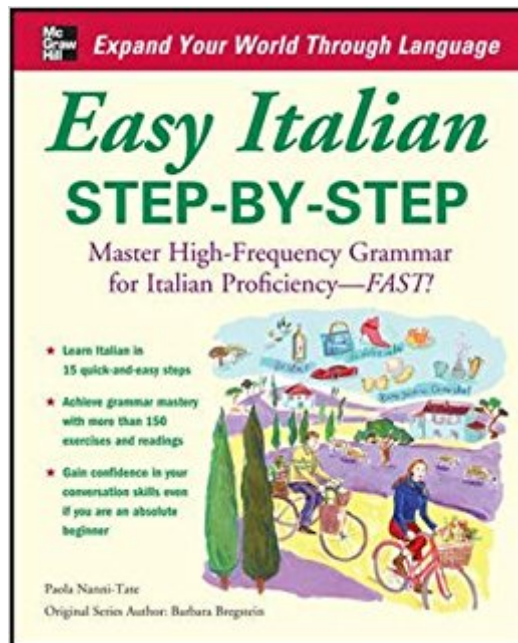




The book was found

Easy Italian Step-by-Step (NTC Foreign Language)



Synopsis

Learn Italian step-by-step and soon you'll be making leaps and bounds Your quickest route to learning Italian is through a solid grounding in grammar basics. Now don't be put off by the "G-word." What you won't find in this book is a lot of repetitive drills. Instead, you get an original, step-by-step approach to learning Italian based on the way people naturally acquire language. From the very beginning, you are introduced to the most essential structures--allowing you to communicate in Italian almost immediately. Gradually, through a series of interconnected "steps," you logically progress to more common concepts that govern how Italian is spoken and written. And along the way you are introduced to hundreds of carefully selected verbs and vocabulary words presented on the basis of how often they are used in everyday Italian. Guaranteed to get you quickly up and running with the knowledge and skills you need to communicate in Italian with confidence, Easy Italian Step-by-Step features:

- A unique "building-block" approach to mastering essential grammar, verbs, and vocabulary
- Down-to-earth explanations of important rules and concepts
- Hundreds of frequently used verbs and key terms a beginner should know
- Exercises to test what you've learned and measure progress
- Engaging readings that help you hone your skills in everyday contexts

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Customer Reviews

Paola Nanni-Tate teaches Italian at Ohio State University and is the author of Italian Verb Drills and

Practice Makes Perfect: Italian Verb Tenses.

I am a Pimsleur fanatic. I've gone from Italian 1 through 4 in their program (120 CDs - many times each). I'm now so surprisingly good at conversation that I am rarely misunderstood when in Italy. But there are a number of grammar mistakes I make when speaking, I know it, and there are a lot of things I misunderstand when I read. "Easy Italian" neatly filled in the potholes in my brain. Something so simple - C'e' and ci sono, for instance - that I never was quite certain of. I must have sounded like a four year old to all those polite Italians! Goodness! I am SO grateful for this book - it plugged in exactly what I was missing in an easy, clear way. Love the exercises, too. They really anchor it, unlike some that just expect you to pick it up with one pass.

Aside from the errors in grammar (which is a big aside), there appears to be little thought to the needs of the beginner level needs. The book is too erratic in terms of its schema and lessons. Having studied French, Spanish, Italian and Latin in traditional modes, I found this book gives little direction in its methods e.g. present tense verbs with simple vocabulary which reinforce the reader's development. All said there are much better instructional primers out there.

The title of this book is misleading. This is not a "learn Italian from the beginning" book, it is a "I wonder what the rule is for..." book. As others have noted, you can't learn Italian just with this book as it assumes you know too much. It is more a reference book where if you have a question about some aspect of Italian grammar, you can find an answer here. It is better than using About.com as learning parts of speech is cumulative, requiring knowledge of simpler parts. That cumulative nature is reflected in the book. I found it well organized by parts of speech and in the Kindle version, easily searchable. If you are using this as part of another course, the exercises might be useful. If you are doing this on your own, I'm not sure how you check your work (except maybe using Google Translate). I have completed the Pimsleur Italian I and II CD's which are almost entirely verbal/listening and very little grammar. This book is a very helpful addition to answer all those weird questions that arose as I worked through the CD's.

very helpful

This book seems to follow the same sort of curriculum as College Texts. I have tried several Italian books, and this method makes the most sense. There are books aimed at travel phrases, such as,

"I left my baggage at the terminal", " Which way to the Cathedral"? "My friend would like a glass of red wine, and I would like cold lemonade". Well, suppose those aren't the right questions? And then, what do you do with the answer? Then I tried to learn it like a baby way (Berlitz and Rosetta Stone use this). So what do we get? " The professor is taking the book to the window". "The mirror is under the table" That one will really come in handy when we get to Florence..... The only way to learn a language, is to learn it. Verb declensions, noun genders, all of it. By learning it this way, we learn the tools with which to actually express what we mean, and a possibility of comprehending what is said to us. Is it Easy Italian Step-by-Step? No it isn't easy. But it is productive.

Good beginner's grammar, used to teach a group of seniors. Could use some more reading comprehension pieces. Overall, one of the better grammar books out there, I think.

I use this book teaching my Italian class. I like it and so do the students. It presents the material much better than the book we were using.

I've been pleasantly surprised with this book since it is different from other language books I've tried. I'm looking for the basics to be able to communicate during trips and appreciate the approach this book takes in starting right out with some grammatical information, not just standard tourist phrases. If you're lucky enough to have an ear for the language and can speak understandably, the locals are inclined to think you are fluent and answer accordingly. I've had that happen on more than one occasion and then am out of luck since I can't understand them. By having some better knowledge of the language patterns, such as basic grammar and idioms, it really helps a lot with understanding responses--the other half of communication. While I'm not terribly far along in the book, I already feel I have more competence in Italian than I have after countless other books and audio courses. I'm learning the foundation of the language, not just memorizing. This approach is highly recommended.

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