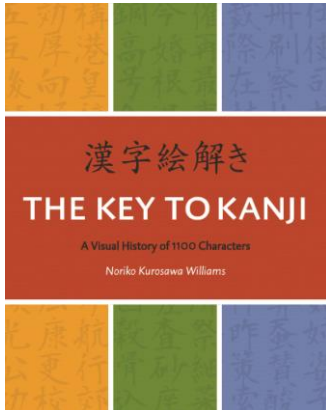


# THE KEY TO KANJI

Author: Noriko Kurosawa Williams



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*The Key to Kanji: A Visual History of 1100 Characters* is a one-of-a-kind reference for learners at any level! Based in etymological research, this detailed guide takes away the difficulty of learning these Japanese characters. Each of these essential *kanji* receives a fully illustrated entry with a brief English summary explaining the evolution of its written form and meaning from ancient to modern times. Each *kanji* is also given on- and kun- pronunciations, a section header in a traditional *kanji* dictionary, a clear stroke order illustration, and sample words that are useful for learners. The unusual breadth and depth of information in *The Key to Kanji* meets the needs of students and teachers in university, high school, and heritage language school programs, as well as independently studying adult learners.

**“With the authentically and compellingly presented etymologies in the *Key to Kanji*, my students, from beginning to AP level, are now learning the meaning of each kanji with confidence—no more blind memorization!”** *Dr. Mariko Sato Berger, Townsend Harris High School, Flushing, NY*

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR** Noriko Kurosawa Williams has taught Japanese at American University in Washington, D.C., since 2005. A native of Japan, she graduated from Keio University in Tokyo (B.A. in political science) and Georgetown University (M.S. and Ph.D. in linguistics). Fascinated by the fact that kanji are a window into the imagination of another era, she has been teaching and studying kanji characters for many years, and *The Key to Kanji* is the culmination of these experiences. She has most recently created the free online tutorial for kanji that uses this text as a supplement, [visualkanji.com](http://visualkanji.com).

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