

HOW TO READ

MANGA

STEP BY STEP

and choose the right one for you!

by Abby Domstad

WGSSLIBRARY

WHAT IS MANGA?

MANGA ARE JAPANESE COMIC BOOKS. THE ART IN MANGA IS UNIQUE, AND EASY TO TELL APART FROM WESTERN COMICS SUCH AS MARVEL AND DC. MANGA TENDS TO UTILIZE A BLACK AND WHITE COLOUR SCHEME, AND MORE OR LESS SIMILAR CHARACTERS WITH BIG, BRIGHT, EYES. IN ANY FORM OF ART, ARTISTIC STYLE TENDS TO CHANGE WITH THE AUTHOR.



MANGA AS WE KNOW IT NOW BEGAN IN THE EARLY 20TH CENTURY. THIS WAS WHEN JAPANESE ARTISTS BEGAN TO MERGE IDEAS FROM WESTERN COUNTRIES WITH THEIR OWN. WITH THE STRANGE NEW IDEAS THAT CAME FROM THE WEST, AND THE FAST INCREASING DEVELOPMENTS IN JAPANESE SOCIETY, MANGA BEGAN THIS NEW ERA.

FROM THE 1990'S AND ON, MANGA HAD ITS BIG DEBUT, BECOMING WILDLY POPULAR IN THE UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

HOW TO READ



WRONG WAY!

Japanese books, including manga like this one, are meant to be read from right to left.

So the front cover is actually the back cover, and vice-versa.

To read this book, please flip it over and start in the top right-hand corner. Read the panels, and the bubbles in the panels, from right to left, then drop down to the next row and repeat.

It may make you dizzy at first, but forcing your brain to do things backwards makes you smarter in the long run. We swear.



This is the **back** of the book. What do you think you're doing? Who do you think you are?

Go to the other end of the book and start at page 1. Your mother and I are very disappointed in you.



START FROM THE BACK OF THE BOOK. USUALLY A WARNING LIKE THESE WILL BE PRESENT IF YOU DO START THE WRONG WAY, OTHERWISE YOU'LL BE TOTALLY CONFUSED!

READING YOUR NEW GRAPHIC NOVEL: SOME OPTIONS

1	2	3	OPTION 1: Follow the balloons from left to right and top to bottom , then move on to the next panel, the way you learned it at that sissy school of yours.
4	5	6	
7	8	9 10	
6	8	3	OPTION 2: Read each balloon in whatever order appeals to you most. Freestyle! It's your book now! Don't let the man tell you which direction to read!
5	7	1	
4	10	2 9	

WARNING: For entertainment use only. Do not attempt to learn anything from this page.

AS IN ALL JAPANESE BOOKS, MANGA IS READ FROM **RIGHT TO LEFT**...!

1ST

2ND



WHAT SHALL WE DO...?

WE'VE STARTED MOVING...



3RD



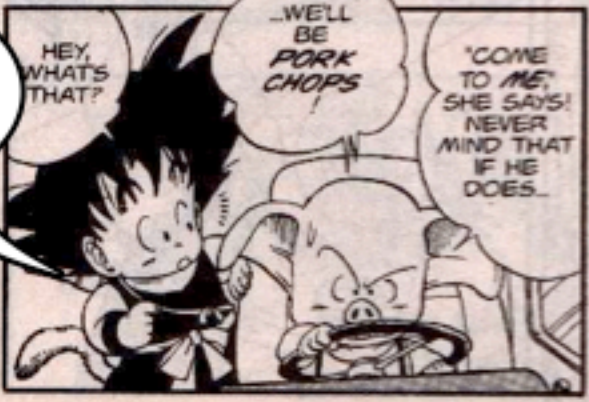
5TH



4TH



6TH



This is

STARTING WITH THE FIRST ROW AND THEN DROPPING DOWN TO THE BOTTOM RIGHT BOX.

WORDS TO KNOW

KAWAII

(In the context of Japanese popular culture) cute.

"She paints elephants that are extremely kawaii"

BAKA!

Japanese word "Baka" means idiot, fool and stupid, everything along those lines.

"Anata wa baka desu"
(You are an idiot/fool)

CHIBI

An adjective that means small and/or miniature in a good or cute way. A term of endearment used to describe young children, animals, and anything cute.

