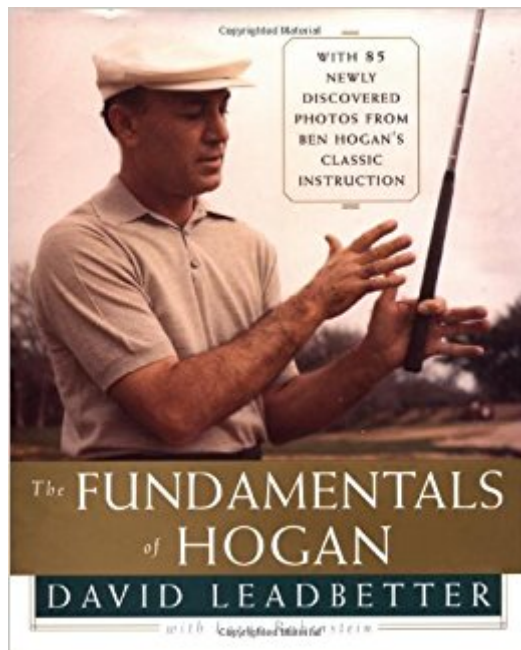


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# The Fundamentals Of Hogan



## Synopsis

More than a half century after he began his professional career, Ben Hogan is still considered the purest striker of a golf ball in the history of the game. His was a swing honed to perfection, and teaching professionals agree that Hogan's technique is the perfect platform on which golfers of all skill levels can build a fundamental understanding of golf. Unfortunately, photographs of Hogan's full swing and detailed close-ups of his grip and positioning have never been available for analysis. Instructors from around the world have always begun with a serious handicap when explaining to their students how a man of average stature could generate exceptional power and control from tee to green. Now, thanks to the newly discovered critical photography featured in this book, the mysteries of Ben Hogan's form are revealed. One vital characteristic of David Leadbetter's teaching philosophy, which has made him the world's #1 teacher, is his ability to translate very difficult swing concepts into easy-to-understand language. When the lost photographs from Hogan's seminal instructional manual, *Five Lessons: The Modern Fundamentals of Golf*, were discovered by the Hogan estate, David Leadbetter was the immediate and perfect choice to craft the quintessential instruction book for today's golfer, based on the Hogan form. By combining his exceptional skills as a communicator and his encyclopedic knowledge of the mechanics of golf, Leadbetter uses these remarkable images of the master at work to demonstrate the basic techniques of golf. The result is *The Fundamentals of Hogan*, the one book that all golfers who dream of breaking 80 need to have in their libraries. Golf's #1 professional instructor translates Ben Hogan's fundamentals for players of all skill levels

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

In the late 1950s, the great Ben Hogan consolidated his considerable knowledge of the golf swing into a small volume called *Five Lessons: The Modern Fundamentals of Golf*. Nearly half a century later, it remains the cornerstone of every intrepid hacker's instructional library, and one of the bestselling sports books of all time. But there was always something missing from its pages: photos. As marvelous as artist Anthony Ravielli's accompanying drawings of Hogan were, they weren't the same as seeing the Wee Icemon himself in action. Surprise! Ravielli modeled those drawings on several rolls of film he took of Hogan, and those photos, recently discovered, are the heart of *The Fundamentals of Hogan*. For golfers, they are like finding a piece of the true cross; there has never been a more perfect swing than Bantam Ben's. If some of the pictures in *Fundamentals* are just explanatory poses--Hogan gripping the club, Hogan standing at address--and the majority of the swing sequences are actually not true sequences at all but, given the technology of the time, individually posed photos at appropriate intervals of the swing, no matter. They convey what they need to, providing a closer glimpse of the master's mastery. Swing guru David Leadbetter tees up the accompanying text, analyzing Hogan's swing, parsing Hogan's swing theories, and adapting what Hogan knew to fit the rest of us. Leadbetter knows most of us can't possibly re-create the effortless power of Hogan's fluidity, but that doesn't mean we can't incorporate bits of Hogan's technique into our own herky-jerky hacks. Like Hogan, Leadbetter is obsessed with golf's mechanics, and while Hogan managed to breeze through *Five Lessons* with the help of the splendid writer Herbert Warren Wind, Leadbetter often gets mired in the kinds of technicalities that lead to the "paralysis by analysis" that plagues over-thinkers when they step up to the ball. Still, the team of Hogan and Leadbetter makes a twosome you can't help but learn from if you're willing to pay attention. --Jeff Silverman

