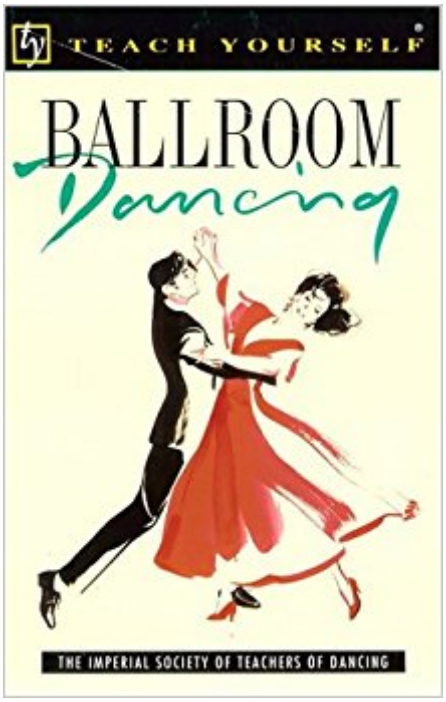
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Teach Yourself Ballroom Dancing (Teach Yourself (McGraw-Hill))



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Synopsis

Slight wear, but very good copy.

Book Information

Series: Teach Yourself (McGraw-Hill)

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: McGraw-Hill Companies; Rev Sub edition (January 1992)

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Average Customer Review: 2.7 out of 5 stars 2 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

Slight wear, but very good copy.

It is very, very difficult to teach yourself any form of dancing, let alone 16 kinds in 184 pages. Still, this is an excellent brief history of the development of International Ballroom dancing from the 1920s to the 1970s, when the book was written. Indeed, the forward is written by Victor Silvester, who was part of the original committee which first codified and standardized ballroom dance. It serves as an excellent overview of the differences and origins of the various waltzes, jazz dances and latin dances that can be quite confusing for beginners.Still, it really is not a "Teach Yourself" book. There are far better videos on YouTube that you can learn from for free and much more quickly. Of course, nothing can beat a real, live dance teacher. But, since you can get a used copy for a couple of dollars and because many dance teachers are ignorant of the history of the dances they teach, this is a good book for a "dance nerd" to pick up.Finally, the way ballroom is danced has changed greatly since 1977 (though less so for International). I encourage anyone interested in dancing to get out there and dance! Once you find a dance or two that really interests you you can then spend money on videos or books or lessons.

I knew enough about dancing to be dangerous. It was time to do some serious reading up on what I wanted to do. This was my first book on dancing. Sadly, it did not excite me. The steps are laid out in such a style that you must step through them in order to see them. The dance descriptions and histories were good however. This would be a good book to refresh yourself from, while you're traveling on a plane or something, but it's not a good book to learn from.

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