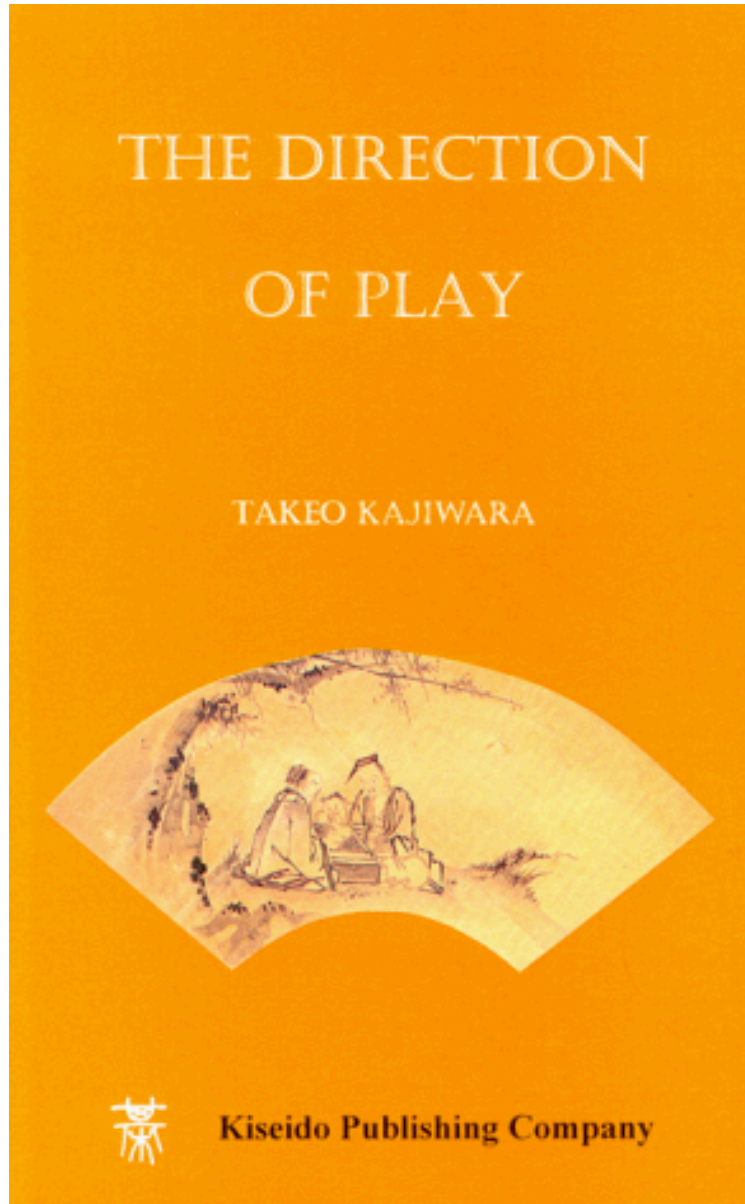


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The Direction of Play (Intermediate to Advanced Go Books)

Takeo Kajiwara

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Takeo Kajiwara : The Direction of Play (Intermediate to Advanced Go Books) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Direction of Play (Intermediate to Advanced Go Books):

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. One of the Very Best Books on Go By Bret Blakeslee There are a lot

of books about Go. I had most of them. But there were very few that I kept referring back to. This is one of those. "The Direction Of Play" is simply one of the best books ever written about this game, by one of the best players to ever play the game of Go, about one of the most important concepts in this game. If you don't understand this concept you are handicapping yourself. Your mileage may differ but my opinion is that this is a truly remarkable book. What's so surprising is that he is able to demonstrate his knowledge about this concept so clearly that players of any level will find this book incredibly useful. In fact, this is one of the three books my own Go teacher gave to me out of his own collection. Just one quick read thru and my game improved by a full kyu. And I understood why it improved. And I could see where other players were not paying attention to this basic concept. Decades later I gave my Go set and books to my nephew but I bought him a copy so I could keep mine. If I even think about Go, I end up referring to this book. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Each Stone Radiates Influence +++By Kevin Kiersky Each Go-stone placed in its place radiates influence as this fine work shows. "The Direction of Play" shows the living forces outwards from each Go-stone played on the Go-board. "The Direction of Play" seeks to bring to visible life the natural creative or destructive forces directed from each move -- especially in relation to the Joseki initial corner stone moves and nearby related stones. A feel for the harmony or discord between the white and black Go-stones is effectively presented -- or at least an approach to such a feel for a "rusty" beginner such as I. This work is especially good as an advanced addition to "Go for Beginners" by Kaoru Iwamoto -- as suggested to me by an advanced Go-mentor -- when I asked about a single book to extend my line-of-play. "The Direction of Play" seems to go very far +++0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. One of the best go books ever written By Tom Ewall My two favorite go books are "The Breakthrough to Shodan" and this one. I disagree with the review which said this is best targeted to kyu players. I'm a dan player, and have read and re-read this book many times, and learned new things every time. Any book you can learn new things from every time you re-read it is a great book, in my opinion, and not many books are like that. So it's not that I disagree that kyu players would benefit from reading the book, but players of any level can benefit.

This book is a lucid exposition of the basic principles of Kajiwara's go theory and a guide to applying these principles in your own game. Above all else, Kajiwara emphasizes the importance of careful analysis in order to determine the correct direction of play, that is, the direction in which a stone or a group of stones exerts its main influence. He demonstrates that each stone has a life of its own and so expresses the individuality of the player. The key to a powerful game is understanding the relationship between each stone and the overall position, for only then can one realize the full potential of every stone that one plays.

About the Author Takeo Kajiwara was born in 1923 in Niigata Prefecture in Japan. He studied under Riichi Sekiyama, 9-dan, and reached sho-dan in the autumn of 1937. His promotion 9-dan came in 1965. In 1947 he was one of the eight professionals who left the Nihon Kiin to set up the rival Igo Shinsha organisation, but he returned the following year. In 1964 he was the challenger for the Oza title. A year later he led a delegation of go players to China. His novel go style with its famous "drilling tactics" is highly esteemed and his sharp, intuitive flair in the tactical situations is unsurpassed amongst today's professionals. With Shuko Fujisawa, 9-dan, and Toshiro Yamabe, 9-dan, he is known as one of the "three crows" (i.e. triumvirate) of the post-war generation. In 1971 he reached the final of the 8th Pro Best Ten. He also played in the 1976, 1977 and 1978 Meijin leagues and tied for 1st place in the 1977 Gosei league.