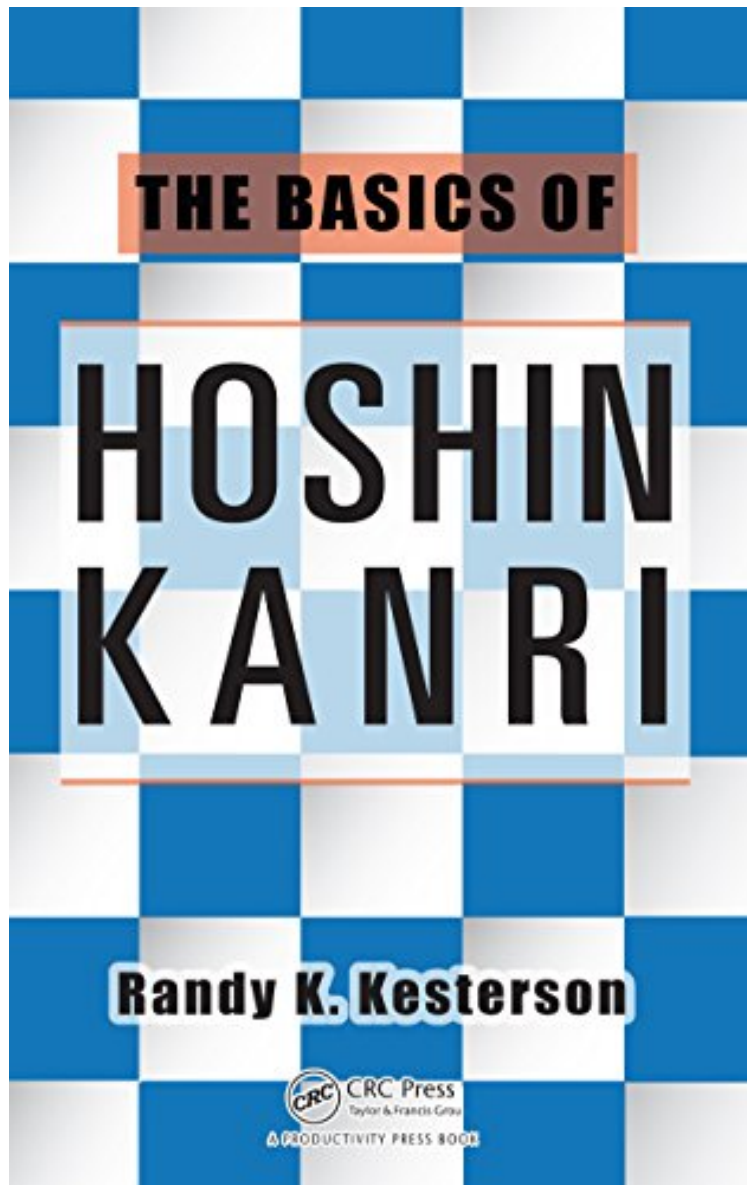


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The Basics of Hoshin Kanri

Randy K. Kesterson

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Randy K. Kesterson : The Basics of Hoshin Kanri before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Basics of Hoshin Kanri:

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great Introduction to Hoshin KanriBy Karen L. Jett, CMAThe first 2 sections of The Basics of Hoshin Kanri are an excellent introduction to the main concepts of Hoshin Kanri. While some of the methods the author uses are different than the approach I use, these chapters are well written and presented at a basic level. The appendices are also very helpful.I am less in love with the third chapter which is a

compilation of comments and quotes from various Hoshin Kanri experts. It was strange to read contradictory comments. Also this section appears to be a verbatim transcript of verbal conversations. Some editing would have made it an easier read. Overall, if you are looking for an introductory volume to start to understand Hoshin Kanri, this is a good place to begin. You just may want to skip the 2nd half of the book.

Karen L. Jett
Internal Brand / Strategy Specialist
RedKnight1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent book to understand Hoshin Kanri - Smooth reading and good knowledge
By Marcelo Kuramoto
Excellent book because it was written in a very clever way. The first part goes straight to the point using as an example a person that uses Hoshin for a personal purpose. Then, in Chapter 2 goes again straight to the point using as an example a business case. The third and last chapter is very interesting because they are questions (and for sure answers) to Hoshin Kanri experts. I like books that goes quickly to the main subject and focus on delivering the knowledge. This book fulfills its mission.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Don't waste your money
By DWI
cannot recommend this book. It really is the "Basics" and that is about it. Chapter one is about how to apply the principles in one's personal life and then chapter two repeats everything in one's work life. The rest of the book (and more than half of the book) is just quotes and interview of people who used Hoshin Kanri. The appendices offer a glimpse of what goes into the Hoshin Kanri process, but very, very little.

The problem with most Hoshin Kanri books is that they describe a complex methodology that is overwhelming to most leaders and their organizations. The need to essentially change the culture of the entire organization to make Hoshin work isn't practical for most companies when first starting out.

The Basics of Hoshin Kanri uses an easy-to-follow story format to simplify and explain Hoshin Kanri - a method for strategy deployment. Supplying clear descriptions of the steps of Hoshin Kanri, it advocates using Hoshin as an important tool for improving an organization's existing planning and execution system while simultaneously moving the culture of the organization forward.

The book provides readers with a new understanding of Hoshin Kanri as a powerful deployment system for strategic planning, defining a direction and priorities, and aligning the organization around that direction. It begins by telling the story of a manufacturing executive that uses a simple Hoshin Kanri approach to make significant change in his personal life. Next, the book illustrates how this executive prepares to apply Hoshin Kanri to deploy strategy within his business. It concludes by presenting fascinating excerpts from the author's own interviews with experts in the field of Hoshin Kanri.

All business leaders want their organizations to be "great" in all respects, but the reality is that they must get to "good" before they can consider becoming "great."

About the Author
Randy Kesterson has held executive-level positions at Doosan Infracore, General Dynamics and Curtiss-Wright, with prior successful experience at Harsco Corporation, John Deere, and at privately held Young Franklin/Tactair Fluid Controls. He also worked as a management consultant to organizations such as Bank of America, Caterpillar, Motorola, Bank of Montreal, Ford Motor Company, Milliken Company, RJ Reynolds, and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Randy serves as the chair of the advisory board for the Center for Global Supply Chain and Process Management at the University of South Carolina's Moore School of Business. He earned his Six Sigma Black Belt at North Carolina State University/IES. He earned his bachelor of science in engineering operations from Iowa State University and attended Syracuse University where he earned his MBA with a concentration in operations management. Randy and his family live in North Carolina.