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## The Book of Five Rings (Xist Classics)

*Miyamoto Musashi*

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**Miyamoto Musashi : The Book of Five Rings (Xist Classics)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Book of Five Rings (Xist Classics):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Universal Principles of Strategy By Donald P. Kane This is for the Kindle version upgraded to audio. This is the first time I have listened to this classic Japanese work having read it twice before this audio version. I must say that it is much better listening to an excellent narration than to the voice in my head. The principles applied in this book explained through the use of the samurai sword has stood the test of time. These principles have been successfully adopted and applied in Japanese business in the modern age. It is a wonderful little book that I will probably listen to again sometime in the future. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful.

A classical translation on the Zen and Tao mindset of the martial art combatant. By K. J. Christopoulos The reader must first understand that this is a translation of a historical writing. The translation is hard for me to rate since I am no expert, but my view is that it is likely a good one that doesn't interfere with bringing the writing into English. The author's concepts cover many aspects of Zen and Tao focus during combat that range from one on one to multiples. He discusses the mindset of the martial art combatant and uses metaphors and direct descriptions to get his points across to the reader. The state of mind to focus is covered well, along with what to observe to a lesser degree. He does not intend the text to be a sword method tutorial, but more of a guide to the level of focus and state of mind along with some comments on the engagements. It is known to be a classic and one of the few from that era that gets consideration for the reputation of the author. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A timeless classic with great relevance to the past and the present. By Shadow N An excellent book teaching Miyamoto Musashi art of strategy that could be applied not only to martial arts but also to daily life. This version though is very clear and to the point and written in a plain language that is easy to understand to the lay reader.

A Strategy Manual from a Martial Arts Master "There is nothing outside of yourself that can ever enable you to get better, stronger, richer, quicker, or smarter. Everything is within. Everything exists. Seek nothing outside of yourself." — Miyamoto Musashi, *The Book of Five Rings* In *The Book of Five Rings* by Miyamoto Musashi, the author lays out the five elements of battle which are applicable in the boardroom as on the battlefield. Xist Publishing is a digital-first publisher. Xist Publishing creates books for the touchscreen generation and is dedicated to helping everyone develop a lifetime love of reading, no matter what form it takes Get your next Xist Classic title for Kindle here: <http://amzn.to/1A7cKK1> Find all our our books for Kindle here: <http://amzn.to/1PooxLl> Sign up for the Xist Publishing Newsletter here. Find more great titles on our website.

.com To learn a Japanese martial art is to learn Zen, and although you can't do so simply by reading a book, it sure does help—especially if that book is *The Book of Five Rings*. One of Japan's great samurai sword masters penned in decisive, unfaltering terms this certain path to victory, and like Sun Tzu's *The Art of War* it is applicable not only on the battlefield but also in all forms of competition. Always observant, creating confusion, striking at vulnerabilities—these are some of the basic principles. Going deeper, we find *suki*, the interval of vulnerability, of indecisiveness, of rest, the briefest but most vital moment to strike. In succinct detail, Miyamoto records ideal postures, blows, and psychological tactics to put the enemy off guard and open the way for attack. Most important of all is Miyamoto's concept of rhythm, how all things are in harmony, and that by working with the rhythm of a situation we can turn it to our advantage with little effort. But like Zen, this requires one task above all else, putting the book down and going out to practice. —Brian Bruya From *Library Journal* Written by legendary Japanese swordsman Musashi, this 17th-century exposition of sword-fighting strategy and Zen philosophy has been embraced by many contemporary readers, especially business school students, as a manual on how to succeed in life. There are many English translations, but every one, including this one, suffers from inadequate cultural, literary, and philosophical commentary. Musashi's work should be studied, not simply read, and Cleary's translation lacks commentary; it also makes the prose seem flat and the philosophy simplistic. Yet what makes this new translation worthwhile is the second text, buried deep in the back like an appendix: Yagyū Munenori's *The Book of Family Traditions on the Art of War*. This text, also an exposition on sword fighting and Zen philosophy, is difficult to find in an English translation, and its availability is welcome. Recommended for academic libraries generally. — Glenn Masuchika, Chaminade Univ. Lib., Honolulu Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc. "Embraced by many contemporary readers as a manual on how to succeed in life." — *Library Journal*