SHONEN SHONEN

A style of manga which usually targets young males. They are typically full of fighting and action.

Some examples of these are Naruto, One Piece, Death Note, Fullmetal Alchemist, and Dragonball Z

Shōjo

Literally means "for girls" but is known as girl comics because they depict stories of romantic relationships and/or drama to generally appeal to females.

Some examples include Fruits Basket, Dengeki Daisy, Ouran Highschool Host Club, and Vampire Night

shoujo

A WORK INTENDED AND PRIMARILY WRITTEN FOR FEMALES. USUALLY INVOLVES A LOT OF ROMANCE AND STRONG CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT.



Fruits Basket



SHOUJO SERIES EXAMPLES:
-VAMPIRE NIGHT
-DENGEKI DAISY
-OURAN HIGH SCHOOL HOST CLUB
-KIMI NI TODOKE
-FRUITS BASKET
-LIBRARY WARS
(ALL AVAILABLE IN OUR LIBRARY!)

SHONEN IS THE TERM USED TO DESCRIBE MANGA AIMED AT THE MALE AUDIENCE. IT IS USUALLY TOLD FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF AN ADOLESCENT MALE CHARACTER. COMMON TOPICS FOUND IN THIS GENRE PRIMARILY INCLUDE ACTION AND ADVENTURE, SPORTS, AND HORROR.

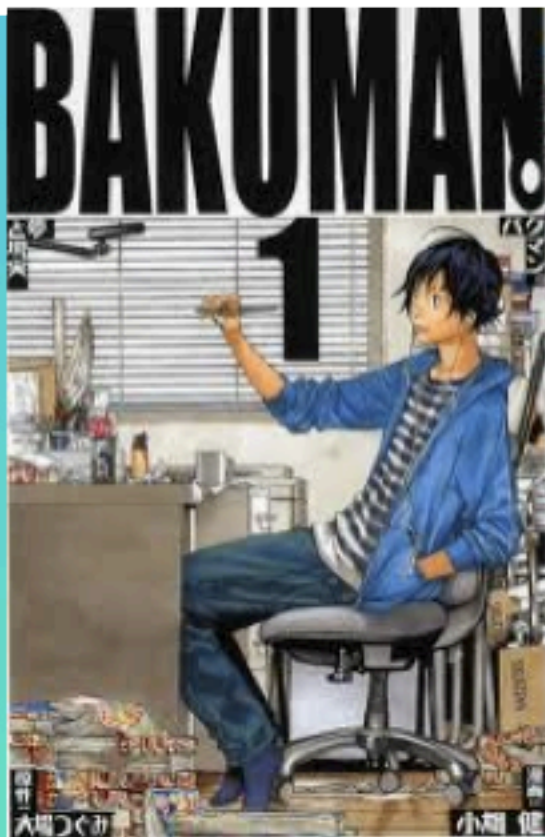
SHONEN



SHONEN SERIES EXAMPLES:

- ONE PIECE
 - NARUTO
 - DRAGONBALL
 - FULLMETAL ALCHEMIST
 - DEATHNOTE
 - ATTACK ON TITAN
- (ALL AVAILABLE IN OUR LIBRARY!)





SLICE OF LIFE

THE BEST AND WORST OF LIFE, CONVENIENTLY SLICED AND PACKAGED IN THE FORM OF BOOKS, TELEVISION, THEATER OR CINEMA FOR YOUR VIEWING PLEASURE. THINGS THAT ARE "SLICE OF LIFE" ARE GENERALLY EMOTION PROVOKING, INSIGHTFUL, MOVING, BUT ALSO REALISTIC.



SLICE OF LIFE SERIES EXAMPLES:
-BAKUMAN
-YOTSUBA!
-DENGEKI DAISY
-SKIP BEAT!
-OURAN HIGH SCHOOL HOST CLUB
(ALL AVAILABLE IN OUR LIBRARY!)



A STYLE OF MANGA GEARED TOWARD YOUNGER AUDIENCES. THE PLOT IS USUALLY SIMPLE AND SUITED TOWARDS THE LIMITED ATTENTION SPAN OF CHILDREN. KODOMO MANGA FEATURE BRIGHT, ENTHUSIASTIC CHARACTERS AND ARE NOTED FOR BEING STORIES WITH VERY MORALISTIC LESSONS.

