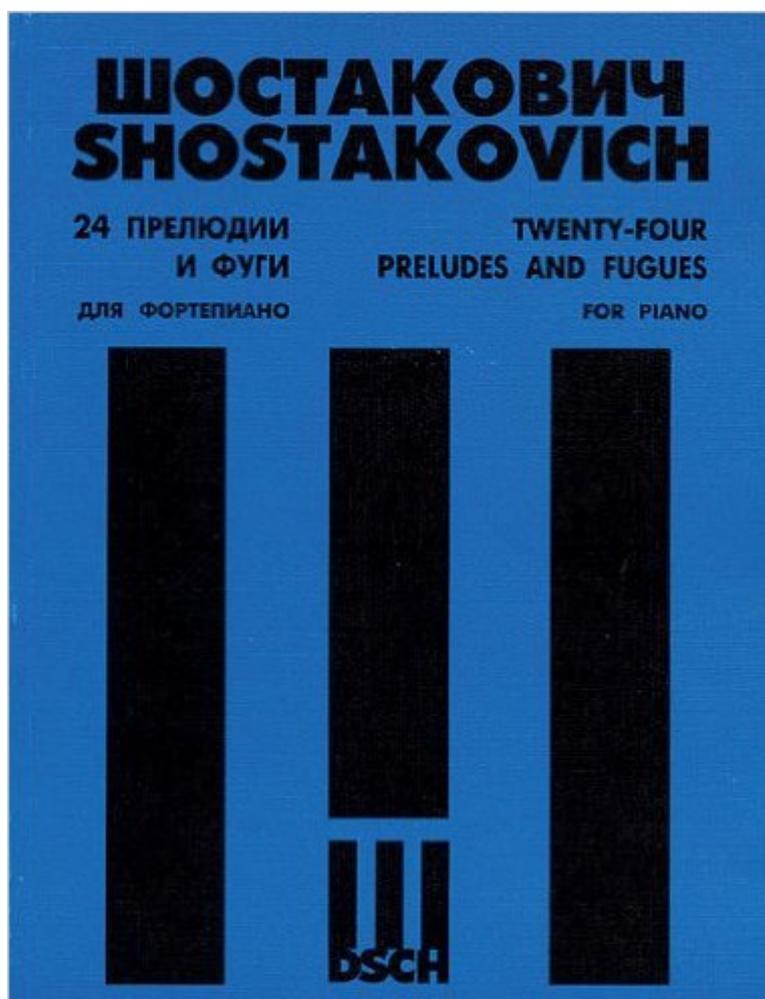


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# 24 Preludes And Fugues For Piano, Op. 87 (DSCH)



## Synopsis

(DSCH). This softbound edition was imported from DSCH of Moscow. The longer and more involved preludes and fugues of Opus 87 were composed in 1950-51. This publication offers these modern classics at a more affordable price than previously available in other editions.

## Book Information

Paperback: 216 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (11 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

I purchased this having read many reviews online bemoaning the sad state of this book's binding. Well, unfortunately, they were right! Literally as soon as I opened to the first prelude, I could hear the glue cracking and pages began falling out immediately. I still haven't gotten around to taking the book to a copy place to be spiral-bound, but I imagine that would easily solve the problem. [update: Now spiral-bound, this book is very easy to use and holds up nicely. It only cost me \$5 to get it bound.] The pages are well-printed, if a bit thin, but the music is easy to read. As to the music, it should be said that I am but an amateur piano player, and I ordered this book without any prior knowledge on the pieces or any recordings of the opus. This music is not for the faint of heart: it's often dark and depressing, and none too easy either. There are moments of lightness, too. Due to my technical inexperience, I was shocked at the difficulty of the fugues! I've never played fugues before, and apparently I did not realize how hard they would be, and how different to play from non-contrapuntal piano music. For example, I've been working on Brahms's two rhapsodies to some success, so I thought I would be up to the challenge of these Preludes and Fugues. I would only recommend this book if you already know how to effectively play fugues, or if you just want to play

the preludes. Returning to my review, I have still felt much satisfaction playing some of the preludes, even though the fugues are still largely beyond me. There's a lot of great music here: very heartfelt and very unique. (Preludes 4, 19, 20, & 24 in particular are not hard to play and very moving.) If you love Shostakovich and play the piano, you will enjoy this volume greatly.

the music itself gets 10 stars!! anyone who does not shed a tear playing (or listening to a decent rendition) of the d minor fugue is not human. the print gets 5 stars. the binding gets zero stars. with any use the pages will fall out of the binding within hours. so, don't lose any pages. makes it a PITA to use the score at a recital too - make sure your page turner practices!!

I was so happy to find this! I have Volume 1 in Sikorski but find that Volume 2 has become difficult to pick up and fairly pricey. As the other reviews have said, the binding is useless, but the print, notation and presentation are clean and easy to read. Most of my scores are well-worn anyway so that is not an issue compared to the fact that I now have the complete cycle.

The printing is nice and clear, and the book is very easy to read. There are no fingering indications, possibly since it is an original Moscow edition, so that's a bit off-putting for a \$60 book. Binding is ok, though it is always hard to get books this thick to lay flat. I planned to get it spiral bound anyhow, so it doesn't bother me much.

Unlike most of the other reviewers, I had no problem with the binding, even after a few months. The notation is quite clear; however, since there was no editor, stylistic markings are sparse.

Technically, the music is about average difficulty, although some of the fugues are quite difficult to play, especially without fingerings. However, the pieces themselves are wonderful, and play with modern ideas wonderfully (three of the fugues are in 5/4, which is really incredibly when you think about it) without verging into atonality or being overly dramatic. The price is a bit much, but the whole book is 218 pages, and this is arguably the best piece of piano music written in the twentieth century. If you're not sure whether to buy or not, listen to a few of the pieces; this music is difficult and if you don't enjoy it you're only going to get frustrated.

These are absolutely stunning pieces which are of medium difficulty. I'm happy to have found it on ; otherwise I would have had to battle traffic and travel some distance to get a copy.

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