

Price Trends of Secondhand Books on Amazon Japan

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What You Should Know

The average sale price of a used book **overcharges** ¥1,260.

How is the overcharging affected by a book's condition?

What prices should you be paying when purchasing books on Amazon.jp?

Methods

A donation of **622** books was used as the basis for analysis. The average publication date was 1978.

- **329** titles had prices on amazon.jp
- **3549** total listings across titles
- Price data collected in spring of 2022
- Whether a seller would ship overseas was not considered.
- The data was normalized by calculating the Interquartile range.

Metric	Raw Data	Normalized Data
Average	¥7005	¥3805
Median	¥3195	¥2728
SD	¥24,537	¥3405

Analysis of Overcharging

Condition	Measuring		Raw Data			Normalized Data		
			average	median	difference of average to median	average	median	difference of average to median
General	overcharges	5,266						
	min price		¥6,270	¥2,100	¥4,170	¥2,899	¥1,727	¥1,172
	max price		¥23,425	¥10,978	¥12,447	¥6,625	¥5,510	¥1,115
	min/max difference		¥23,181	¥9,430	¥13,751	¥3,456	¥5,424	-¥1,967
New	overcharges	0						
	min price		¥5,341	¥2,915	¥2,426	¥4,359	¥2,750	¥1,609
	max price		¥9,602	¥7,044	¥2,558	¥5,975	¥6,075	-¥100
	min/max difference		¥4,261	¥2,835	¥1,427	¥3,456	¥2,747	¥709
used - Like New	overcharges	224						
	min price		¥6,202	¥3,003	¥3,199	¥3,674	¥1,998	¥1,676
	max price		¥5,731	¥2,732	¥2,999	¥3,326	¥1,998	¥1,328
	min/max difference		¥196	n/a	¥196	¥196	n/a	¥196
used - Very Good	overcharges	1,228						
	min price		¥6,623	¥4,487	¥2,136	¥4,627	¥4,005	¥622
	max price		¥10,463	¥6,900	¥3,563	¥6,665	¥6,418	¥247
	min/max difference		¥3,840	¥1,862	¥1,978	¥3,127	¥1,612	¥1,515
used - Good	overcharges	1,414						
	min price		¥9,691	¥3,248	¥6,444	¥3,396	¥2,119	¥1,277
	max price		¥17,096	¥9,250	¥7,846	¥6,109	¥5,000	¥1,109
	min/max difference		¥7,404	¥2,565	¥4,839	¥3,559	¥1,200	¥2,359
used - Acceptable	overcharges	2,400						
	min price		¥3,828	¥1,495	¥2,333	¥2,227	¥1,207	¥1,020
	max price		¥17,640	¥3,827	¥13,813	¥4,073	¥2,990	¥1,083
	min/max difference		¥13,811	¥1,079	¥12,732	¥2,171	¥800	¥1,371

What Should You Do?

Used this table as a guide for buying books at appropriate prices.

Condition	Count of Books	Normalized Average Price
used - Acceptable	880	¥2,271
used - Good	1140	¥3,435
used - Very Good	516	¥5,043
new	600	¥5,271
used - Like New	63	¥6,646

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Full Publication

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