



# The Essential Drucker: The Best of Sixty Years of Peter Drucker's Essential Writings on Management (Collins Business Essentials)

By Peter F. Drucker

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Father of modern management, social commentator, and preeminent business philosopher, Peter F. Drucker analyzed economics and society for more than sixty years. Now for readers everywhere who are concerned with the ways that management practices and principles affect the performance of organizations, individuals, and society, there is *The Essential Drucker*—an invaluable compilation of essential materials from the works of a management legend.

Containing twenty-six core selections, *The Essential Drucker* covers the basic principles and concerns of management and its problems, challenges, and opportunities, giving managers, executives, and professionals the tools to perform the tasks that the economy and society of tomorrow will demand of them.

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### Editorial Review

#### Amazon.com Review

Ever since his first book was published some six decades ago, Peter Drucker has been essential to everyone serious about the "management of an enterprise (and) the self-management of the individual, whether executive or professional, within an enterprise and altogether in our society of managed organizations." This distinguished 30-year Claremont University professor has continuously identified critical principles in management, economics, politics, and the world in general. And he has redirected our thinking about them through more than two dozen books, including an autobiography and a couple of works of fiction. Now, with *The Essential Drucker*, he has overseen the compilation of his most important fundamentals into one indispensable book.

Reaching back as far as 1954 with his treatise "Management by Objectives and Self-Control" ("Each manager, from the 'big boss' down to the production foreman or the chief clerk, needs clearly spelled-out objectives" that clarify expected contributions "to the attainment of company goals in all areas of the business"), Drucker's now-established ideas take on a surprising new relevancy when remixed equally pioneering ideas from the 1960s, '70s, '80s, and '90s. Between the thoughtful "Management as Social and Liberal Art" through the provocative "From Analysis to Perception--The New Worldview" (both originally published in 1988's *The New Realities*), this book revisits some of modern management's most inspired writing and presents it in a way that should appeal to both newcomers and those needing a refresher course on Drucker's basic beliefs. --Howard Rothman

#### From Booklist

More Drucker! While the prolific nonagenarian and acclaimed management philosopher continues to write--*Management Challenges for the 21st Century* (1999) is his most recent book--he and others have also been busy compiling and summarizing his most noteworthy work. *Peter Drucker on the Profession of Management* (1998) is a collection of 13 significant articles that have appeared in the *Harvard Business Review*. John Flaherty, in *Peter Drucker: Shaping the Managerial Mind* (1999), and Jack Beatty, in *The World According to Peter Drucker* (1998), both penned biographical portraits and bibliographic essays that are homages to Drucker and his thoughts. Now Drucker himself has picked 26 selections that consist of chapters excerpted from 10 of the 29 books he has written over the past 60 years. His goal is to offer a "coherent and fairly comprehensive Introduction to Management" and to help those interested in learning more about his ideas determine "which of his writings are [most] essential." David Rouse

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#### Review

"...required reading for management students and practitioners alike ... a highly readable single volume survey of concepts that would otherwise involve reading nearly 30 separate books ...this is an extremely useful and thought-provoking compendium. Read 'The Essential Drucker' and become an instant expert on this most durable of management writers."

#### People Management

"This is effectively a whole business library and refresher MBA course in one readable volume that wears its enormous wisdom lightly enough to make good holiday reading. It is stuffed with practical & inspirational advice, as useful to owner-managers of small businesses as to blue-chip board directors or administrators of non-profitmaking organisations"

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