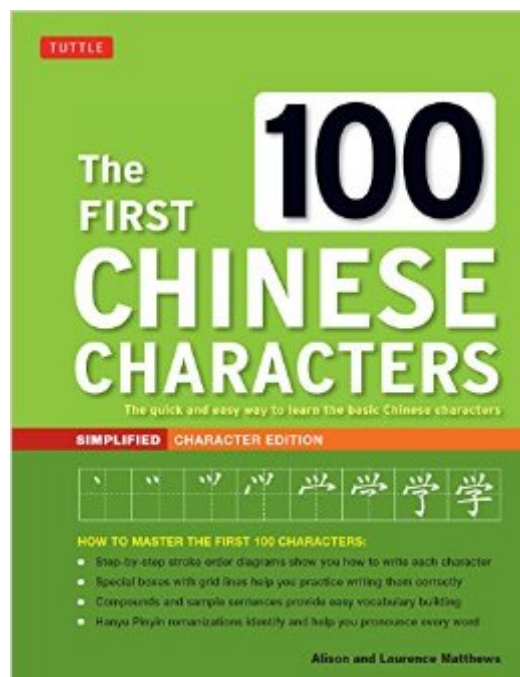# The First 100 Chinese Characters: Simplified Character Edition: (HSK Level 1) The Quick And Easy Way To Learn The Basic Chinese Characters (Tuttle Language Library)

Synopsis

This book is a quick and easy way to learn basic Chinese Characters.All beginning students of Chinese struggle to memorize and learn to write the Chinese characters. The First 100 Chinese Characters adopts a structural approach which helps students to quickly master the basic characters that are fundamental to this language.The English meanings, pronunciations in hanyu pinyin and alternate forms (if any) for each Chinese character are presented along with a stroke order guide and spaces for writing practice. Printed with gray guidelines, the stroke order guides are designed to be traced over to teach students the standard sequence of strokes used to write the character. Related compounds and phrases are given to assist in vocabulary building. Three indexes at the back allow the characters to be looked–up by their English meanings, hanyu pinyin pronunciations, or radicals. Extra practice sheets are also provided.This book contains: Step–by–step stroke order diagrams show you how to write each character. Special boxes with grid lines help you practice writing them correctly. Compounds and sample sentences provide easy vocabulary building. Hanyu pinyin romanizations identify and help you pronounce every word.

Book Information

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Study & Reference > Dictionaries

Customer Reviews

When I was in elementary school, I hated handwriting class. Tracing letters and then carefully copying letters (and later words) into lined spaces was mind-numbing. Unfortunately, a certain amount of this mind-numbing drill is what is necessary to learn to write properly.This book follows the same technique, only in Chinese. Each character is presented at the top of the page. This is accompanied by the Pinyin and an English translation. There is a chunk of common words that use the character, and then an identification of how man strokes and the underlying radicals. Some characters also include the simplified alternative (remember, this book is about traditional characters).Then follows a number of gridded boxes. The first few include a good stroke order (and direction) diagram followed by a few "gray" characters for tracing. The remainder of the page is empty boxes with grids for continued practice. You learn to write by writing over and over. It's mind-numbing, but necessary practice. Along the way, you internalize the stroke order, which would be useful in understanding more advanced texts on Chinese writing.A few points: the method is pretty obvious. I gave the book 5 stars, but it's really hard to mess this up. I do wish that there were examples somewhere of characters written with pen or pencil. I try to get the shape right, but it's hard to tell because I'm using a #2 pencil. Even a short discussion of this would be wonderful. Finally, I suggest saying the character as you write it, over and over. This helps internalize the character.This is not a grammar text or a pronunciation text. It is a workbook on writing characters. Within its narrow goal of writing 100 traditional characters, it excels.

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