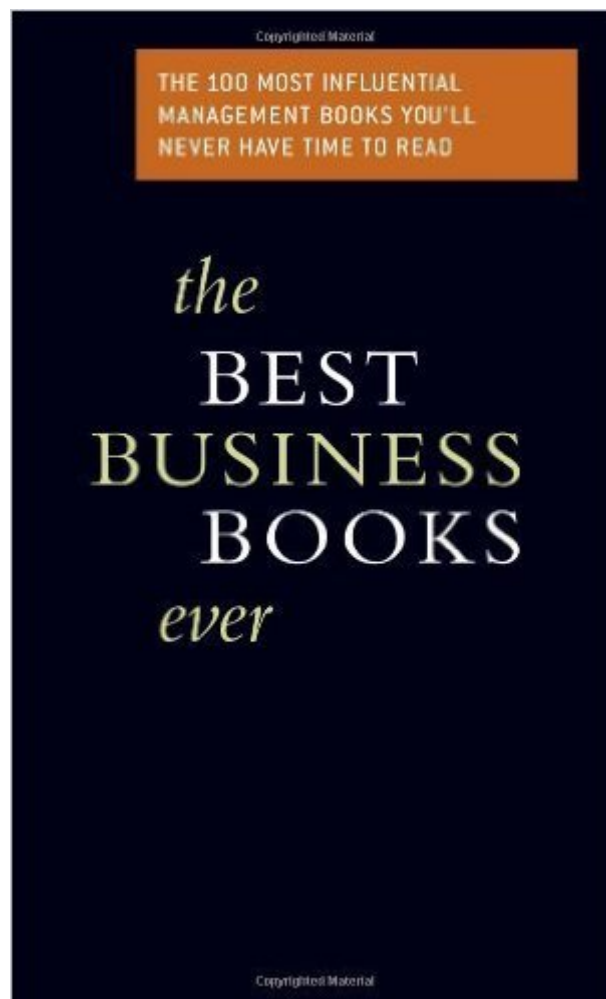


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# The Best Business Books Ever: The 100 Most Influential Management Books You'll Never Have Time To Read



## Synopsis

Given the urgency and immediacy of so many business problems and challenges, a solid grounding in the history and evolution of business thinking will help managers separate fad from fact and apply the cumulative wisdom of the writers whose ideas have demonstrated profound and lasting impact. From Sun Tzu's timeless Art of War to the inventors of modern management in the 1920s-'40s to the books that have captured the New Economy Zeitgeist, *The Best Business Books Ever* illuminates the key ideas and contributions of the 100 books that should form the basis of any manager's, business student's, or entrepreneur's library. *The Best Business Books Ever* places both historical and contemporary works in context and draws fascinating parallels and points of connection between books from different places and times, all of which have contributed to our collective understanding and practice of the art of management.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"The Best Business Books Ever - the most influential management books you'll never have time to

read" published in 2011 is a revised and expanded edition of "the Best Business Books ever - the 100 most influential management books you'll never have time to read" published in 2003. I have read all the books mentioned in the edition of 2003. The revised and expanded edition published in 2011 differs from the "2003 edition" as follows:- the "100 most influential management books" in the "2003 edition" are included in this "2011 edition" except "The Function of the Executive" by Chester Barnard published in 1938/1968. The majority of these books qualifies for a "Top 100 List" and is a very good benchmark for implementing an excellent "Best Business Books" library (5-stars). Such a library has many advantages: access to outstanding know how and best management practices, stimulation of creativity, learning from failure and success, development of in-house capabilities etc. etc.- The new "2011 edition" has been extended by 33 books. Six of them are very good recommendations: Barbarians at the Gate by Burrough and Helyar (1989 - 20th anniversary edition). Direct from Dell by Michael Dell (1999) Digital Capital by Don Tapscott (2000) Straight from the Gut by Jack Welch (2003) Now discover your strengths by Buckingham/Clifton (2004) The World is flat by Thomas Friedman (2005)- The remaining 27 books in this new edition - not included in the 2003 edition - I would neither buy nor read: most of them are outdated (dealing with the so called new economy published between 1999 and 2001 just before the .

Note: This review is of a book published earlier this year. It is a sequel to one published in 2003. What we have here is a series of brief discussions "the most influential management books you'll never have time to read," a total of 130, one per author or co-authors. They were selected by persons not identified and the book was published by (appropriately) Basic Books. No doubt those who examine the list will disagree with the selections (I do and more about that later) because any such list is bound to generate controversy. Some readers will question the selection of an author's work (e.g. preferring Jim Collins' Good to Great to Built to Last written with Jerry Porras) and other readers will object to an author's inclusion (e.g. Gerry McGovern, R. Meredith Belbin) and/or exclusion (e.g. Adrian Slywotsky). That said, the 130 really would provide an excellent "basic library" of resources that include non-business books such as Sun Tzu's The Art of War and Niccolò Machiavelli's The Prince that have indeed had significant impact on thinking about leadership and management. The two-page format is eminently sensible: WHY READ IT? A capsule introduction describing the book's key contribution to management GETTING STARTED: An introduction to the main themes that each author sets out to address CONTRIBUTION: A detailed summary of the book's most important points CONTEXT: An overview of both the immediate reaction to the book and its long-term significance FOR MORE INFORMATION: Essential bibliographic information on

the given title Granted, it is impossible to do full justice to any of the 130. What surprised me is how much useful material the anonymous co-authors of the digests manage to provide.

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