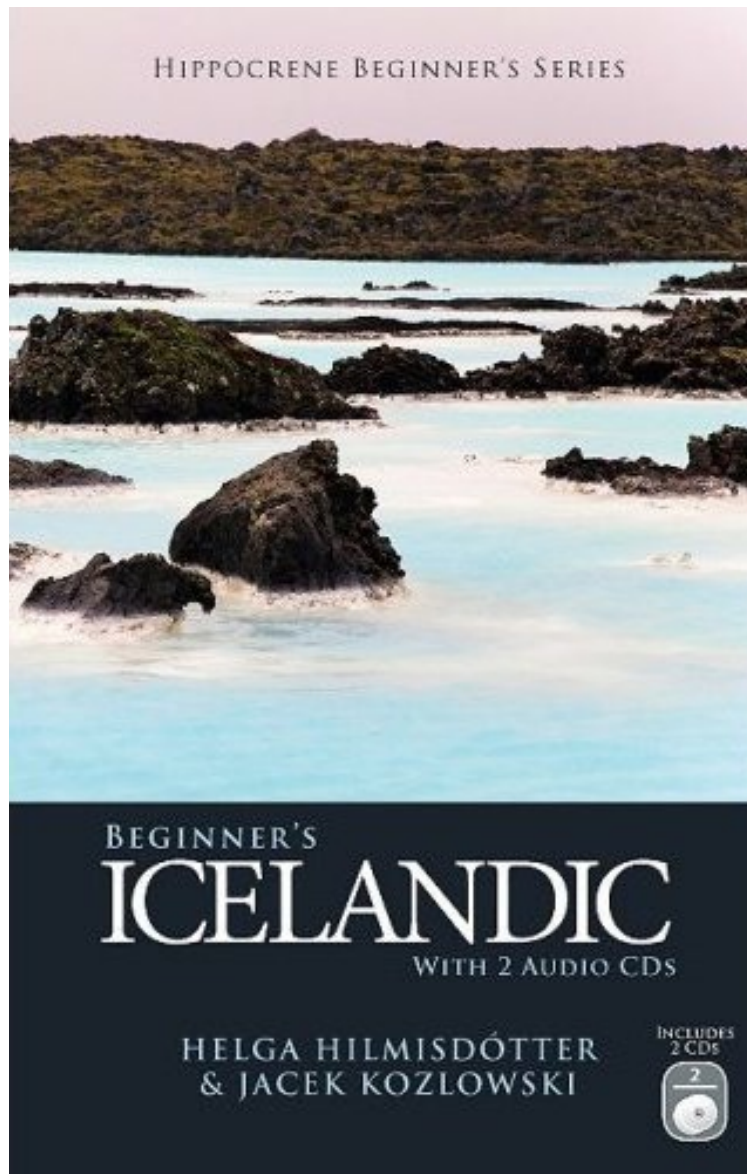


(Mobile pdf) Beginner's Icelandic with 2 Audio CDs (Hippocrene Beginner's)

Beginner's Icelandic with 2 Audio CDs (Hippocrene Beginner's)

Helga Hilmisdottir

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Helga Hilmisdottir : Beginner's Icelandic with 2 Audio CDs (Hippocrene Beginner's) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Beginner's Icelandic with 2 Audio CDs (Hippocrene Beginner's):

11 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Your best first step for both modern Icelandic *and* Old NorseBy Ragnarr LobrkThe best available first step for serious languages learners. Use this book before both Colloquial