Kodomo



KODOMO SERIES EXAMPLES:
-CARD CAPTOR SAKURA
-YOTSUBA!
(ALL AVAILABLE IN OUR LIBRARY!)

SCHOOL LIFE

A GENRE SIMILAR TO SLICE OF LIFE. SCHOOL LIFE IS PREDOMINANTLY BASED AROUND THE LIFE OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS. IT TARGETS HIGH SCHOOL AGE READERS WITH REALISTIC SCENARIOS AND RELATABLE CONFLICTS. SERIES IN THIS CATEGORY OFTEN OVERLAP WITH GENRES LIKE SHOUJO AND SLICE OF LIFE.



SCHOOL LIFE SERIES EXAMPLES:
-KIMI NI TODOKE
-OURAN HIGH SCHOOL HOST CLUB
-DENGEKI DAISY
-THE GENTLEMEN'S ALLIANCE CROSS
-ROSARIO VAMPIRE
-BAKUMAN
(ALL AVAILABLE IN OUR LIBRARY!)

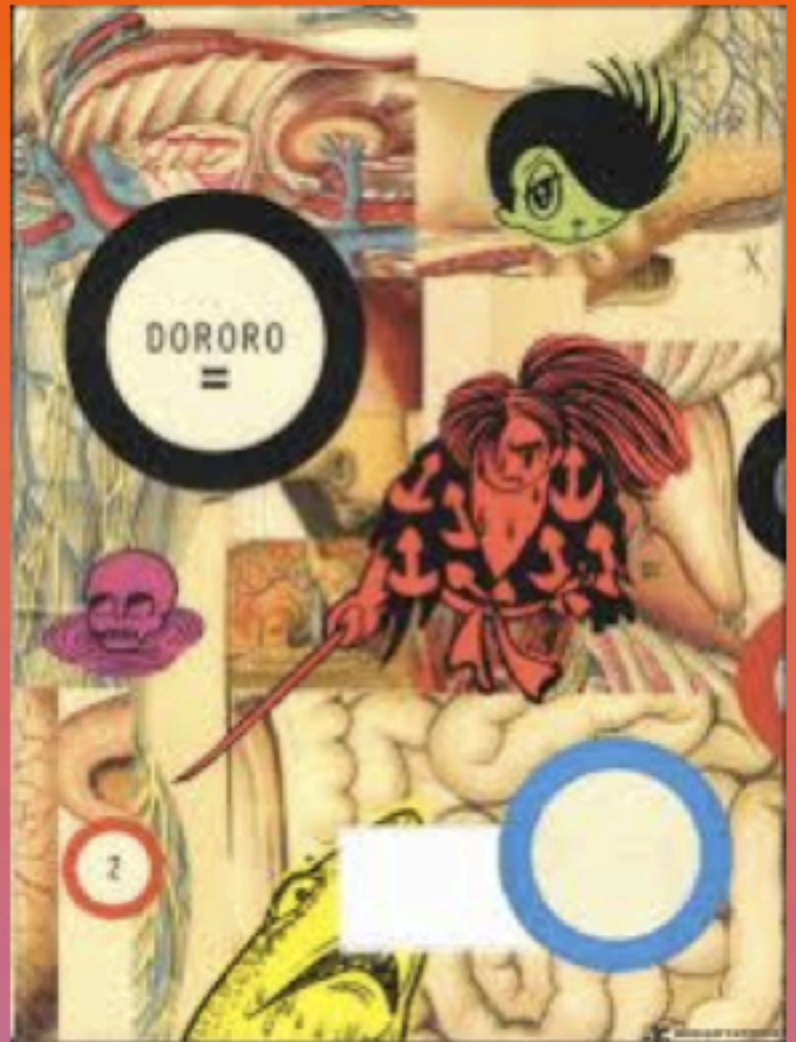


Black Jack

Osamu Tezuka



AS WITH ANY FORM OF ENTERTAINMENT, MANGA CAN BE CATEGORIZED INTO COUNTLESS GENRES, SUCH AS SCI-FI, TRAGEDY, COMEDY, WESTERN, DRAMA, AND MANY MANY OTHERS! I HOPE THIS GUIDE HAS GIVEN YOU THE NECESSARY INFORMATION FOR UNDERSTANDING AND CHOOSING THE RIGHT MANGA FOR YOU!



THANK YOU FOR READING!