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The Best Business Books Ever: The 100 Most Influential Management Books You'll Never Have Time To Read



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Synopsis

Given the urgency and immediacy of so many business problems and challenges, a solid grounding in the history and evolution of business thinking will help managers separate fad from fact and apply the cumulative wisdom of the writers whose ideas have demonstrated profound and lasting impact. From Sun Tzu’s timeless Art of War to the inventors of modern management in the 1920s-’40s to the books that have the captured the New Economy Zeitgeist, The Best Business Books Ever illuminates the key ideas and contributions of the 100 books that should form the basis of any manager’s, business student’s, or entrepreneur’s library. The Best Business Books Ever places both historical and contemporary works in context and draws fascinating parallels and points of connection between books from different places and times, all of which have contributed to our collective understanding and practice of the art of management.

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Customer Reviews

"Simply the best general business reference ever."

This book is a great reference. While I’ve read many of the best business books over the years, it is a great refresher when I am reading books or articles that reference the authors or the books within. Usually I use online sources for that, but what makes this book so valuable is that I don’t have to vet the source for how they interpret the authors. This is a business book for business readers who want the basics clearly without a lot of hype or critique. A must-have in an almost-paperless office.

"The Best Business Books Ever - the most influential management books you'll never have time to read" published in 2011 is a revised and expanded edition of "the Best Business Books ever - the 100 most influential management books you'll never have time to read" published in 2003. I have read all the books mentioned in the edition of 2003.The revised and expanded edition published in 2011 differs from the "2003 edition" as follows:- the "100 most influential management books" in the "2003 edition" are included in this "2011 edition" except "The Function of the Executive" by Chester Barnard published in 1938/1968. The majority of these books qualifies for a "Top 100 List" and is a very good benchmark for implementing an excellent "Best Business Books" library (5-stars). Such a library has many advantages: access to outstanding know how and best management practices, stimulation of creativity, learning from failure and success, development of in-house capabilities etc. etc.- The new "2011 edition" has been extended by 33 books. Six of them are very good recommendations: Barbarians at the Gate by Burrough and Helyar (1989 - 20th anniversary edition). Direct from Dell by Michael Dell (1999) Digital Capital by Don Tapscott (2000) Straight from the Gut by Jack Welch (2003) Now discover your strengths by Buckingham/Clifton (2004) The World is flat by Thomas Friedman (2005)- The remaining 27 books in this new edition - not included in the 2003 edition - I would neither buy nor read: most of them are outdated (dealing with the so called new economy published between 1999 and 2001 just before the .com bubble burst), some have significantly negative or almost no customer review comments, a few have been written by non-experts in the subject matter they deal with. (1-star for the research performance which contributed to the 2011 edition).In addition to the "Top 100 in the 2003 edition" and the six books mentioned above I recommend to consider the following books: Man's Search for Meaning by Viktor E. Frankl (first published 1946, regular reprints, revised and updated 2006 - 500 5- and 4-star reviews) Maslow on Management by Abraham Maslow (1961 reprinted 1998) The 80/20 Principle by Richard Koch (1997) Only the Paranoid survive by Andy Grove (1999) Six Thinking Hats by Edward de Bono (1999) The Leadership Pipeline by Charan/Drotter/Noel (2001) Who says Elephants can't dance by Louis V. Gerstner Jr. who saved IBM (2002) The Profit Zone by Adrian Slywotzky (2002) How to grow when Markets don't grow by Adrian Slywotzky (2004) Why smart executives fail by Sydney Finkelstein (2004) Blue Ocean Strategy by Chan Kim/Mauborgne (2005) Strategy: A step by step approach by Mark Daniell (2005) True North: Discover your Authentic Leadership by George/Sims (2007) Growing Pains by Flamholtz7rANDLE (2007 4th edition) The Halo Effect by Phil Rosenzweig (2007) Innovation to the core by Skarzyns/Gibson (2008) The Evolution of Management Thought by Daniel Wren (2008 6th edition) One Page Talent

Management by by Effron/Ort (2010) Der Markt hat nicht immer Recht by Wilfried Stadler - The Market is not always right (2011 - no English translation so far) Steve Jobs (2011) added 20120209Enjoy reading!

The subtitle of this book is: The 100 Most Influential Management Books You'll Never Have Time to Read. The first thing I did was go through the table of contents and do a mental note of how many of these books I had heard of (about 85-90), then I did a count of those I had read (17). Such is part of the fun of looking at any sort of list of what is considered "best."I think the key criterion for "best" in this case is most influential, which helps me make more sense of what is included and some of what isn't.The book is useful in that each chapter (one for each of the 100 books) follows the same template, sharing a brief summary, the key ideas the book highlighted and a bit of context - how the book fits into the world and the impact it has had.If you are looking to become more conversant in some classic business literature and ideas, or if you are looking for a guide to help you fill the gaps in your own library, this book would be a good choice.It might not be a book to sit down with at the fire, but it is worth considering and taking a look at.

I expected to learn be able to learn the main lessons from each book included, but this really felt more like mini book reviews. I suppose short-cuts to learning are too good to be true.

Just for information

provides a good general background with some widely used business theories and ideas.would be a good gift for the new college grad

I like cracking this book open to read it only a few pages at a time. It is well organized and the summaries thought provoking.

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