Japanese Dolls: The Fascinating World Of Ningyo
The fascinating world of Japanese doll collecting.

For centuries, Japanese doll artisans created spectacular works of art, invested with both significant cultural meaning and elemental beauty, encased in the deceptively simple body of a doll. Japanese Dolls: The Fascinating World of Ningyo, is a cornucopia of information for Japanese art collectors, Asian doll collectors and doll enthusiasts of all levels and interests. Full of beautiful photographs, the book details 18 kinds of widely collected, obtainable and affordable, antique and vintage dolls and figurines (ningyo).

Author Alan Scott Pateâ “the leading American expert on Japanese dollsâ ” writes in illuminating detail about the traditions of each type of doll and shares practical tips on how to collect this amazing Japanese art form. Included are:

- Festival dolls: hina-ningyo, musha-ningyo, tableau dolls
- Display dolls: saga-ningyo, gosho-ningyo, isho-ningyo, iki-ningyo
- Wood dolls: kamo-ningyo, nara-ningyo, kokeshi-ningyo
- Clay dolls: fushimi-ningyo, hakata-ningyo
- Mechanical dolls: karakuri-ningyo, kobe-ningyo
- Theatrical dolls: bunraku-ningyo, takeda-ningyo
- Play dolls: ichimatsu-ningyo, keue saiko

**Book Information**

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**Customer Reviews**

Alan Pate’s second book on Japanese dolls gives the occidental reader a real understanding of the Japanese doll within the context of Japanese culture. The work would be cheap at 2X the price. The photographs are stunning and worth the price of admission. For the collector serious or casual this (and his earlier work, Ningyo) are all one needs. Most highly recommended.
This book may be the best one I have purchased in over a year, on any subject. I am so happy to have it in my collection. Photography is excellent, and if you are an artist/dollmaker, the inspirational element is fantastic. Historically, the book is loaded with info that is fascinating. I would recommend this book to anyone who is interested in dollmaking as I am, and who finds Asian artifacts refreshingly different on an artistic basis. What a great book! If you love dolls, this is a must have. You will not be disappointed!

What a book! For those who want to learn about Japanese dolls, especially those collectors and those who may do appraisals or sell to the Japanese doll market, buy this book! The explanations are very good. And, the pictures are fantastic and show the detail extremely well. Enough said! Buy this book!

Kudos to Alan Pate for granting collectors of Ningyo and Ichimatsu the opportunity to see and enjoy this treasured toy/collectible and for letting us have insight into the world of Japanese Art through this medium. I treasure this book along with his other publications.

Very handy to have on my reference shelf, especially when I came across a 19th century ningyo in a second-hand shop and the seller didn’t know what it was (but I did!). Visually lush, very informative. Highly suggested if you work in the field of Japanese antiques and/or textiles, or just love beautifully crafted dolls.

Thirty years ago I bought two Japanese dolls from an antique dealer in the Northeast. I am excited to know that mine are late 1600 - early 1700 as were noted on my bill of sale. I found this book full of information and beautiful pictures. Now I want to collect more. Beautiful coffee table book as well.

This is THE resource for the research and historical accounts of Japanese dolls (Ningyo). Ningyo are a very valuable part of Japanese culture and Mr. Pate thoroughly covers the subject. He is probably the most respected Ningyo expert in the United States. Well worth investment.

This is an amazing book, for specialists and non-specialists alike, although the non-specialists must have a high interest in dolls and some knowledge of Japanese culture to fully enjoy the book. Japanese dolls and the rituals they are associated with being within the scope of my own research, I must say I felt slightly jealous reading the book, because there were so many things I wish I had