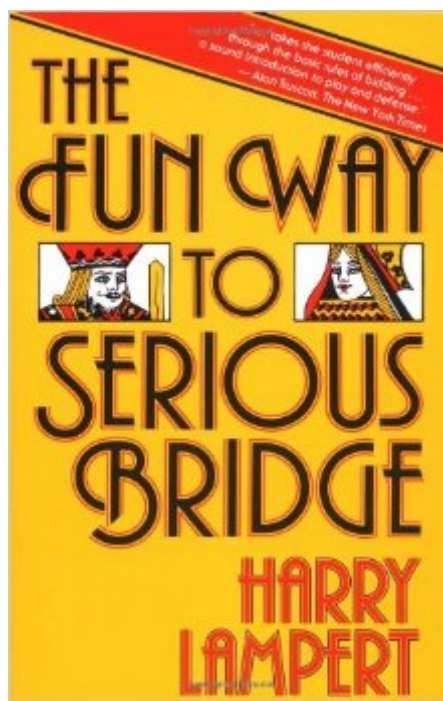


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# The Fun Way To Serious Bridge



## Synopsis

The Fun Way To Serious Bridge is for anyone who wants to learn and understand the fundamentals of the mind-stimulating and challenging game of bridge -- and enjoy every minute of it! Harry Lampert combines his skills as a bridge player and teacher with his artistic talents to bring you a totally new FUN way to learn the game. The magic of his superb cartoons and simple, informative language will help you to absorb the principles of serious contract bridge -- and remember them. You'll laugh and learn every step of the way from opening bids to strip and end plays. Whether novice or seasoned social player, this unique book will make good bridge a simple "trick." You'll learn all about: \* Opening bids, suit bids, response and no trump bids, and how to force bids \* Competition and the reasons and ways behind it \* Big hand bidding such as Blackwood Convention, grand slam force and Gerber Convention \* Patterns of play including how tricks are won, the finesse, establishing a long suit, when to pull and delay trumps and entries. \* Defensive and advanced play -- plus much more!

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (80 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

As one of the other reviewers noted, there is a dearth of good introductory bridge books. This book is not bad, but it is very busy and focuses on memorizing rules -- not a good thing, despite the numerous cartoons designed to help you remember. The book is a bit childish and might be good for teaching a kid, I can't see an adult using this to learn with though. Most of the other books are at least slightly better. Root's ABC's of Bridge is more thorough and less busy, and Penick's Beginning Bridge Complete will get you playing much quicker. But even these books are heavy on memory work and light on teaching you to think. Furthermore, because all of these books are focusing on

memorizing instead of thinking things through, they frequently "simplify" modern bidding to make it "easier" to learn. Doing this however, destroys the logic behind the bidding, making it almost impossible for a beginner to learn. INSTEAD OF THIS BOOK, you should get Alan Truscott's Bridge in 3 weeks, the absolute best book, and the \*only\* one I'd recommend. The writing is superb, which you would expect from the Bridge editor of the NY Times. The book focuses on teaching you to think at the table and will get you playing the game quickly. More over because this book focuses on logic instead of memorization, it actually teaches you to bid and play in the way that most actual players do, making it easier to advance beyond the book.

If you're a pretty good card player, the hardest thing about learning Bridge is becoming fluent in the specialized language of bidding. Mr. Lampert actually makes this task enjoyable with his great cartoons. They make it easy to recall the proper bid(s) in each situation you encounter. This book is proof that a picture is worth a thousand words.

I have looked at several bridge books for beginners. This one breaks things down step by step, so you're not overwhelmed with information. It also explains the logic behind bids and plays, which makes them easier to understand and remember. It is by far the best beginner bridge book I have seen.

My impression when I picked this book up was that there would be tons of cartoons to help remember all of the "rules", e.g, my partner bids 1S, my hand has 10 points, therefore I should do this. In my view, there are not enough cartoons to really help remember the material. So, from this point of view, the book is not successful. Where the book does shine is in its highly concentrated explanation of the basics. I carry this book in my briefcase and read portions of it every day. Think of this book as a supplementary collection of notes to augment your other bridge books. This would be an good, inexpensive textbook for a 10-week class on bridge basics, for example. I think if you really learn the material in this book, you will be a very good beginner with ample room to grow.

Fun, easy, quick way to establish basics with potential party-bridge player entering duplicate play. I keep 2 copies so I can loan one to new partners. His other book Fun Way to Advanced Bridge is an excellent followup.

The primary appeal of this book is its thinness. Bridge already has a daunting reputation, and thick

books don't help. The goal of a beginners bridge book should show the student enough of the game to get them to the table. Some of the more esoteric cases and topics can be postponed. This book accomplishes these goals admirably. Nonetheless, I would have appreciated a second summary chart covering responses to a bid of 2 Club Stayman. Still, do not be deceived - this book requires multiple readings to ensure that it all sinks in.

I hold this book as the model of books I'd like to write -- on any topic. I think it helps that the author's a cartoonist. I'm ordering 8 more copies now -- I just taught a new batch of bridge players.

This book's great cartoons and straightforward approach make learning bridge fun and easy. I recommend this book to many of my students: they seem to enjoy reading it and come away with a firm grasp of the basics. The cartoons and helpful summaries really stick in your mind!

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