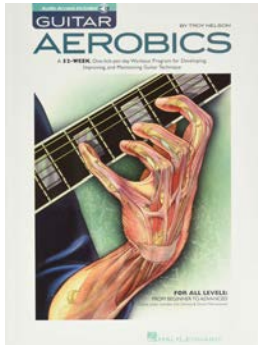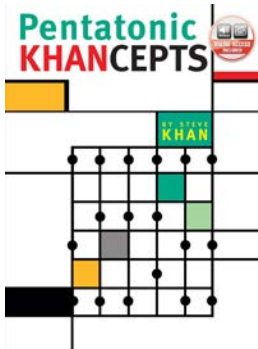# 10 Books to 'Power Up' Your Guitar Playing

Guitar Aerobics: A 52-Week, One-lick-per-day Workout Program for Developing, Improving and Maintaining Guitar Technique Bk/online audio
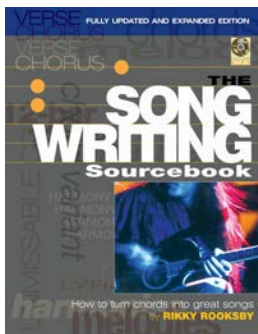
by Troy Nelson

This book was great for me as I was refining my techniques on the guitar and settling into a scheduled practice routine.

Pentatonic Khancepts: Book & Online Audio

by Steve Kahn

This book was huge for me when I was trying to look at other ways to use the pentatonic scale. Whether you are trying to play over major, minor, dominant, min7b5, or altered dominant chords. The pentatonic scale can work for you.
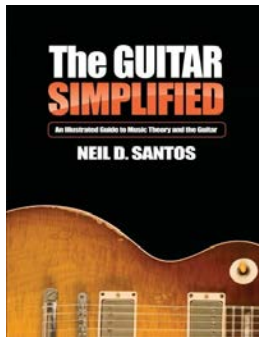
The Songwriting Sourcebook: How to Turn Chords into Great Songs

by Rikky Rooksby

This book is amazing at introducing composers to the most popular chords used when writing songs by composers, and describing how to use them. Each chords includes examples of how they can be used.
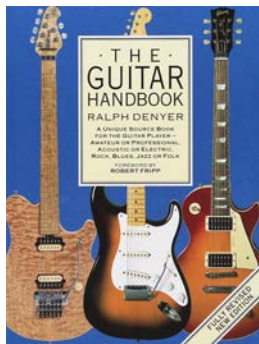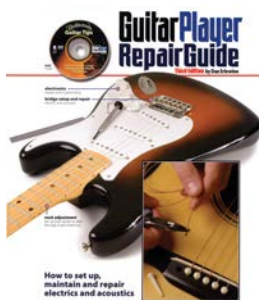
The Guitar Simplified

By Neil Santos

Well, I had to include my own book on the list didn't I? :) I wrote this book to cover most guitar information I could in the most direct and easy-to-understand ways that I could. Using graphics and short descriptions, this book will be a trusted resource during your entire guitar journey.

The Guitar Handbook: A Unique Source Book for the Guitar Player - Amateur or Professional, Acoustic or Electric, Rock, Blues, Jazz, or Folk

By Ralph Denyer

This was actually the first book I ever owned dedicated to the guitar. It totally set me up to have success on my budding guitar career. This comprehensive guide was the inspiration for my own book and is also a major reason that I own my 57 Fender Stratocaster Reissue today (having drooled over the one prominently displayed on the cover for years).
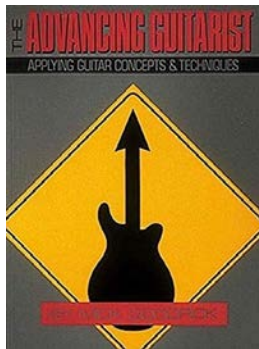

The Guitar Player Repair Guide

by Dan Erlewine

Every guitar player should be able to confidently change their strings at the very least. If you want to learn how to do that the correct way, or if you want to go WAY beyond that, then this book is for you.
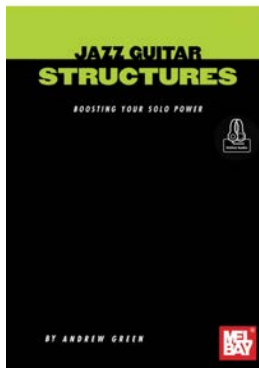

The Advancing Guitarist

by Mick Goodrick

This is a book I was turned onto while I was at Berklee. It is full of amazing information from one of the guitar community's greatest minds. There is stuff in here that I am still just getting into years later to improve my playing.
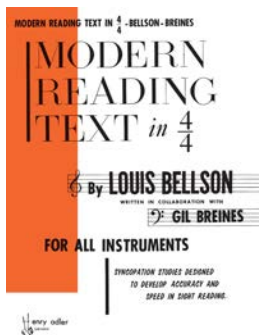
[WARNING: Sight-reading required]

Jazz Guitar Structures: Boosting Your Solo Power

by Andrew Green

This book is similar to Pentatonic Kahncepts in the way that it takes different simple structures and applies them to improvising over various chord types.
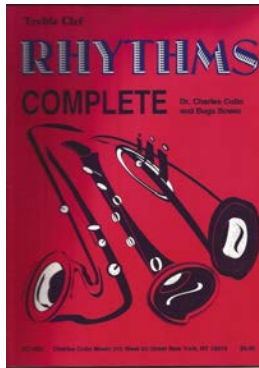
[WARNING: Sight-reading required]

Modern Reading Text in 4/4 For All Instruments

by Louis Bellson

This was a great book for introducing me to a ton of different rhythms that still show up in my playing today. Also, if you're looking to get into sight-reading, this book is great because it focuses only on the rhythm part of reading and leaves the rest for later.

[WARNING: Sight-reading required]

Rhythms Complete

Bugs Bower & Charles Colin

If you do want to dabble with sight-reading (which I don't really do much anymore) then this would be a good book to practice with. It's full of short, fun passages that you can work on reading.

[WARNING: Sight-reading required]