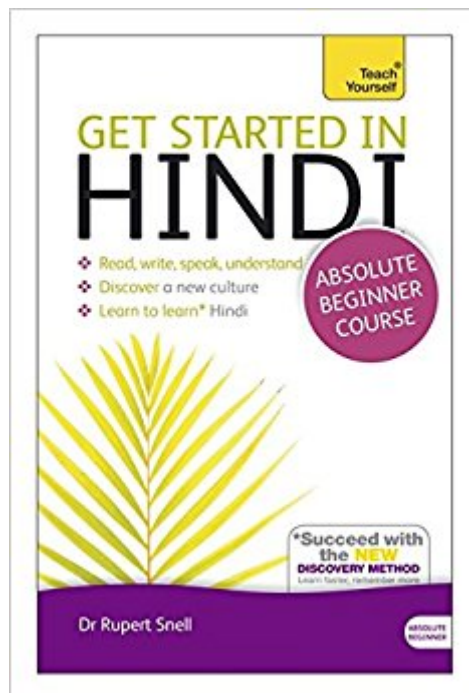




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Get Started In Hindi With Two Audio CDs: A Teach Yourself Guide, Second Edition (Teach Yourself Language)



Synopsis

Teach Yourself takes the pain out of learning Hindi. Get Started in Hindi requires no prior experience in the language and gives you the opportunity to study at a reasonable, steady pace. This course makes the process nearly painless--it is written in a friendly and supportive tone, and the structure offers you plenty of opportunities for self-practice. You are in control of your learning experience, so you never feel overwhelmed or rushed. This practical course introduces Hindi without inundating you and includes dialogues and exercises, a helpful pronunciation section, manageable lists of practical vocabulary, a glossary of grammar terms, and more. The accompanying audio CD features recordings by native speakers and contains dialogues from the book as well as exercises in listening and speaking.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Rupert Snell has been teaching and researching Hindi for 35 years and is currently the director of the Hindi Urdu Flagship, University of Texas at Austin.

Probably one of the best books out there in the marketplace for learning Hindi. This book is especially useful if you are self-teaching or are an independent learner. Each chapter and section builds on the previous one. THIS is the book I recommend all the time for people interested in learning Hindi as a second language.

If you have little to no background in Hindi and are seeking a well-organized, step-by-step guide for learning the language on your own, then this is the course for you. I went through several Hindi books before finding this gem. I initially purchased "Elementary Hindi" by Delacy based on its stellar reviews, but quickly found the book's format completely uncondusive to learning. Having learned multiple languages in the past, I expected the book to begin with rudimentary phrases and greetings so that I could start building some traction. Unfortunately, the beginning chapters were littered with obscure words, no linking of topics or logical structure, and no foundation upon which I could build. Granted, the purpose of the initial chapters was on teaching the Devanagari script, but even so I found it difficult to motivate myself to study when I was essentially being asked to memorize lists of unrelated words. What's worse, the book was accompanied by a CD, but the audio didn't even correspond to the book! It instead was the audio for a separate workbook, which I subsequently purchased only to be disappointed yet again. I was excited to begin forming basic sentences but had to root around the book just to find phrases such as "I am" and "he/she is." In my disappointment I turned to the reliable Practice Makes Perfect series and purchased the "Basic Hindi" book, which is a nice little introduction to Hindi but unfortunately is unaccompanied by audio. But then I stumbled across "Get Started in Hindi." Within days I was forming basic sentences, learning greetings, and building my Hindi vocabulary. Like the Delacy book, "Get Started in Hindi" commences with a primer on the Devanagari script (Snell also wrote a book called "Read and Write Hindi Script" if you're looking for a more advanced treatise on learning the script), but fortunately the author gives you the fundamentals and gets right to the business of learning some rudimentary phrases, listening to simple conversations that utilize words you've learned, and conjugating verbs to form sentences. This format was like a breath of fresh air, and I found myself excited to go through each lesson. The audio is fantastic, with both male and female speakers whose voices are clear and easy to understand. A major difference between this book and the Delacy book is that Snell presents the English transliteration of Hindi words alongside the Devanagari script. I personally have decided to learn the script to more fully immerse myself in the language, but it is very convenient to have the transliteration available to make sure I'm reading the script correctly. Without question this would be a huge advantage for someone who is looking to visit India for a week or two and just wants to pick up the basics without learning the script. Each chapter has a easy-to-follow flow to it that makes learning fun-- I always feel like what I'm learning builds upon the previous chapters. What point is there in a language resource if it doesn't prompt you to learn more? I'm eager to pick up this book as I know that with even just a few minutes of studying I can take

away several useful nuggets I can use in conversation. If you are interested in learning Hindi and are eager to get started, "Get Started in Hindi" is your roadmap to success.

This is a great book. The language is conversational and easy to follow. The level is right-on for an adult student: it's neither too dumbed-down, nor too dry & academic. And while it is called 'Get Started' and 'Absolute Beginner Course' -- honestly, if you could master the content of this book, you'd have no problem understanding nearly 100% of everyday spoken & written Hindi in India today. I'm living in India and taking an in-person Hindi class -- but I'm using this as a backup and resource book. Honestly, I wish I had the author of this book as my teacher rather than the one I have! My version of the book included one CD. You're not going to learn the language from the CD alone (this isn't a Pimsleur class), but it's useful to bone up on pronunciation. There are a variety of Hindi books by Rupert Snell. My guess is that they are all variants of the same, from different publishers in slightly different editions, and my comments probably apply to these other editions as well.

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