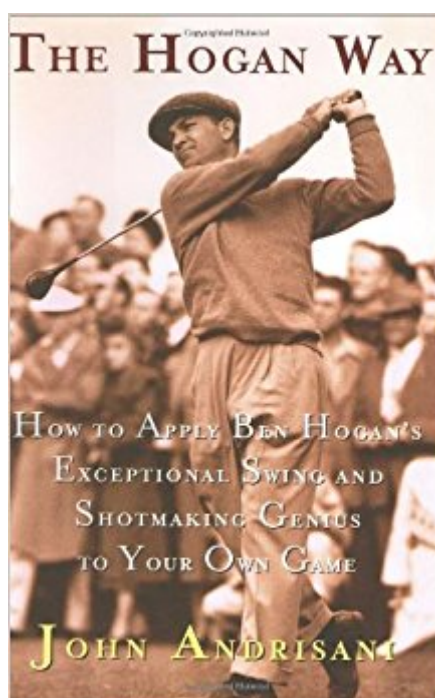


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# The Hogan Way: How To Apply Ben Hogan's Exceptional Swing And Shotmaking Genius To Your Own Game



## Synopsis

In the same way that magicians are intrigued by Houdini, golfers look to Ben Hogan as the Ultimate golfing genius; the most skillful swinger and shotmaker of all time and the master of the power-fade shot."-- John Andrisani Hogan was a player whose ball-striking ability was so precise that he literally wore down the grooves in the sweet spot of the clubface. He would concentrate so intensely during play that he could look straight through other competitors, spectators, and even his wife. He was a highly disciplined professional who practiced so diligently before and after competitive rounds that he made his palms bleed and turned the skin to leather. He was Mr. Ben Hogan, the man who, of all golf professionals past and present, had the most influence on the game's techniques since Bobby Jones. In *The Hogan Way*, acclaimed author and former golf teacher and senior instruction editor of GOLF Magazine John Andrisani analyzes every aspect of Hogan's techniques to help you improve your game faster than ever before. Tapping into the talent of a shotmaking genius--the purest striker of a golf ball that ever lived--Andrisani shows how to apply the secrets of Hogan's setup and swing to your own game using today's technologically advanced clubs. As he traces the history of Hogan's commanding swing, Andrisani makes clear which aspects of Hogan's style are worth imitating and which ones are not. Most importantly, this invaluable guide reveals secrets about the Hogan techniques that have never been shared before, including how he shaved strokes off his score and hit his trademark power-fade shot. Here, too, are insights into the master's golfing mind, his practice approach, and his unique course-management skills. Filled with rare photographs and illustrations that demonstrate the extra-special qualities of Hogan's shotmaking methods, *The Hogan Way* is your essential handbook for playing good golf.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Five Lessons: The Modern Fundamentals of Golf, Ben Hogan's ground-breaking instructional of the '50s, remains one of the game's most revered--and read--texts. In it, he handed down his take on the essentials of a sound golf swing; in golf circles, it was as if God had deigned to speak. Still, a sound golf swing and the perfection of Hogan's compact, powerful, practiced swing are not exactly synonymous, and it's Hogan's swing that golfers covet. Now, as then, Bantam Ben's is a giant shadow. In *The Hogan Way*, John Andrisani, one of the most prolific and respected golf writers around, analyzes Hogan's approach and mechanics. With the kind of care usually reserved for examining relics like the Shroud of Turin, he breaks the swing down into what he sees as its 12 component movements, looks at each from every angle, and accompanies each with an illustration of Hogan swinging at the appropriate point in the sequence. Andrisani's intent is to identify the aspects of Hogan's swing that work for the average golfer and the parts of it that don't. Andrisani is very clear in his reminder that Hogan methodically built his oft-copied swing to make up for his lack of size and the numerous problems--like a pronounced hook--that plagued him early in his career. Still, even with his swing, what separated Hogan from the pack was something internal--his grit, dedication, and focus--and Andrisani addresses that too. His parsings of Hogan's pre-round, post-round, and off-the-course practice techniques are inspirational, revelatory, and quite human in the way they are anecdotally handed down. They paint a portrait of a man who played golf, lived golf, and defined himself through golf, challenging himself to find his own corner of perfection, which, when all the cheering stopped, was as elusive for him as it is for the rest of us. --Jeff Silverman

In this brief handbook, Andrisani (*The Nicklaus Way*) draws lessons from Ben Hogan's pure swing, unparalleled concentration, dedication to practice and unique approach to golf; and demonstrates how these lessons can be applied to any golfer's game. Beginning with Hogan's early mistakes (such as his crossover grip), Andrisani points out how damaging poor fundamentals can be. Then he explains how Hogan fixed his mistakes, and how "the setup and swing secrets Hogan talked about, and those that were never shared before now, can help you become a more skillful wood and iron player." Black and white illustrations clearly show the mechanics of Hogan's grip and swing; photographs of the master in action clarify extremely detailed descriptions of Hogan's physical game (from his address to the "twelve movements"

of his swing). The author also goes beyond the physical to the mental aspect of Hogan's play, because "maybe you can't move the ball with your mind, but you can think your way to lower scores." Reading about Hogan's extensive practice routines, course management tactics, preparation for a round and patience may be inspiring. At the least, readers may find it reassuring to know that, even for the game's greatest players, golf is a constant struggle. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

A great book with a lot of information.

the best book you can read on this Hogan swing- more then one secret revealed priusbob

This is a good explication of Ben Hogan's "Five Lessons" for anyone who is trying to improve his game by applying Hogan's genius. It is kind of a simpler explanation of Hogan's book, with helpful photographs. Written by John Andrisani, who also wrote Fred Couples' "Total Shotmaking."

