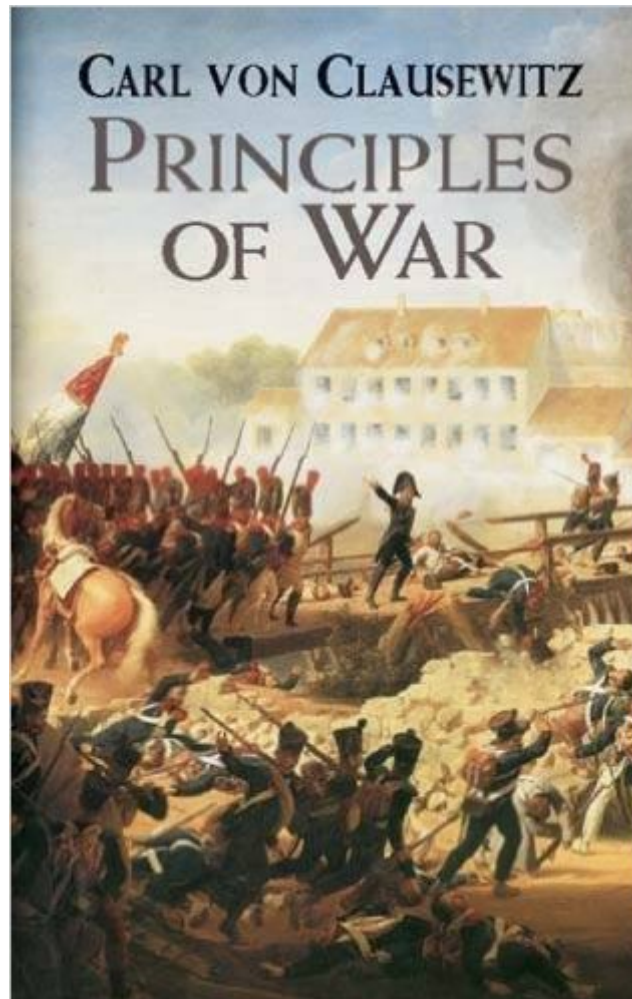


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# Principles Of War (Dover Military History, Weapons, Armor)



## Synopsis

"Not simply the greatest but the only truly great book on war," declared historian Bernard Brodie of *Principles of War*. Written two centuries ago by a Prussian military thinker, this is the most frequently cited, the most controversial, and in many ways, the most modern book on warfare. Author Carl von Clausewitz fought against the armies of the French Revolution and Napoleon, served as a high-ranking staff officer, and became a prominent military educator. By his day, war had become a contest of mass armies, with results decided by swift, concentrated action and superior effort. "Victory is purchased by blood," Clausewitz proclaims, stating that total victory is assured only through annihilation of the enemy's forces. Based on the author's "thought and observation, philosophy and experience," *Principles of War* examines the moral and psychological aspects of warfare, stressing the necessity of such qualities as courage, audacity, and self-sacrifice and the importance of morale and public opinion. Clausewitz emphasizes the notion of strategy as an evolving plan, rather than a formula, a concept that makes this work adaptable to modern strategists in fields beyond military science. Translated into virtually every major language, *Principles of War* is required reading in intermediate-level and senior military schools, as well as in many civilian strategic studies programs and business schools.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Principles of War" is a great little read if you've already read "On War" by Clausewitz. It would also make a great introduction to that larger work if you've never read it. "Principles of War" is not as

dense as "On War" and reads like a completed treatise than it's larger relative. The "Principles of War" is clear, concise and to the point. A great pocket read.

On War is one of several seminal political/historical books that come in a litany of editions, and it is for that reason I must warn anyone thinking of buying this version to avoid it. I was looking for a hardcover version specifically to have a nice, durable version for future reading. Instead, I got a travesty. The font size is inconsistent, the cover looks like it was resized in MSPaint (pixelation and poor definition) and even the formatting is inconsistent throughout (erratic hyphenation, ever changing margins). Do not waste your time and money on this one, there are far better copies available.

Carl Von Clausewitz was a great professional soldier with a great military mind. He wrote a few great books and this is one of them. What I like about this book is that it has the basics for military strategy and thinking. Read this if you don't want to read the long book "Vom Kriege" (On War).

While I have not had the opportunity to read through the book yet I have received it and just thought I'd share my initial perception and hopefully clarify some confusion. The first part of this book was binded with a publication entitled "Moral and Religious Duty of a Chiropractor" and I've been searching at length to determine if there was some kind of connection that I was wholly unaware of, but being unable to find one I've determined it was probably an error on the part of the publishing company and leads me to disrecommend this particular version for anyone considering. I have to second the previous commenter's sentiment about the inconsistent sizing of the fonts and overall terrible formatting in this book. However, the content is all there and the binding is sturdy so I suppose if you don't mind the formatting this version may be for you.

There is nothing wrong with this book, if you are looking to read the essay that Clausewitz wrote for some princeling to whom he was supposed to teach warfare. However, it was marked as "On War" in the Kindle store, which is the 3-volume treatise that you're probably really looking for.

The book is what I expected and does not yield any new information. I am not sure it is worth the price but if you don't have it in your library it may be worth it. I think Clausewitz on page 60 and 61 of this book said it best: The principles of the art of war are in themselves extremely simple and quite within the reach of sound common sense....These principles are within reach of a well

organized mind....

A simple historical war manual but for today, a great mentor to debate. Sad that history repeats itself. Will we ever learn? A point well made for a strong military.

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