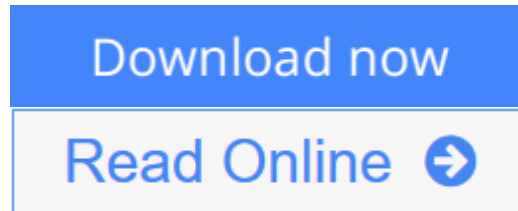


## Tuttle Learning Chinese Characters: (HSK Levels 1 -3) A Revolutionary New Way to Learn and Remember the 800 Most Basic Chinese Characters

By Alison Matthews, Laurence Matthews



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**This user-friendly book is aimed at helping students of Mandarin Chinese learn and remember Chinese characters.**

At last—there is a truly effective and enjoyable way to learn Chinese characters! This book helps students to learn and remember both the meanings *and* the pronunciations of over 800 characters. This otherwise daunting task is made easier by the use of techniques based on the psychology of learning and memory. Key principles include the use of visual imagery, the visualization of short "stories," and the systematic building up of more complicated characters from basic building blocks.

Although *Learning Chinese Characters* is primarily a book for serious learners of Mandarin Chinese, it can be used by anyone with an interest in Chinese characters, without any prior knowledge of Chinese. It can be used alongside (or after, or even before) a course in the Chinese language. All characters are simplified (as in mainland China) but traditional characters are also given, when available.

#### **Key features:**

- Specially designed pictures and stories are used in a structured way to make the learning process more enjoyable and effective, reducing the need for rote learning to the absolute minimum.
- The emphasis throughout is on *learning* and *remembering* the meanings and pronunciations of the characters. Tips are also included on learning techniques and how to avoid common problems.
- Characters are introduced in a logical sequence, which also gives priority to learning the most common characters first.
- Modern simplified characters are used, with pronunciations given in pinyin.

Key information is given for each character, including radical, stroke-count, traditional form, compounds, and guidance on writing the character.

This is a practical guide with a clear, concise and appealing layout, and it is well-indexed with easy look-up methods. The 800 Chinese characters and 1,033 compounds specified for the original HSK Level A proficiency test are covered.

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**Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #49861 in Books
- Brand: Matthews, Alison/ Matthews, Laurence

- Published on: 2007-08-15
- Released on: 2007-08-15
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 9.00" h x 1.00" w x 6.00" l, 1.51 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 384 pages

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

"When I got Tuttle Learning Chinese Characters, I immediately knew that I had found the answers to all those years of searching. This book is everything I would have wished for learning basic Chinese."

—**Hanban.com blog**

"A great Memorization Tool for Characters." —**Virginalynn.hubpages.com blog**

"Outstanding approach for mnemonics to learn the Chinese characters. Easy and well structured, it builds on itself. Generally I can read about half the Chinese characters I see now, and I have a framework for learning the remainder. A great place to start Mandarin studies." —**Goodreads**

"Studying Chinese characters is an exercise in getting individual masses of strokes to form meaning in one's mind. *Learning Chinese Characters: A Revolutionary New Way to Learn and Remember the 800 Most Basic Chinese Characters*, published by Tuttle, helps this process with a comprehensive method using story and image." —**Vision Times blog**

"I highly recommend this approach to learning Chinese characters, especially for those who aren't native speakers and need motivation in the learning process." —**8Asians.com blog**

"*Tuttle Learning Chinese Characters* by Alison Matthews and Laurence Matthews is an excellent beginners book! I really wanted to learn this for making some fun and beautiful cards and messages on scrapbook pages! Plus, the bonus of learning characters in Chinese! I know how popular characters are for tattooing and always wondered how about making some decorative cards with a character or few to design it!" —**Test Try Results blog**

#### About the Author

**Alison Matthews** is a statistician who has worked in the oil, aviation, tourism, medical and software industries.

**Laurence Matthews** is the author of the *Kanji Fast Finder* and *Chinese Character Fast Finder* books.

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