Great

Nice Hogan book. Good pictures and discussion.

The Hogan Way is probably worth the investment in that it has some interesting stories and presents some valid thoughts on the golf swing. Two big points, which the author correctly states were not discussed by Hogan, are tempo and grip pressure. Correct understanding of these two things can really help improve a golf swing. But if you are interested in facts, instruction and a truly accurate analysis of the information in Hogan's two books, Power Golf (PG) and The Modern Fundamentals of Golf (TMF), The Hogan Way is a disappointment. For example, the author states that in 1953, Hogan won the the Masters, U.S. Open and PGA and that he deserved the ticker tape parade that honored him in Manhattan. He did not win the PGA in 1953. The subject parade celebrated Hogan's return from Scotland where he won the British Open, the dates of which conflicted with the PGA prohibiting him from competing in that event. To me, a devoted Hoganophile since 1955, this is an error beyond comprehension for someone who is holding himself out to be somewhat of an expert on the man. He also mentions that only three men have won four U.S. Opens, amazingly omitting the accomplishment of one Jack Nicklaus. In a picture caption he says

that Hogan putted "totally with his arms and shoulders," with an upswing striking the upper half of the ball to give it overspin. Contrarily, Hogan says in PG, "... I make sure not move my shoulders... I put with my arms, hands and wrists." That is what I observed him doing at the 1956 U.S. Open. Hogan also says, "Do not try to hit up on the ball to give it overspin. Concentrate on hitting it square, ... straight back... and straight through..." There are many discrepancies. For example, in the so-called "lost fundamentals," the author claims Hogan didn't tell us about a lateral shift to the left before turning the hips at the start of the downswing. In TMF, he very clearly says, "There must enough lateral movement forward to transfer the weight to the left foot." Watch a video of Hogan and you will see that he shifts laterally and turns simultaneously and does not make two complicating movements as the author suggests. Another, the author says Hogan omitted telling about the wide, closed stance he uses. In fact, TMF contains a diagram clearly showing these stance factors. The "lost fundamentals" have merely been overlooked. The author calls PG a flawed book and seems to associate it with Hogan's early, ineffective swing prior to 1940. PG was first published in 1948. Hogan was the tour's leading money winner in 1940, 1941, 1942, 1946, and 1948, absent from the tour during WWII. We should all be so flawed. I have studied, played, and taught golf for almost 50 years. Although Hogan made modifications to his swing and published them in TMF, The information in PG is as good today as it was when written. There is nothing wrong with the grip which the author claims is too strong; many teachers advocate a strong grip for the average player. There is nothing wrong with turning the right foot out at address; ask famed instructor Phil Ritson whom the author quotes on another subject. And, while Hogan was apparently very flexible and could make a big turn that we perhaps should not try to copy, contrary to the author's comments, Hogan did not overswing as he did in prior years. It would be pretty hard to be the leading money winner for so many years without a controlled swing. If you really want to know about Hogan, read Ben Hogan, An American Life by James Dodson. If you want a better analysis of the Hogan fundamentals and how to apply them to your game, I would suggest David Leadbetter's The Fundamentals of Hogan.

The title of this book suggests interest within, and potential value, for the golf - and, especially, Hogan - enthusiast. But the title is misleading. This book is rubbish. Clearly it is an "instant" book (and a poor one at that) produced by cobbling together some miscellaneous anecdotes about Hogan along with some swing observations by the author. The anecdotes may be of some interest to someone who knows little about Hogan - though more, and better, Hogan anecdotes can be had for free on the internet. And Andrisani's swing observations demonstrate his utter lack of

understanding of Hogan's writings about the swing or even of basic golf technique. For example Andrisani - presumably lacking any awareness of Hogan's very well-known reputation as the purist of ball strikers - suggests that one of Hogan's secrets was striking his pitches fat. How does such misleading rubbish get published? Having subsequently looked at some of Andrisani's other books of golf instruction (sic) it is clear that 'instant', misleading, low-grade fare characterises Andrisani's output. To properly understand the "Hogan Way" read, instead, Hogan's own unsurpassed books. Alternatively, if you want Hogan second-hand, read Leadbetter's book on Hogan which, though by no means beyond criticism (e.g. too much emphasis on Leadbetter's own swing theories), is at least (in sharp contrast to Andrisani) well-informed and perceptive.

Rest assured, The Hogan Way is excellent, and should be everyone's companion volume to Hogan's Five Lessons. Those who are saying otherwise have missed the boat entirely, or they have simply failed to read the book thoughtfully. Andrisani provides insight into Hogan's swing like no other has. He has done golfers a service by taking the bits and pieces of information regarding "Hogan's secret(s)" that have been bandied about in upteen publications and conveniently recorded them in one location. Although I have modeled my swing from Hogan's prescriptions in Five Lessons, I have often had difficulty "getting it." Andrisani provides those 'missing links' necessary to complete the swing vis-a-vis Hogan. In short, he proffers clarity regarding those mechanical elements that Hogan either intentionally or unintentionally left hazy. My swing is more complete and certain now than has ever been, thanks to the insight of Andrisani. He does Hogan and fellow golfers proud. For those who doubt my words, read the text yourself. Do not let the negative reviews provided here be the judge and jury. Such would leave a plethora of golfers in want of what has now been provided. Andrisani's The Hogan Way delivers an ace.

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