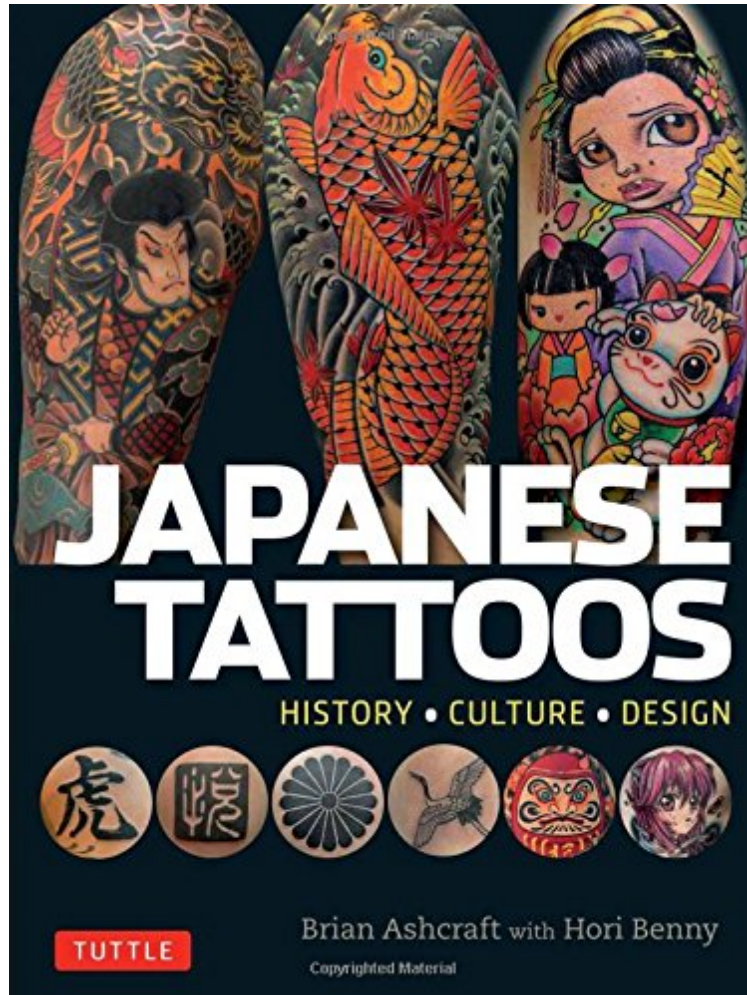


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## Japanese Tattoos: History \* Culture \* Design

*Brian Ashcraft, Hori Benny*

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**Brian Ashcraft, Hori Benny : Japanese Tattoos: History \* Culture \* Design** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Japanese Tattoos: History \* Culture \* Design:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Good primerBy ford escort serviceGreat book about traditional and modern Japanese tattoos. Some cool graphics and a good primer to find other cool stuff.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A fascinating look at a Japanese tradition that often goes unseenBy NeilThe book goes in depth on both symbolic and technical aspects of Irezumi (Japanese Tattoos), and it presents a fascinating yet unbiased look at art, language, nature, religion, history, and contemporary pop-culture of Japan. It sheds light to a sometimes misunderstood and mistreated subculture of the island nation. Great read for those who enjoy body art, as well as anyone interested to learn more about Japan and its sub-cultures.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great detail, while keeping it interestingBy Lazy NinjaA thorough and interesting read on Japanese tattoo art. The

photos are vivid and numerous - showing the variety and depth of the different designs, as well as discussions on their symbolism. There are a number of fascinating tidbits (e.g., the guy who collected full bodysuit tattoos of deceased people) and interviews with masters of the art. Definitely well worth a read, even if you're not that into tattoos!

Thinking of getting a Japanese-style tattoo? Want to avoid a permanent mistake? *Japanese Tattoos* is an insider's look at the world of Japanese irezumi (tattoos). *Japanese Tattoos* explains the imagery featured in Japanese tattoos so that readers can avoid getting ink they don't understand or, worse, that they'll regret. This photo-heavy book will also trace the history of Japanese tattooing, putting the iconography and kanji symbols in their proper context so readers will be better informed as to what they mean and have a deeper understanding of irezumi. Tattoos featured will range from traditional tebori (hand-poked) and kanji tattoos to anime-inspired and modern works as well as everything in between. For the first time, Japanese tattooing will be put together in a visually attractive, informative, and authoritative way. Along with the 350+ photos of tattoos, *Japanese Tattoos* will also feature interviews with Japanese tattoo artists on a variety of topics. What's more, there will be interviews with clients, who are typically overlooked in similar books, allowing them to discuss what their Japanese tattoos mean to them. Those who read this informative tattoo guide will be more knowledgeable about Japanese tattoos should they want to get inked or if they are simply interested in Japanese art and culture.

*Japanese Tattoos* not only peers deep into the nuances of Japan's tattooing history, but also takes a look at its current fusion with pop culture and shows us where it's heading." Shinji Watanabe, editor-in-chief, *Tattoo Tribal* magazine  
I can think of no better guide to take me through another element of Japanese art with far more ancient roots: tattooing. This book brings a respect and reverence that the sacred and timeless art of ink deserves." Xeni Jardin, *Boing Boing*  
Ultimately, *Japanese Tattoos* brims with the authors' respect and love for the craft, occupying a curious space somewhere between field guide and coffee table book." The Japan Times  
As informative as it is beautiful, *Japanese Tattoos* takes you from the very beginnings of what was until recently an underground and taboo art form, to the modern practitioners who have carried on a long tradition of storytelling and beauty." Scotti Hill, guitarist, *Skid Row*  
*Japanese Tattoos* is as much a book about the art form as it is about Japanese culture. As it traces the earliest history of getting inked in the country and moves into modern times, it reveals the cultural and spiritual meaning of popular tattoo motifs, explores the traditional and modern techniques that Japanese tattoo artists have used over the centuries, and reveals the ways in which East and West are influencing one another when it comes to contemporary tattoo culture." Tokyo Weekender  
A rare insight into the world of tattoos in Japan. This book is filled with visuals of this breathtaking form of art some of which you would only be able to see if you were brave enough to ask the person to strip." Danny Choo, founder, *Culture Japan* and *Smart Doll*  
This book gives you great insight into the beauty, mystery, and tradition of the Japanese tattoo. It's a delight to read and a worthy addition for the collection of any Japanophile." Jake Adelstein, *Tokyo Vice*  
The bottom-line coolness of *Japanese Tattoos* is the world it opens up. This is imagery rarely seen by anyone, Japanese or foreigner." Tofugu  
About the Author  
Brian Ashcraft is a senior contributing editor for the video-game site *Kotaku*. Ashcraft was previously a contributing editor at *Wired* magazine; his work has also appeared in *Popular Science*, the *Guardian*, the *Japan Times*, and the design journal *Metropolis*, as well as numerous other publications worldwide. He is the author of *Arcade Mania!* and *Japanese Schoolgirl Confidential*. Originally from Texas, he has called Osaka home for well over a decade. Hori Benny was born in Minneapolis and moved to Japan in 2002. Two years later he settled in Osaka and began a tattoo apprenticeship at *Chopstick Tattoo*. In 2014 he formed his own studio, *Invasion Club*, near Osaka's otaku cultural center in Nipponbashi. He does custom work in a variety of genres.