



# Best Foot Forward

*Adam Hills*

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) ➔

# Best Foot Forward

*Adam Hills*

## Best Foot Forward Adam Hills

Adam Hills was a quiet primary school kid with a prosthetic foot, who did all his homework and only spoke when spoken to. His dad sparked in him a love of comedy and together they'd spend hours watching and listening to the greats like Peter Sellers and Mel Brooks, so, when it was Adam's turn to speak, he made sure he was funny.

Once he hit high school, comedy was Adam's obsession (along with a deep love for the South Sydney Rabbitohs). While his mates were listening to Iron Maiden and AC/DC, he was listening to Kenny Everett and Billy Connolly. And when a report card came home with a comment praising his sense of humour, he was far prouder of that than his grades (his mum not so much).

Adam's shyness and his missing foot never held him back, though wearing thongs was tricky. While other teens snuck off to meet girls and drink cheap booze, Adam snuck off to see a young Jim Carrey perform. After that, a steady diet of Rodney Rude, Vince Sorrenti and Robin Williams led this sheltered, virginal university student from The Shire to his first stand-up open mic night on his 19th birthday.

In *Best Foot Forward*, Adam describes his early years on the Australian comedy scene sharing gigs with Steady Eddy and Jimeoin, how he coped the first time he died on stage, his early-morning apprenticeship in radio, touring the world's comedy festivals, the magic of *Spicks and Specks* and his hosting gig for the 2008 Paralympics that led to his ongoing hit UK TV show *The Last Leg*. Whoopi Goldberg, Barry Humphries, Billy Connolly, Kermit the Frog - Adam's learned from the best. This charming, witty memoir is a lesson in following your heart, being positive and discovering that what makes you different also makes you unique.

## Best Foot Forward Details

Date : Published July 31st 2018 by Hachette Australia

ISBN :

Author : Adam Hills

Format : Kindle Edition

Genre : Nonfiction, Biography, Autobiography, Humor, Comedy

 [Download Best Foot Forward ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Best Foot Forward ...pdf](#)

## Download and Read Free Online Best Foot Forward Adam Hills

---

## From Reader Review Best Foot Forward for online ebook

### Shelly says

I love music, I love trivia and I love comedy.

So when Spicks and Specks first came across my TV naturally Adam Hills was going to be a hit with me!

I tend not to read a lot of non-fiction and when I do it is mainly business oriented. Hillsy's book gave me an opportunity to expand my reading horizons without it feeling like a chore (Like when I force my self to read a classic.. well just because everyone says I should read it before I die!)

Best Foot Forward did not disappoint. It was "quietly amusing" as opposed to one of his more PMSL comedic sets or the antics from Spicks and Specks, but gave a wonderful insight into who Adam Hills is and how he got there.

From his first, not so great, attempt at stand-up through his career around the world, in radio and television, it's obvious that Hillsy has a great passion for what he does - it's not simply a career, it is every fibre of his being. He is honest, open and genuine. The book feels more like you are sitting down having a beer with a mate and Hillsy strikes you as the type of person who would do just that if you gave him an invite.

Best Foot Forward is an immensely enjoyable read and should be a must for any comedy fan or in fact anyone Aussie interested in knowing more about our top talent!

---

### Natalie S says

Adam Hills is the nicest guy in comedy. Thanks to his memoir, Best Foot Forward, he can also claim to be a "top bloke" in the world of publishing. In this book he reflects on both his personal life and his career, offering up lots of funny anecdotes and inspirational stories. As with his stand-up, it's hard not to feel joy and be buoyed by reading Best Foot Forward.

Hillsy has been working in comedy for almost 30 years. In Best Foot Forward he reflects on his first ever attempt at stand-up at his 19th birthday party. He'd brought along a group of mates and while he did well enough, the MC was critical about his set. Hills was studying journalism at the time and living with his parents in the Shire in Sydney. But, his star would only climb from there and his career would see him living in various cities all over the world.

In this book, Hillsy name-drops quite a few celebrities. One of the most famous and frequently recurring characters is Billy Connolly, a comedian who Hills admires. When Hills was working in radio in Adelaide he got to meet the famous Scotsman. Hills told Connolly about his dreams of being a stand-up, and the latter was like a "hairy godmother." He told the youngster to "Just do it!" He encouraged Hillsy to quit radio and pursue comedy full-time, because he felt it was the best job in the world. Years later when the two reconnected, Connolly showed his support yet again by yelling, "We did it!" What charming men.

