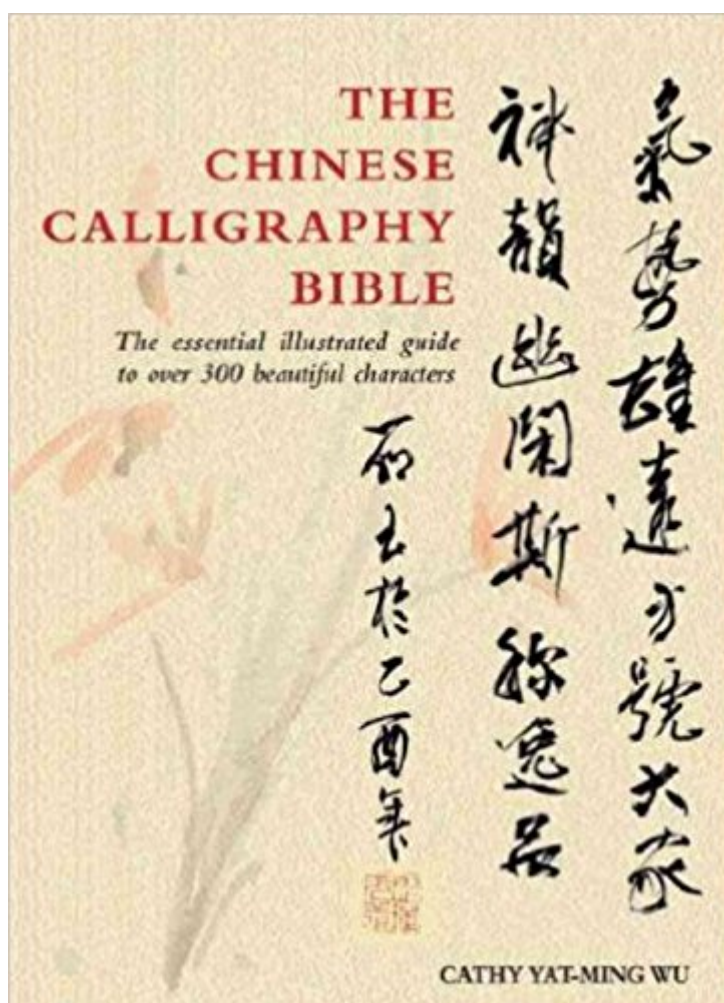


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The Chinese Calligraphy Bible: Essential Illustrated Guide To Over 300 Beautiful Characters



Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This covers many aspects for beginners. From the supplies to how to do the brush strokes to of course the characters. Only thing I would improve on is for the character illustrations to also include the brush techniques for each stroke. It shows the direction of the strokes as a straight line, but I'd prefer where the ends have different shapes for the book to show the actual brush movements/direction such as not starting at the very edge, but a little bit in, curve to the edge and circle back across (I described it, but I'm actually looking for that curved line that would mimic the brush stroke). You see this on some of the practice water paper. The book does go over the different strokes, so they do cover it, but as a beginner, I'd like to see it on each page. The book could be a bit bigger. I'd love to have this in a tablet ipad etc edition where it also shows a video version of the character so you could see the brush technique.

This is a well done and very 'friendly' text. I found it useful on many counts: the logical development of the ideas from basics to artwork, and the stroke order for the characters was most helpful. My only frustration was that the samples of style for the 300 characters are some form of xing shu ('running script') - and I would have loved to see more examples of other styles, especially li shu and cursive. As a beginner in kai shu I could figure out most of the characters based on the stroke explanations, but I would liked to have seen the pictures of it in these other three forms also. Perhaps a 'vol 2' is in order.

This is a beautiful book for beginning and intermediate Chinese calligraphy practice. Each character is given stroke by stroke, and there are many helpful hints about the best execution of the strokes. The information is quite good on materials (brushes, papers, inks, inkstones, etc), their proper use, and suppliers. There is even a section at the end about how to paint bamboo and some flowers. The spiral binding is covered by the book's spine, which is nice, because on the bookshelf the spine shows a title, unlike many other spiral-bound books. And the spiral binding allows the book to lay open flat as you practice your characters. I had no idea, though, that it would take so much practice time for one simple stroke to look like it's supposed to. You will definitely develop patience and discipline if you are a Westerner serious about wanting to learn Chinese calligraphy. I haven't seen a better book to get you started, and many of the characters you can learn here are inspirational, like the characters for "Love," "Peace," "Friendship," and so on. When you get good at them, you can make beautiful things to hang on your walls or give to friends. The book shows you the proper method of mounting your work for display. Later, when your brushwork is more refined and you know the order of the strokes, you can look for a more comprehensive book of Chinese characters if you want to write longer, more complex thoughts.

This wonderfully crafted volume is itself a work of art instructing in one of the most ancient of art forms. I enjoy every page as I would a lesson in fine art.

I LOVE THIS BOOK. IT IS ESSENTIAL AND A BIBLE FOR ANYONE WHO WANTS TO LEARN CHINESE CALLIGRAPHY. IT SHOWS ALL KINDS OF VOCABULARY AND EXPRESSIONS. AND MOST IMPORTANT IT SHOWS HOW TO MAKE THE FORMS BY NUMBERING WHICH LINES YOU MAKE FIRST AND IN WHAT DIRECTION YOU MAKE THEM. MANY BOOKS DON'T SHOW THIS PROCESS, JUST THE FIGURE TO COPY.

What I was looking for. Includes background, tools needed and instructions. Gives brush stroke order to help you practice. Lots of good words included

If I had this book 3 or 4 years ago, my Chinese Calligraphy skill would be a lot better. My 1st "set" were 2 brushes, a bottle of ink, some rice paper, & a pair of kindergartner practice books written in Chinese. Starting with this book, and a visit to your local "Hobby Lobby" store, you could be well on your way to getting started.

Great book, contains many characters. Would like to have seen a little more about the art itself and how to prepare. Mostly just a reference of the characters.

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