

## **FOREWORD**

A scientific method for the Tenor Banjo that teaches the orchestral style of Tenor Banjo playing, as required by the modern dance orchestra. Shows the gradual steps in the development of a player from the first note of the scale, through the simple chords, to the most difficult modulations and intricate jazz strokes. The book contains simple lessons in harmony, as pertaining to chord construction, and covers 121 harmonious chords as taught by the modern harmony system devised by Prof. A. Karl Kramer. It is easy to understand. The book contains easy arrangements of solos and duets for Tenor Banjo, as well as numbers suitable for the dance hall or concert program. A course in technique that will promote efficiency of the highest type. A book that every Tenor Banjoist should have as an aid, and a book that every teacher will appreciate.

The Editor



The correct position of holding the instrument.

### Holding the plectrum.

The drawing is actual size of one type of plectrum. The tip protrudes slightly beyond the fingertip index finger always, not the second finger. The round edge of the plectrum comes to the first joint of the finger. Now place the thumb over it as in drawing No. 2. Hold firmly so it can not slip.

No. 1.



No. 2.

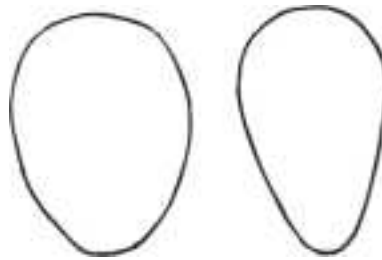




Correct position of holding  
Instrument

The beginner needs a good banjo, so get the best one you can afford. Keep the head tight. The bridge must be placed the same distance from the 12th fret, that the 12th fret is from the nut. In other words the 12th fret must be exactly half way from the nut to the bridge. Keep the strings clean and free from rust and change them frequently. A good instrument can be ruined by poor worn out strings.

The pick or plectrum should not be too flexible or it will click upon the strings. However if too stiff the beginner will have trouble making a tremolo, so use a pick of medium flexibility at the start. For orchestra work a genuine tortoise shell is fine.



These two shapes are good. Follow the advice of your teacher in this. Get a teacher if possible.

The plectrum is held between the first finger

and thumb of the right hand. Hold it firmly so it will not slip. Strike the strings at right angles to the strings, about three inches from the bridge. Various tonal effects are produced at different distances but if played too near the bridge the tone is thin.

The forearm of the right hand must rest upon the guard, or at the position where the guard is placed in the cut.