Amongst other stories, Hillsy also describes a funny road trip with Ross Noble, a friendship with Whoopi Goldberg, playing a tricky gig at a buck's party, and meeting the Queen. The television shows that Hills would host – music trivia show, Spicks & Specks in Australia and chat show, The Last Leg in the UK – are also covered here. This book is untimely like a bright and warm rainbow delivered by a natural storyteller,

it's colourful in parts and will make you laugh, smile and cry.

The book is made up of short, sharp chapters and features lots of jokes and puns. Not to mention lots of amusing anecdotes where Hillsy describes his artificial right leg, and his encounters backstage at comedy clubs and with various celebrities. We also get to find out more about his inspirations and motivations. It is interesting, for example, that both Kermit the Frog and the Dalai Lama would prove so influential on Hillsy's work, with the comedian realising that he wanted to not only make people laugh, but also to raise their souls and spirits. It's fair to say that he has succeeded with this at many points during his career, not just in this book.

Best Foot Forward is an enjoyable read and one that should be consumed by any self-respecting comedy fan. Hillsy comes across as an utter gentleman, someone you'd love to sit down, have a beer with, and find out more. This intimate and conversational story really shines a light on Adam's world and is leaps and bounds above your stock-standard celebrity biography.

---

### **Tracey Allen at Carpe Librum says**

Adam Hills is such a familiar face on Australian TV that I don't think I'd ever considered just how successful his career has been. In *Best Foot Forward*, Adam Hills takes the reader through his career as a radio presenter, stand-up comedian, TV host and more in a natural and amusing writing style. Turns out his success extends far further than our own shores, performing for and even meeting Her Majesty the Queen.

What shone through the brightest to me though, was Adam's desire to 'make it' and his sheer determination and hard work to do so in an industry that can be tough and unforgiving at times.

Adam's work on *The Last Leg*, the UK show covering the 2012 London Paralympics was informative and inspiring. Adam openly shares what it was like growing up with a prosthetic foot and how he never let it hold him back.

I enjoyed the inclusion of other comedians as he worked alongside them and sometimes in awe of them, including: Billy Connolly and Whoopi Goldberg and my personal favourites, Daniel Kitson, Ross Noble and David O'Doherty. He recounts many unusual and funny situations, memorable shows and at least one laugh out loud moment involving scaring the shell from a turtle's back. I'm off to read it again (page 89).

*Best Foot Forward* by Adam Hills is a memoir about his accomplished career and the many anecdotes and funny stories made for great reading.

\* Copy courtesy of Hachette Australia \*

---

### **Jacm says**

An absolute gem! Could not stop listening to this audiobook (read by Hills with added 'director's comments & accents of fellow comedians) and I know if I was reading the physical book I would not have wanted to put it down.

I have been a fan of comedy & stand up comedians for just about as long as I can remember & have always loved Adam Hills. Only on devouring this reeling of his ups & downs & inspirations in the world of comedy have I come to realise just what makes him so appealing. Not only can he write a good joke, he is genuine,

kind and had a positive attitude that pervades throughout all of his work. Listening to this book was like having him leaning on the kitchen bench chatting about life & telling tales of his adventures meeting comedy idols, jet lag, or getting stranded in country South Australia on the way to a gig. His passion for his work shines through in every story.

Along the way, their insight into the light & dark sides of the entertainment industry as well as the inner workings of radio & TV shows. And yes, his right foot gets its share of air time. While it certainly doesn't dominate the narrative, there are some very poignant moments relating to disability and how it is viewed by society and whether this is beginning to change.

Time for me to stop raving & simply say "Go read/listen for yourself".

---

### **Mandy White says**

Adam Hills... this book is so good! Absolutely recommend the audio book too, read by Adam it adds to it. I loved hearing stories about Spicks and Specks, The Last Leg and travels with other comedians. Certainly gave me a laugh.

---

### **Bill says**

Adam Hills gives every impression of being the nicest guy in the business, and yet not so insipidly, calculatedly nice that it leaves you with a saccharine aftertaste. His memoir only reinforces this impression.

