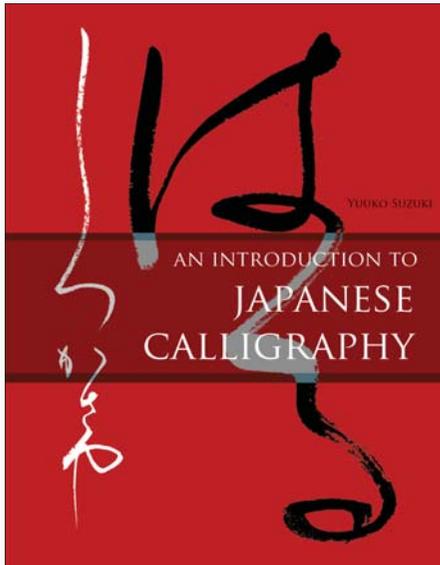


AN INTRODUCTION TO JAPANESE CALLIGRAPHY

Yuuko Suzuki



- With clear instructions and 148 photos, explains the spiritual and artistic basics of Japanese calligraphy
- Shows how to use the brush to create beautiful characters, words, and even poems
- Explains the art's ancient traditions, and includes a selection of contemporary calligraphers' works as inspiration

Clear instructions and 148 photos welcome you to the subtle, fascinating world of Japanese calligraphy. Beginning with a summary of the art's history, this guide then helps you understand the two systems of script that Japanese uses together: kanji, the ideogram-like characters borrowed from the Chinese language; and kana, the purely phonetic characters. Next, you'll learn the correct way to use the "four treasures of study" (brush, ink, inkstone, and paper), as well as seals and other tools. Then begin learning to calligraph characters, words, and even poems using either a large brush or a small writing brush. Try your hand at joined calligraphy, which is considered the soul of Japanese calligraphy. Finally, a gallery of works of calligraphy art by grand masters and other renowned experts offers even more inspiration.

YUUKO SUZUKI began her study of calligraphy in Osaka at the age of six. For the past two decades she has taught Japanese art, calligraphy, painting, and Buddhist art. Her work is found in exhibits and private collections worldwide.

Size: 8 1/2" x 11" • 148 color & b/w images • 80 pp.

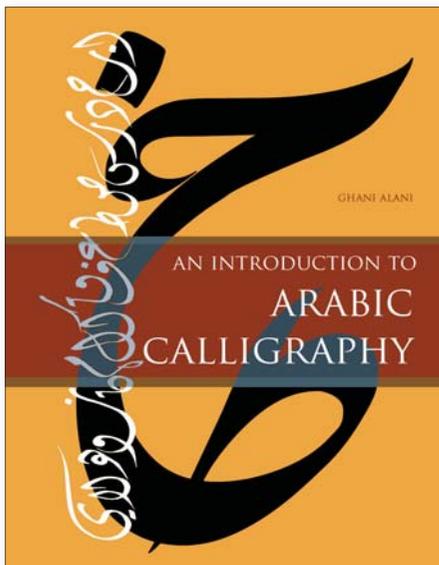
ISBN: 978-0-7643-5218-8 • hard cover • \$24.99

AVAILABLE IN DECEMBER



AN INTRODUCTION TO ARABIC CALLIGRAPHY

Ghani Alani



- A world master teaches you the equipment, basics, and how to create art from 28 letters
- 304 images show inspiring color masterpieces, and also step-by-step basic strokes to practice
- Helps you understand the 7 major styles, from Kufic to Maghrebi

With a photo-rich teaching method that's welcoming to everyone, this introduction helps you use ink and a qalam—a traditional reed pen—to create flowing, timeless decorative lines of Arabic script. The book begins with the history behind this art that decorates writings and architecture worldwide. Master calligrapher Alani next shows you how to choose the materials and prepare your tools. After a quick introduction to how the Arabic language works, he guides you through exercises to help you successfully write the 28 Arabic letters, join them together, and finally assemble them into phrases. Once you have mastered the basics, explore creating graphic compositions in each of seven major styles (Kufic, Thuluth, Naskh, Persian, Turkish, Riqâa and Maghrebi). Sometimes it takes years to be able to decipher a composition, but meanwhile, you can enjoy its aesthetic beauty. This guide helps beginners, like centuries of people before them, create graceful, meaningful art from words.

GHANI ALANI'S work is in museums worldwide, and is featured in several films. Born in Iraq, he holds the Ijazé (calligraphy diploma) from H. el Badadi, grand master of the School of Baghdad, and H. el Hamedi, master of the School of Turkey.

Size: 8 1/2" x 11" • 304 color & b/w images • 80 pp.

ISBN: 978-0-7643-5173-0 • hard cover • \$24.99

AVAILABLE IN OCTOBER



Studying Japanese calligraphy is a great way to learn and memorize hiragana and katakana. Here are some tips to help you get started.

Study Tools.

When you start learning Japanese calligraphy, you will need some specific tools. This doesn't mean you should run out to the store and purchase rice paper, bamboo brushes, and Japanese ink. While you will need these things eventually, the first things you should buy are a brush marker, which you can find at stores like Hobby Lobby, Michaels or A.C. Moore, and a few packs of index cards.

An Introduction to Japanese Calligraphy. Keep it Simple.

Since these concepts can be confusing for a beginner, it's important to simplify the process.