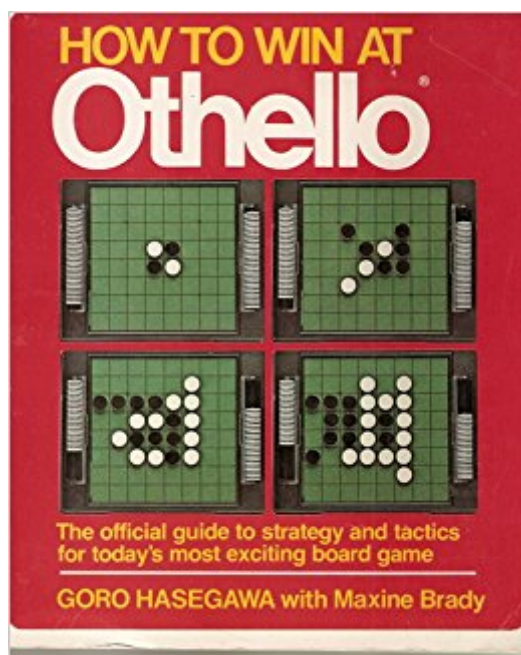


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How To Win At Othello (A Harvest/HBJ Book)



Book Information

Series: A Harvest/HBJ book

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Customer Reviews

The book is good, but the glue holding all the pages together has turned to dust and all the pages are falling out.

A very old book. Not many of these around. Good for beginners learning Othello strategy.

Othello, devised by Hasegawa-san in the 1970s, is an improved version of the century-old English game, reversi. [What is called reversi on-line is almost always Othello rather than reversi]. This book was written soon after Othello was devised, before anyone understood much about the game. Unfortunately it shows, and beginners would do well to avoid it - at least as a source of ideas on strategy and tactics - because it will lead them down a deceptively appealing blind alley. Because of its many diagrams, however, it may be of use to those who know enough to recognise where it goes wrong but otherwise I recommend it for historical interest only. Better resources can be found free on the Web, in the form of strategy guides, illustrative applets and programs that can beat even the best humans. A printed alternative is Othello: Brief & Basic by Ted Landau, which is old but still excellent (as far as it goes).

Goro Hasegawa was the Japanese rediscoverer of Othello. Originally, the game was known as Reversi. Two rival Englishmen each claimed to have invented the game late 19th century.

Hasegawa modified the rules slightly and his father, a Shakespearean scholar gave it the name

Othello, because the reversals in the game reminded him of the plot of the play. This book is the only widely distributed manual of Othello strategy. Although it may have some value for the collector, unfortunately most Othello players regard the strategies discussed in the book as being obsolete and even misleading. Readers who are interested in the game should look for resources on the Internet.

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