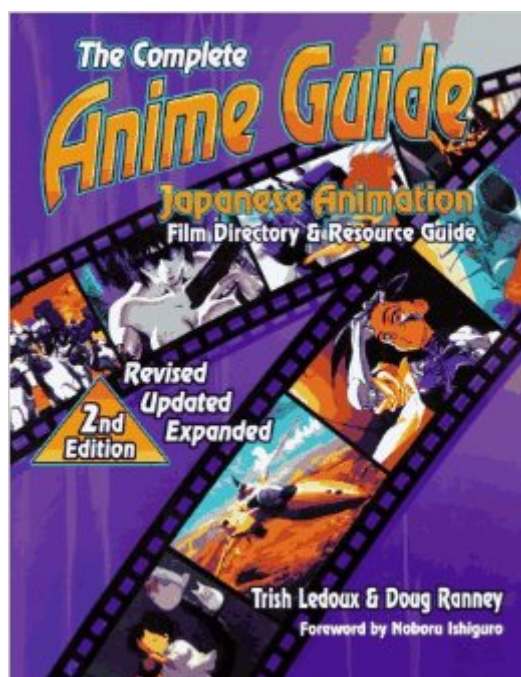


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# The Complete Anime Guide: Japanese Animation Film Directory & Resource Guide



## Synopsis

It's clear that Japanese animation, or anime, has established a lasting beachhead in American mass culture. "The Complete Anime Guide" serves as a chronicle, a directory, a resource and a guide book to this most exciting of all Japanese imports. The video directory lists all of the thousands of anime titles available in the USA as of early 1997, including critical summaries of every film or series, summaries of individual series episodes, production credits, content advisories, and both Japanese and American release information. The chapter on genres provides critical guidance and background for the reader, offering a deeper discussion of the films and their creators. The TV series chapter traces the long history of Japanese-animated shows broadcast on American TV- from the 1963 debut of Astro Boy to more recent shows such as Eagle Riders and Dragon Ball. Each entry includes a complete summary and discussion of the series, with production credits, background, and illustrations. Generously illustrated, "The Complete Anime Guide" doubles as an entertaining introduction for newcomers to this exciting artform, and is by far the most exhaustive and authoritative reference work for those already well-versed in the world of anime.

## Book Information

Paperback: 214 pages

Publisher: Tiger Mountain Pr; 2 edition (February 1, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0964954257

ISBN-13: 978-0964954250

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 8.5 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (5 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,631,007 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #28 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Movies > Amateur Production](#) #279 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Drawing > Cartooning > Anime & Cartoons](#) #963 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Movies > Genre Films](#)

## Customer Reviews

The Complete Anime Guide is a very well made book which composes one of the best intro's I have read. The book goes in great depth from the very first re-writing the history of anime, which is very helpful for people starting off, or people who would like to learn more about the history of anime. Although it could now use an update, it has a very large number of anime titles which are currently

available in the United States. The only two things I disagree about the book are a better made index, consisting of the anime titles alone, much like *The Anime Movie Guide* written by Helen McCarthy. Another thing I dislike was the use of only American titles. I wanted to see many of Hayao Miyazaki when it only included one. It is fairly brief in reviews, although it goes into depth mentioning each OVA which is very nice. It also gives slight background on a few words of Japanese. I prefer to use this book to find out about a title briefly or to gather history from anime backgrounds.

This guide is great! I grew up in the 90s and love Anime from that era but finding information is really tough these days. Many of the releases have not made it to DVD and tracking down info is tough. This guide makes it super easy. Included are great ratings that break down what you're going to get (violence, nudity, profanity, etc), who released it, cover art, who made it, a brief review. It also has a great history of anime and anime culture. Good stuff and a great buy.

As the title suggests 'The Complete Anime Guide' is a 'Japanese Animation Film Directory and Resource Guide,' or more specifically a comprehensive guide to Japanese Animation is currently available in America on domestic release videos. The Guide, co-written by Trish Ledoux, editor of the 'Animerica' film guide magazine, far surpasses the 1st edition which was much criticised as being a glorified catalogue rather than a resource guide. Now in its second incarnation the Guide provides detailed information on each of the available Anime titles ranging from production data, release dates, to episode summaries and subjective comments. The Guide even provides a unique classification of Anime titles in the form of symbols to represent content for violence, nudity, comedy, profanity, etc..., on suitability of titles for specific audiences. In addition the Guide also has a comprehensive list of Anime publishing houses, distributors in America and even a list of Anime Magazines. It even goes as far as to include URLs for Anime resources on the World Wide Web. The most interesting aspect of the Guide is the section written by Noboru Ishiguro, a mover in the field of anime, on his observations on the history of Animation in Japan and in America. The 2nd edition Guide is a must have for all anime fans, at least until the 3rd edition is released.

I read the first edition, which came out around 6 months to a year before the second edition. It combines a history of anime (with a slant towards American releases), a genre guide, the reviews from past issues of *Animerica* of titles released in the US, and a section on anime fandom. A fairly good reference for the beginning anime fan but not very in-depth. The "complete" part of the title is somewhat of a misnomer.

Not everything in the world of anime made the jump to DVD or Blu Ray. This reference is a gold mine of anime releases during the age of VHS tape. Knowing that they exist is half the battle of tracking them down in order to be able to see them for yourself. With most folks settling only for whatever is available on higher definition media, it is likely that these titles are being offered somewhere at bargain prices, too.

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