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Behind The Wheel - Italian 1



Synopsis

Behind the Wheel Italian Level 1 covers beginning to intermediate level Italian, providing a flexible, solid and universal foundation in speaking, understanding, and creatively expressing yourself in Italian. The program features an English speaking instructor to guide you through the lessons and a native Italian speaker to aid with your pronunciation. Includes a companion book to reinforce and enhance the audio experience.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I'm so happy with my new CD's that I have to share this! One of my New Year's resolutions was to learn a new language and there I was in the middle of the year with "no time" to do this. I was so ready to start that spent almost an hour reading all the reviews online for all the programs available and BEHIND THE WHEEL was the right choice for me. Even when the traffic is heavy and I have to drive long distances, I'm relaxed with my CD in a learning mode, not feeling that I'm wasting time. The best part is that in Italian doesn't matter what you are saying because anything sounds good and sexy, so this is really making me feel good!! I was searching for the best choice for the price. First I thought about Rosetta stone but the price did not convince me, what about if I never have the "time" to do this after spending all this money? And I know once I get home I have so many better things to do than learn a new language, that's why the Behind the Wheel for US \$30 something for me sounds like a deal and the CDs are really good!! I just finished my second CD; there are 8 in the total. I think each CD takes around an hour. I'm listening two times each CD before moving to the

next one and its being a pleasure to learn Italian this way! I have to confess that I speak Spanish and Portuguese but I don't enjoy studying languages. I just learn English when I moved to US and I learned Spanish because I live in Miami (it sounds funny but is true). I tried to learn English in school back in home but I always felt that I was bad for languages because I hate grammar and I hate to read about grammar. But I love to learn in the "streets" probably that's why this CDs sounds fun! Even if you speak just one language this one it's really easy.

I believe this series is more for students (of all ages!) hoping to learn the Italian language. Having traveled to Italy six months ago, and having the great fortune to return next month, I have been looking for something that would provide more conversation experience in typical travel situations. I don't really need to know the word for blackboard, though possibly a student traveling to Italy would. Nonetheless, this was a good addition to my various approaches to learning Italian. What has been most helpful to me is the sentence building. By combining most often used verb conjugations and infinitives, you can quickly learn to construct a number of sentences. In the same vein, it's useful to know when to use "avere" (to have), for English expressions that use the verb "to be." However, for the casual traveler, it would be helpful to have more extensive or different vocabulary. The traveler likely doesn't need to say "I want to work, or I have to write." But by using the sentence building, and a phrase book I purchased, I ended up building my own sentences and creating my own flash cards for things I now know I will want to be able to say. Another observation: The native speaker is extremely effective at pronouncing each syllable clearly and slowly and twice for each example. That's a great way to learn basic pronunciation. Unfortunately, this is not the way Italians speak -- they fly through sentences!! I think it would help new learners to get some cd's that have natives speaking more quickly. Possibly this could be done in "Behind the Wheel" when material is reviewed that was covered earlier, at least the second time the Italian is provided.

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