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The Most Basic Chinese - All You Need To Know To Get By (Most Basic Languages)



Synopsis

***** UPDATE - This book has been 's Number 1 Chinese E-book for 2012, 2013 and so far in 2014. Most comments have been very positive but there were the odd negative ones - I did listen and have recently updated the book (May 2013) to answer the concerns expressed by some - these mostly centered around tones and organisation - Tones are now included, and Simplified Chinese characters are also available to be emailed for those who wish. I have also restructured the book to be better organised and easier to follow, so I hope you find the book even more useful. I have kept the same low price, and hope it continues to be of use to a lot of people. *****

~~~~~The Most Basic Chinese~~~~~ teaches all the Mandarin you need to survive, enabling you to learn everything you need simply and effortlessly. To begin, let~~~~~s get one thing straight ~~~~~ it is extremely easy to learn all the Basic Chinese you will need if you are travelling to or intending to live in China. This booklet gives you all of that language and is presented in a simple way. It can be easily studied on the plane journey over or any other time, and is entirely sufficient to be able to get by in Mandarin on arrival. So don~~~~~t be fooled by the booklet length ~~~~~ once you have mastered this small amount of Basic Chinese, you will have reached the same level as thousands of people who have lived, worked and survived in China for years. It begins with the very simple (10 most useful phrases for a newcomer), then builds on this in easy stages to demonstrate how easy it is to speak Basic Chinese as well as give you the language and knowledge to do so. With this booklet, you will already have picked up a great deal of the language and grammar as well as a great sense of how easy it is to speak Basic Chinese. As mentioned at the top, and due to requests from several readers, I have now updated the book to include the tones, and can also supply the simplified Chinese characters for those who would like them. However, don't be scared off by the tonal system to get by in Basic Chinese - we are actually well understood without using it, so I consider it an added extra which you can choose whether to learn or not. My own direct experience of living in China was that I didn't actually need the tones to be understood, although learning them would have given me a better standard of Chinese. In addition to the above, you will find ~~~~~The Most Basic Chinese~~~~~ an invaluable tool to keep with you for its simple presentation of the language needed for various situations ~~~~~ e.g. in a taxi, restaurant, bar or shop. Good luck and safe travels! NB. This book is also available in German, named "Grundkenntnisse in Chinesisch". Also note that I have updated the format of this book to remove the tables, since they were not always showing properly on Kindle Fire - the format should now be ok for this too.

## Book Information

File Size: 130 KB

Print Length: 34 pages

Publisher: James McGlasson (January 18, 2014)

Publication Date: January 18, 2014

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B006ZIMPV8

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Not Enabled

Lending: Not Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #68,819 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #3

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## Customer Reviews

Useful basic Mandarin book and has a link to a website for hearing terms that you are not sure how to pronounce accurately. This item could use a random or subject based flashcard learning game mode. This book has NO HANYU. It has only the Pinyin translation. E.g. I want one rice bowl = Wo yao yi wan mi fan. Except the translation will have accent marks. There is no Chinese script or Hanyu. This was my first ever source for Chinese and I was able to order food and drinks in Chinese at a restaurant in Hollywood and be chuckled at a bit but understood immediately. This book and watching Chinese LA18 channel allowed me to get a decent speaking and pinyin writing ability that I used on Pinyin Chinese chats online and message boards. This book has sections to jump to like: Common nouns, common questions, and useful phrases. While it still has some bugs, You could type into Google translation page and get a decent Hanyu version of any entered English texts.

I purchased this book on Kindle during a recent trip to China. I'd purchased other tools earlier - such as an online language course and iPhone translator app - in an attempt to learn enough Mandarin to

get by during my two weeks there. Of the three, this was by far the most useful, and very inexpensive. The author does a good job of selecting the most basic vocabulary and grammar that a first time traveller might need, presenting it in a way that can be read and digested in snippets, and then immediately applied - such as when you step off the plane, greet your host, and then need to express your desire to find a bathroom right away! As always, one could wish for more - more extensive vocabulary, better examples, etc., but for the price, length and intended audience, this is a solid and useful reference, highly recommended! Added note (5/18/2013): I just recently received notification from Kindle that an update was available for this book, which I have downloaded. I find the updated version to be much better organized and with better examples, and also provides links to additional resources. There is also a new section on tones. So, the new version adds significant value and resolves many of my initial review's concerns (and some of the concerns mentioned by other reviewers). Best of all, the update was FREE - much appreciated!!!

I hesitantly downloaded this e-book just before moving to China last month. The title makes a pretty bold claim, but I can attest that the words and phrases--and especially the pronunciation--that I have encountered in most situations are spot-on. I am embarrassed that I have yet to memorize these common words, but I'm always grateful that I have the book on my phone for reference. Highly recommended!

This book was exactly what I needed. I have been studying basic Mandarin over the last 4-5 months before our trip to China. But when we got here I found that when situations occurred, I would forget or freeze and find myself asking for someone who spoke English. This book is a great summary of nearly all the basic Chinese I have learned in a convenient little book that I can review before I headed out each day. I found that with the little reminders, word lists, and situational conversation practices, I was able to speak more in Mandarin without worry. This book is now my Emergency Mandarin go to book while we are here. Thank you so much!

This is a quick guide to understanding some essential components of the Mandarin language, such as....counting, telling time, ordering food, asking for services, and inquiring on prices while traveling in Chinese areas. Another important component to studying Mandarin is to learn the pronunciation of the sounds and tones and this is where some online links to audio files come in handy. This is the part I have not yet been able to test as my online WiFi service is not strong enough to try it at home.

Worked as designed.

Good

... although I would prefer more... just a bit more of everything.

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