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# Sayonara Home Run!: The Art Of The Japanese Baseball Card



## Synopsis

With talented young Japanese players signing to the American Majors, interest in Japanese baseball is at an all-time high. *Sayonara Home Run!* introduces curious fans to Japan's national pastime through the lens of the country's playfully beautiful baseball cards. A fascinating text traces the roots and cross-cultural history of the Japanese game, while hundreds of illustrations showcase gorgeous vintage cards. Woven throughout are profiles of key Japanese players, features on important U.S. team tours of Japan (with Japanese cards of players such as Babe Ruth and Joe DiMaggio), and insights into the social history of the cards. Including primers on Japanese player nicknames and baseball terms, and the fine points of the Japanese game, *Sayonara Home Run!* is a must-have for anyone interested in baseball, Japan, or this unique chapter in popular design.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Vintage Japanese baseball cards are among the most beautiful baseball collectibles in the world. I discovered these treasures over ten years ago during a trip to Japan and became an avid collector. My passion for the cards eventually led to an on-line card business and a career as a baseball writer. John Gall and Gary Engel's new book *Sayonara Homerun!* depicts hundreds, if not thousands, of these beautiful cards. The book's presentation is wonderful. Cards are gracefully portrayed as art but the accompanying text will satisfy both baseball card collectors and fans of Japanese baseball. If you are an American baseball cards collector, come see what you are missing. If you are a fan of Japanese baseball, come see great pictures of your favorite stars. I spend hours paging

through this book and expect that you will enjoy it as much as I have.

I was doing a Google Image Search on Japanese graphics, and came across one of the images from this book. As a graphic designer, illustrator, and baseball fan, I was curious to see more and ordered a good-condition-used copy of this book. I think it is terrific. A quality paperback book, wonderfully designed, and absolutely chock-FULL of amazing graphic examples of Japanese baseball cards. Is the topic a bit "esoteric"? -- Maybe, but I think many people who are interested in ephemera and vintage graphics tend to have esoteric tastes and interests. Offbeat, well-designed books (especially affordable books like this) are like visual vitamins in my art studio....This book is a winner.

This could've been featured in our collector's section or even our sports section, but is presented here for its powerful artistic survey of Japanese sports through its lovely baseball card art.

**SAYONARA HOME RUN! THE ART OF THE JAPANESE BASEBALL CARD** features player history, card art, and loved and hated baseball teams alike. It will attract any with an interest in world baseball or in collectible ballgame cards - and many a browser with an interest in neither! Diane C. Donovan, Editor California Bookwatch

This book has nice pictures of vintage Japanese baseball cards and informative text. But the cover fell off of my book while I was reading it! A minor complaint, perhaps, but I thought I should mention it.

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