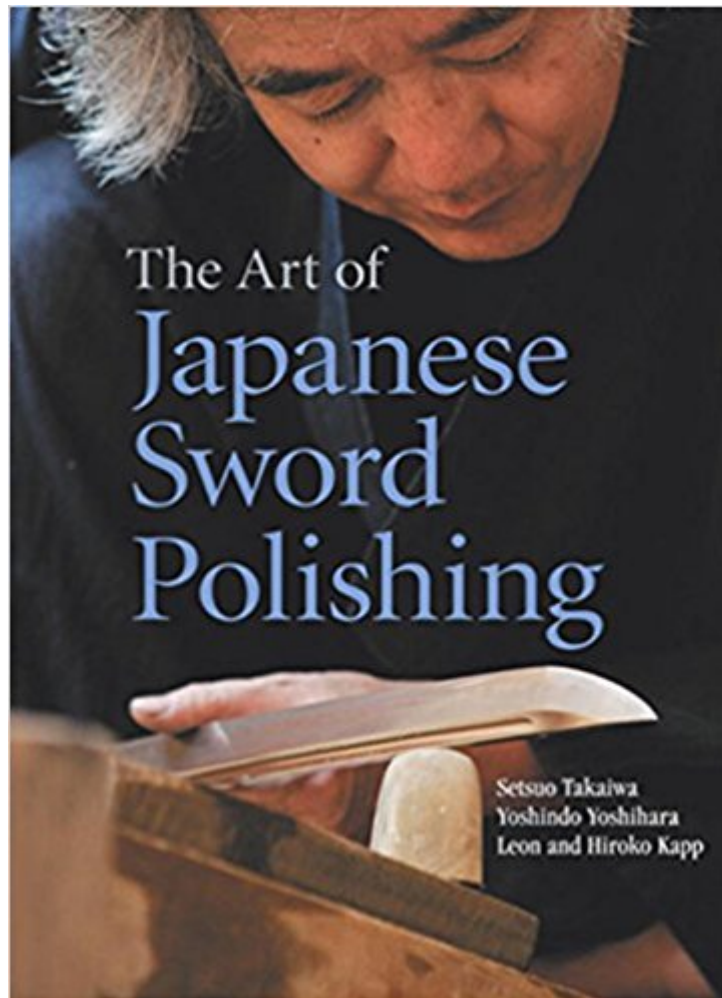




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The Art Of Japanese Sword Polishing



Synopsis

To understand Japanese sword polishing is to understand the Japanese sword. Down through the years, the great sword connoisseurs in Japan have been sword polishers. A swordsmith can spend a large amount of time forging a classic sword, but refining and bringing out its final shape, color, and texture so that all the details of the steel and hamon (the temper line) are clearly visible is the responsibility of another craftsman – the sword polisher. An experienced polisher can tell immediately by whom a blade was made, so distinctive is each smith's work and so vital is such knowledge to the skilled polisher. The Art of Japanese Sword Polishing is the first book in English to examine in great detail the polisher's techniques – skills it often takes up to ten years of apprenticeship to master. It illustrates the methods, materials, and tools used for this process. But the book's true aim is to enable the reader to fully appreciate the beauty of a well-crafted Japanese sword. As readers learn both how the sword polisher enhances the beauty of the blade and how he handles the problems of coaxing out its finest qualities through polishing techniques, they will come to a deeper understanding of the fine art of making the Japanese sword and will be able to purchase or collect swords with greater pleasure.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"The book is very helpful to . . . users, appreciators and beginning collectors of swords." – Journal of Asian Martial Arts

SETSUO TAKAIWA is one of Japan's top sword polishers and is called upon by museums

around the world, from Boston's Museum of Fine Arts to the British Museum, to help maintain their historic sword collections. YOSHINDO YOSHIHARA is ranked among the top swordsmiths in Japan. His family has been making tools and swords for several generations. LEON and HIROKO KAPP have studied Japanese swords for decades and are co-authors, with Yoshindo, of *The Craft of the Japanese Sword* and *Modern Japanese Swords and Swordsmiths*. The Kapps live in San Rafael, California. Yoshindo Yoshihara and Leon Kapp frequently lecture and give demonstrations in the United States.

The book is excellent. It was not intended to teach a person how to polish, but does provide info about the various stones, equipments, and such. Still you can get enough information to start practicing until you can obtain proper instruction. The photography is very good and many sword components/terminologies are explained, as well as metal surface appearances. I feel it is a must for a serious student of the Japanese method of sword polishing. Unfortunately, my book was not protected in a box that was 20 times larger and arrived with the corners & pages bent and the cover torn in 3 places. Shame on .

This is not a how to book. The first time I read this book, I had more questions than I found answers for. However, I continued to read and learn from other sources, along with studying my own swords and when I came back to this wonderful book and read it again from cover to cover that I truly appreciated all of the information that this has to share. Recommend highly for any enthusiast's library.

A very detailed book on the art of Japanese sword polishing...shows the reader the techniques used to polish a sword and the results that you would like to achieve for each step. One of only a handful of books on Japanese sword polishing in English! Highly recommended.!

this book explains a lot of great information,,I just hope it doesn't get too many people ,confident that they can follow this as an instruction guide,,and ruin any really good swords.

Wonderful!

a very good book.

This book has to be the definitive book on Japanese sword polishing. A book that will last forever. After all, Yoshindo Yoshihara, was a part of it. It doesn't get any better.

Very good book well worth the money . very helpful an insite into Japanese sword polishing.
Translated very well thank you

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