music study while simultaneously being entertained." *Barry Zaslow, Library Journal*

"The author...uses easy-to-follow, conversational language to lead the reader into the science of music...It is amazing that after a few hours of Powell's explanations, a musical novice (like me) can begin to read music, which is written in a language that is as foreign to most of us as Sanskrit." *Phillip Manning, Science Book News*

About the Author

John Powell holds a PhD in physics from Imperial College at London University. He has taught physics at the University of Nottingham and the University of Lulea in Sweden. In 2003, he earned a master's degree in music composition from the University of Sheffield in Great Britain.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Richard Nix:

Book is written, printed, or illustrated for everything. You can realize everything you want by a book. Book has a different type. As you may know that book is important point to bring us around the world. Adjacent to that you can your reading expertise was fluently. A book How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of Beautiful Sounds, from Beethoven to the Beatles and Beyond will make you to possibly be smarter. You can feel considerably more confidence if you can know about anything. But some of you think that open or reading any book make you bored. It's not make you fun. Why they could be thought like that? Have you looking for best book or acceptable book with you?

John Bledsoe:

What do you think about book? It is just for students since they are still students or the item for all people in the world, exactly what the best subject for that? Merely you can be answered for that query above. Every person has different personality and hobby for each other. Don't to be forced someone or something that they don't desire do that. You must know how great along with important the book How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of Beautiful Sounds, from Beethoven to the Beatles and Beyond. All type of book would you see on many solutions. You can look for the internet resources or other social media.

Joseph Mack:

Reading a guide tends to be new life style within this era globalization. With looking at you can get a lot of information which will give you benefit in your life. Along with book everyone in this world can easily share their idea. Textbooks can also inspire a lot of people. Lots of author can inspire their particular reader with their story or even their experience. Not only situation that share in the publications. But also they write about the knowledge about something that you need illustration. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your kids, there are many kinds of book that you can get now. The authors nowadays always try to improve their talent in writing, they also doing some investigation before they write to the book. One of them is this How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of Beautiful Sounds, from Beethoven to the Beatles and Beyond.

Jimmy Dolce:

You may get this How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of Beautiful Sounds, from Beethoven to the Beatles and Beyond by look at the bookstore or Mall. Just simply viewing or reviewing it may to be your solve challenge if you get difficulties on your knowledge. Kinds of this book are various. Not only through written or printed but can you enjoy this book by simply e-book. In the modern era just like now, you just looking from your mobile phone and searching what their problem. Right now, choose your own personal ways to get more information about your book. It is most important to arrange yourself to make your knowledge are still revise. Let's try to choose appropriate ways for you.

Download and Read Online How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of Beautiful Sounds, from Beethoven to the Beatles and Beyond By John Powell #ZRH3INKF51V

Read How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of Beautiful Sounds, from Beethoven to the Beatles and Beyond By John Powell for online ebook

How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of Beautiful Sounds, from Beethoven to the Beatles and Beyond By John Powell Free PDF d0wnl0ad, audio books, books to read, good books to read, cheap books, good books, online books, books online, book reviews epub, read books online, books to read online, online library, greatbooks to read, PDF best books to read, top books to read How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of Beautiful Sounds, from Beethoven to the Beatles and Beyond By John Powell books to read online.

Online How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of Beautiful Sounds, from Beethoven to the Beatles and Beyond By John Powell ebook PDF download

How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of Beautiful Sounds, from Beethoven to the Beatles and Beyond By John Powell Doc

How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of Beautiful Sounds, from Beethoven to the Beatles and Beyond By John Powell MobiPocket

How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of Beautiful Sounds, from Beethoven to the Beatles and Beyond By John Powell EPub

ZRH3INKF51V: How Music Works: The Science and Psychology of Beautiful Sounds, from Beethoven to the Beatles and Beyond By John Powell