Best Foot Forward only gave me more admiration for his relentless positivity after he has been given every opportunity to become cynical and refused to take it.

Reading Adam's book is like a slow-release version of his shows. It's friendly, charming, extremely funny and leaves you feeling a bit better about the world. I don't know how he does it.

---

### **Em The Reading Challenge Challenge says**

On hiatus @ 18%

I'm not DNF-ing this for real, I'm just putting it on pause and taking it off my current reads until I'm ready to read more. So far it's an amazing memoir that gives some fascinating (and hilarious) insight into Adam's life and career.

---

### **Emily says**

I've been a huge fan of Adam Hills since his Spicks and Specks days, so was excited to read this. As it turned out, this was also the first audiobook I bought from Audible and I was so pleased with Adam's narration! He did accents and impersonations, he dropped in little extra tidbits that weren't in the book - but most importantly, you could hear the smile on his face as he relived these stories. Narrating an audiobook cannot possibly be a fun job, but Adam really made it sound like he was having a good time with it.

The book itself was also great and I don't think you'd necessarily need to know anything about Adam to

enjoy it. I highly recommend it to anyone who enjoys a good memoir, with some seriously laugh out loud moments!

---

### **Gabriel Thomas says**

Love Adam Hills, and this biography is a great story of his cheery rise in comedy.

---

### **Teagan says**

As a massive fan of Adam Hills and the music quiz show 'Spicks and Specks' I was really looking forward to this read. It should be noted that I don't usually gravitate towards these memoir biography books unless the author is someone I truly admire and desire to know more about. Anh Do and Tanya Hennessy are also in this same caliber for me.

I deeply resonated with Adam's attitude to not need to change the world, just his little corner of it. This is exactly how I feel. As the book continued I could hear Adam commentate for me (creepy I know but I still watch the 'Spicks and Specks' reruns on the TV from time to time so it comes as no surprise. I found myself laughing out loud during the various anecdotes and sinking in to the rhythm of the story, gaining a greater understanding of the life of a comedian.

Was I savored the most though was the chapter on 'Spicks and Specks'. I drank up all the juicy details including the guest star stories as well as the professional tips Adam shared.

I think what was most humbling about his book was how down to earth he is and how incredibly genuine and full of life Adam is, despite being a household name here and in the mother land. I truly wonderful read!

---

### **Maggies\_lens says**

I n c r e d i b l e! Probably the best book I have read in months. Hills is just brilliant, funny and engaging, without that nastiness you sometimes get when people are trying to be funny. The bloke is a legend and his story is a celebration of hard work, luck, late nights, and awesome encounters. Read it.

---

### **Shane Harcombe says**

I enjoyed the first half of this book immensely, which dealt with the half of Adam Hills career with which I wasn't familiar. Once we hit Spicks and Specks, the material was more familiar and less interesting.

I like that Adam had tried to use his career to inject positivity in the world, and that joy is what I like about this stand up. I have to say, I find his manner on the Last Leg disappointing and against his own philosophy. He is much more focused on calling out the stupid or offensive things in the world and being negative about them in what feel like staged rants.

The book is definitely with reading though.

---

### **Barb says**

Seriously amazing!! I love Adam Hills and watching him on Spicks and Specks and The Last Leg. It was like he was talking to me, telling the story. I found it funny, interesting and entertaining. Thanks Adam for writing your story!!!

---

### **Emer says**

I love Adam Hills. I really do. He makes me LOL, he comes across as a decent sort of guy and he's just pretty damn charming! So I had to get my hands on this book.

And it's great. I laughed A LOT! I learned a lot about what it's like to try to become a full time comedian...

But something was missing for me. It was a little too one sided... I didn't need to hear his entire family story or personal life but the absence of family stories just seemed to stick out like a sore thumb here. Especially when so many of the anecdotes and stories that Adam shares in this book are already familiar to anyone who's watched his DVDs, seen his stand up, watches The Last Leg etc etc...

So a funny, funny book... But only three stars.

---

### **Sherran says**

#### **Best Foot Forward**

Really enjoyed this. I could hear his voice throughout. Very interesting to see his first steps in comedy and how he got to where he is today.

---