Ben Hogan's *Five Lessons* (1957) remains one of the most influential golf instructionals ever published. Anthony Ravielli's drawings illustrated the original work, but he also took numerous photographs of Hogan's swing; now those photos have been rediscovered and combined with text by contemporary teaching legend Leadbetter. The result is a kind of updating of the classic Hogan swing philosophy, with Leadbetter using the photos to analyze Hogan's theories. The idea of a book showing where the immortal Hogan went wrong may well offend purists. It shouldn't. What Leadbetter does here is put Hogan's words in a contemporary context, taking into account not only modern equipment but also, more importantly, the needs of the average golfer. Applied literally by middle to high handicappers, Hogan's swing secrets, Leadbetter argues persuasively, might very

well produce disaster rather than improvement. Still, despite the good sense Leadbetter makes throughout, many readers will find themselves wishing Hogan had an opportunity to answer back. For anyone interested in the complex architecture of the golf swing, Leadbetter on Hogan makes essential reading. Bill OttCopyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

Worth it for the pics alone. David leadbetter has some great tips in here on how to adjust the grip. Where Hogan wanted the user to experiment from his base of knowledge, Leadbetter does a better job of explaining how changes may change your swing. Example - He assumes Hogan lined his left thumb up parallel to club face and kept a short thumb to compensate for his known draw/hook. He explains that a stronger grip might be better for the average player with a tendency to fade/slice. Then there are drills he adds to help the reader. Pics of Hogan are the prime benefit to this book. The illustrations from 5 fundamentals were good, the pictures are great!!

Leadbetter is of course one of the most famous instructors in the world of golf, ever. Here he takes Hogan's book "Five Lessons," which he and pretty much everybody relevant considers to be the foundational touchstone of modern golf swing instruction, and illustrates some slight modifications to consider for the average player. One must remember that Hogan himself was, although not a "big" man in physical stature, was truly an extraordinary athlete with a body molded meticulously for golf, and Hogan made his swing for himself specifically... which doesn't negate its power as THE fundamental swing, but not everybody has the twist, the thumbs, etc., that Hogan had. So, yes, the Leadbetter book gave me "permission" to modify slightly to fit my own body and has been an extremely valuable aid, but it is NOT a replacement for Hogan. Hogan's book should be digested FIRST, and then reviewed under Leadbetter's guidance.

For the people who wrote negative comments about this book I call you a pompous pr. Why did you read this book if you know everything. I found the book very insightful and David repeats what Hogan's book said and then he adds his own view in very great detail. If you read Hogan's 5 lessons you must follow up with this book. Hogan did glaze over some of his teachings for one reason or another and this book fills in those gaps with new photos. I have learned a lot reading both books.

Interesting to read about another teacher's ideas about how Ben Hogan approached all aspects of golf. David goes into greater depth explaining Hogan's ideas and adds his own thoughts even if they

somewhat contradict what Hogan talked about.

This is an indepth analysis and interpretation of Hogan's perspective of the golf swing by the best modern teacher alive today. Leadbetter's view clarifies and adjusts Hogan's teachings to modern times eloquently. This book is not for the faint of heart wishing to better understand the essential and detailed bio-mechanics of the golf swing. I would suggest his other books and/or DVD's to get started. With respect, I disagree with Mr. Leadbetter's thoughts on Hogan's own hooking remedies, his grip changes and the "secret" cupping of the wrist to open the club face at the top. Early in Hogan's career he had an extremely long backswing, prompted by an extremely long hip turn. The result coming down was a very active lower body to compensate for a latent upper body. The club face would arrive from the outside and closed causing the snap-hook under pressure he hated. As his swing became more compact he was able to control it's action much better. D.L. touches on this but emphasizes the different grip and the wrist cupping as Hogan's "cure". I also disagree with D.L.'s thoughts on moving the head back laterally with longer clubs. It's OK as long as it returns to the same position at address. Just another unnecessary variable IMHO. The head is the fulcrum of the swing. Keep it there. Don't buy this thinking you'll find "lightening in a bottle". The golf swing takes study, focus and discipline to learn how to properly execute. As Hogan believed, anyone can break 80, even if they devote one-tenth the time he did to being one of the greatest students of the swing and players of all time.

this book gives a awesome detailes description how and why hogan did like he did. It's a hogan grip and swing style book. Not everyone's heaven. It's nothing to copy an go with it. Hogan developed a personally style to avoid a hook like swing. Nevertheless gives the book a bunch of ideas to deal with. No go for beginners. Again well for the experienced and scratch golfer. Improve the grip again and again.

Fantastic book with very descriptive pictures :) HOGAN is also a LEGEND

Not a huge Leadbetter book, but this is the best golf instruction book ever published.

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