Icelandic and Stefan Einarsson's book. I would use the Colloquial one after this book followed by Stefan's book. Let me explain why. First of all Stefan's book has zero audio, and Colloquial's book doesn't have crystal clear slowly spoken audio and often has distracting background noise during the dialogues in attempt to make the dialogues more realistic. Learning proper pronunciation early on is paramount to learning a language. This book has the best pronunciation notes of all of them at the beginning with clear audio examples. Also, each dialogue has two tracks, one spoken at full speed and another where they speak very slowly and very clearly. This is a godsend. This book also introduces grammar in smaller bite sized pieces at a more realistic rate of assimilation than the other two books mentioned. This book doesn't teach the entire grammar, the Colloquial book teaches much more grammar, and Stefan's book even more. Those latter two books can force too much grammar per lesson than many learners can realistically learn however. For this reason I recommend the Hippocrene book before all others. I also recommend using this book and possibly the others if you are intending on learning Old Norse. Viking Language 1 is probably the best book for the entry level Old Norse learner. However, even that book can force too many grammar tables at a time and not enough practice drilling those declensions/ word endings into your brain in smaller chunks. Fortunately the grammar of Old Icelandic (Old Norse) and Modern Icelandic has changed very little and therefore starting with modern Icelandic can be logical choice. After you learn Modern Icelandic then Old Norse will come very rapidly and it will even be fun noticing the small changes here and there. Also, the audio CDs that can be purchased to go with Viking Language 1 unfortunately use a Modern Icelandic pronunciation instead of a reconstructed Old Norse one. Another reason to simply start with the Hippocrene Book. Another thing I love about this book that the others don't have all the way through is that the dialogues have the spoken language on one page and the English on the other. Because of this you can use it the way learners use the legendary Assimil books, you can practice translating from one language into the other line by line. Also, very importantly, this is the only book where the audio is ALL in Icelandic. Colloquial contains WAY too much spoken English. There are very few choices for learning this beautiful language spoken by only 300,000 or so people. Of these choices, this book with the CDs that come with it is by far the best start. "Bless Bless!" 4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. This is so cool! After listening to one of Kaleo's songs (it's ...By Comeback Kid This is so cool! After listening to one of Kaleo's songs (it's so pretty and awesome sounding) I decided it be neat to learn a little Icelandic, or at least get a feel for it. As a Latin scholar, this language is a great 'challenging' introduction to the Germanic languages. Very straight forward book, came with audio CDs, has practice/writing/reading drills, and great formatting. Very good Icelandic textbook! 38 of 38 people found the following review helpful. A good start By S. Morris I'm only about halfway through this--I just started on the second CD today. I would heartily second the other reviewer's comments. The book is well-structured, and introduces the tricky Icelandic grammar in small bites so it isn't overwhelming. I, too, would like more exercises, but that seems to be the modern method. Older books I've seen have LOTS of exercises, but no answer key, which kind of defeats the purpose unless you're in a class. Pronunciation is a real issue in Icelandic. It's not at all intuitive (" is pronounced 'ow', while 'au' is pronounced 'oy', just to give you an idea). So I find myself going back to the first CD over and over, just to listen. The dialogs are more entertaining than is often the case, with a sort of story being played out. And yes, a couple of the chapters have two dialogs, and the second one is never on the recording. But any new words are included in the recording of the vocab list. This is a good, solid introduction to Icelandic. You won't achieve full fluency, but you can't really expect that in 14 lessons, now, can you?

A small volcanic island just south of the Arctic Circle, Iceland is a place of fierce natural beauty and warmly hospitable people. Glaciers and fjords punctuate the coastline while geysers, waterfalls and hot springs dot the interior, harnessed by Icelanders to provide geothermal and hydropower energy. The island itself is composed primarily of basalt, or cooled lava. Icelandic retains ancient characteristics that today have been lost by most Western European languages. A North Germanic language related to Faroese, it is grammatically comparable to Latin or Ancient Greek, but is most closely linked to Old Norse. Written Icelandic has changed very little since the 13th century. Icelanders take the preservation of their language very seriously, and are immensely proud of the fact that the 800-year old sagas can still be read today. Beginner's Icelandic with 2 Audio CDs contains 14 lessons structured to help the student traveler gain ease and familiarity with this noble language. The dialogues follow a variety of practical situations such as shopping, transportation, discussing the weather, eating in restaurants, and renting a car or a room, while building on the grammar, vocabulary and phrases learned in previous exercises. The audio CDs follow the dialogues on the page, so that the student benefits from seeing the script while simultaneously hearing the pronunciation. A glossary of words and colloquialisms rounds out this remarkable introduction to a unique language.