Haven't been to Johto in a while? Then welcome back, fearless Pokémon Trainer! Pokémon turns back the clock to take you back to a land filled with excitement—the Johto region—in a brand-new adventure for the Nintendo DS! And this guide will start you out with:

• A detailed walkthrough that chronicles every Pokémon you'll meet, every Trainer you'll face, and every obstacle you'll need to overcome!
• A Johto-specific Pokédex that gives you the numbers on Pokémon you haven't seen in the wild for years!
• Detailed charts listing items, moves, Berries, strengths, weaknesses, and more, right at your fingertips!

Travel back to where it all began, but make sure to take this guide with you so you'll never get lost! Bonus! Double-sided poster inside

**Book Information**

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**Customer Reviews**

The Pokémon Company have put out an odd product this time. There are several sections to this guide, and it is rather interesting that it is a volume 1. I'm assuming that this means that Part 1 is for Johto, and Part 2 is for Kanto. We'll see, when there is a Part 2. I've had mixed feelings towards this book. As a strategy guide, it seems to be lacking some things that I am used to. Also, some of the information is not as in-depth as I would prefer, while other information is remarkably in-depth. So, I'll break this up into sections for my review.

Section 1: Introduction of characters.-This section has a few pictures and names of the various characters you'll meet in your adventure. While I understand this is a flavor section, many of these characters are introduced later as well. I feel that this section
was a waste of a few pages. Index:-This section was done rather well, with other sorting methods used to try and find things quickly. This made for a nice reference section. Region Map:- Nice detail, and a general list of interesting items at each location. I will probably use this quite often. "How to Use This Book"- I'm not sure why this was added... it is another index page. Primer for Pokémon Training- Some information here seems to be reiterated a few times, but there is some interesting information here. There is a list of the event Pokémon, advice on using False Swipe and sleep to catch Pokémon, and other listings for those that are both new and familiar to Pokémon. I learned a few things about increasing and decreasing Pokémon encounter rates as well.

With 3 pokemaniacs in the house, this book is getting a lot of use, unfortunately we've been sorely disappointed with this offering. Here some of the Good, the Bad, and the... Meh. (I'll be updating this as the book gets more use. Updates are denoted with asterisks.)

Update added:* 4/28/2010 *** 5/15/2010 **----- The Good: Yay a index for the pokedex! Another plus attacks that require contact are identified.* Nice page recommending 6 pokemon that can learn HMs, Flash, and Headbutt for field use (though a complete list of available pokemon would have been preferred). *----- The Bad: The book arrived with the edge of the exterior lamination already pealing off and, of course, use has spread this. Also, the laminate had a flaw, a hole half the size of a pencil eraser, even before application. Construction quality does not seem the best. * Bubbles are appearing in the middle of the lamination and even with careful handling the lamination has rolled as much as an inch from the edge. * The walk-through is very basic and requires a lot of backtracking because you get information about events that require much later triggers. Page pointers are provided but a linear walk-through would have been a lot more useful and less frustrating. Lots of wasted space. Pages are often "packed full" of empty space, thanks to a wasteful layout, and useless, oversized, page-filling images, like the worthless photorama that takes up pages 2-17. The book could probably have been 1/3 thinner with a more economic layout (or, better yet, been packed with more info).

When I pre-ordered this guide, there was NO notation that this was just Volume One. Sure, this is the way the Diamond and Pearl guides came out, but I was relieved that Platinum was just one volume, complete in itself. The pros for this guide: maps, I suppose. And info on sidegames, but only those available during the first half of the game. The cons: Worthless Pokedex. Not even egg moves! No info on any Move Tutors except for Headbutt, because these will be in the second volume. I kept flipping back and forth, because of the non-linear "do this here before that event, then come back
later for these things..." descriptions for each section. No info on trainers, except gym leaders and your rival. By now most Pokemon players know about shiny Pokemon, but this guide doesn't bother to mention the phenomenon at all - it just states that the Red Gyarados is a shiny Pokemon, with no explanation. The guide doesn't even mention the odds of shinies, or that every Pokemon has a shiny form. And how do you catch Suicune?!? It is a Pokemon in the first half of the game, but the 'dex says you need to transfer it in from D/P/Pt. I could keep listing the problems with this guide, but it's not worth my time and energy - or yours. I found myself relying on my old Gold/Silver guide from Versus Books to play the game - and it's a decade old! It listed each and every trainer you will find, as well as their Pokemon. It lists monies and rewards received from battles. It has far more details on HM and TM moves than this new waste of money. If you want a guide, either go online, or just wait until Part 2 comes out in a few weeks and get both then.

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