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Chinese Flash Cards Kit Volume 1: Characters 1-349: HSK Elementary Level (Downloadable Audio Included)



Synopsis

Everything you need to learn the 349 most basic Chinese characters quickly and easily - our #1 language learning kit now for your ebook! 349 Flash Cards. A Handy Organizing Ring. Audio Recordings of More than 2000 words and phrases. Plus a 32-page study booklet. To succeed in mastering Chinese characters, there are just 3 secrets: begin with the most useful characters, study them in the most effective order, and use repetition galore! Flash cards remain one of the most effective tools for rapid memorization, and Tuttle's flash cards are the best available today. Whether on a train from Beijing to Shanghai or sitting under a tree in Berkeley, you can be practicing your Chinese with this well-designed, easy-to-use set of flashcards. Developed with HSK study and AP test-prep in mind, the front of Tuttle's Flash Cards give one Chinese character, a stroke order guide, 4 words and phrases, and look-alike alerts to help avoid confusion. On the reverse is as much information as a dictionary entry: Romanized pronunciation and English meanings, sample sentences for correct usage, plus helpful mnemonics and learning tips. An audio CD gives native-speaker pronunciations and a handy organizing ring is the perfect way to

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Customer Reviews

I've been using a book to learn these which is quite helpful. The flash cards are just the thing to help with memorization. Some of the Chinese characters are, for some reason, very easy to remember after the first introduction. I'm not sure why that is, but I've had no trouble with recalling about half of them that I've been introduced to. The other half...well, that's a different story. I have to keep studying them and trying to give myself a tool to recall their meaning. What the cards do is allow me to separate out those words that I have trouble with from those I don't, so that I'm not repeating the stuff I already have down cold and do not need to review. It saves a lot of time and effort and unnecessary repetition to have these. I tried making my own flash cards, but these come with some great disks that help you to get the pronunciations right the first time. Chinese is a tonal language and sounds sing-song-y for a good reason: It is! The Pinyin (Romanized spellings) have accent marks over many of the vowels -- they are there to tell you how to pronounce the sound and there are at least five different ways to do that. My comprehensive dictionary has several pages for the spelling (without accents) "xie"--so, if you do not use the correct tonal pattern, you could be saying just the opposite of what you mean to say. Xie(4) xie means "thanks"....can you imagine how easy it would be to mess that up? The flash cards are numbered and there is a printed cross-reference so that you can find one easily enough if you want to change the order (also an easy means to make notation of such actions), and there are recorded pronunciations which are worth the cost of the box alone. The cards also give examples of the word in usage--very helpful, indeed.

I use these Tuttle flash cards for daily study and they are unbeatable. I own volumes 1-3 and am current halfway through Volume 2. I use an iPhone app (Sticky Study) alongside these cards, and they complement each other very well. For a while I tried using the app only, but came back to the printed cards as my primary learning tool for a few reasons: 1. Physical cards are easier to rearrange into mini-stacks, e.g., separating familiar characters from new ones, or creating "daily card stacks" for repeated learning during the day 2. These Tuttle cards have large characters which are easy to study - my online tools have too small or poorly rendered characters that are difficult for first-time study when you don't yet know the character well 3. Tuttle cards have stroke-by-stroke guide for writing the character 4. Each card has 4 well-selected words which use the character in question, and they are usually fairly common ones - my Sticky Study app features some pretty unusual character usages 5. The cards are well proof-read and I have not come across obvious printing errors (unlike my online sources which have incorrect tones etc.) I don't personally use the included ringy-thingy as I like to frequently recombine my cards into smaller stacks and I'm afraid of breaking

my card corners if I accidentally tear off the card from the ring. I have stacks of 80-100 cards in my work bag in individual Zip-Loc bags which allows me to quickly take them out and flip through them when I have a spare moment. My only criticism is that some of the example sentences are unnecessarily advanced for HSK 1-4 students, but most of them are helpful. Like said, I still use the Sticky Study app on the side.

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