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# Fullmetal Alchemist, Vol. 1-3 (Fullmetal Alchemist 3-in-1)



## Synopsis

Breaking the laws of nature is a serious crime! Reads R to L (Japanese Style), for audience T. Containing volumes 1,2 and 3 of Fullmetal Alchemist! In an alchemical ritual gone wrong, Edward Elric lost his arm and his leg, and his brother Alphonse became nothing but a soul in a suit of armor. Equipped with mechanical "auto-mail" limbs, Edward becomes a state alchemist, seeking the one thing that can restore his and his brother's bodies...the legendary Philosopher's Stone. Alchemy: the mystical power to alter the natural world, somewhere between magic art, and science. When two brothers, Edward and Alphonse Elric, dabbled in these powers to grant their dearest wish, one of them lost an arm and leg...and the other became nothing but a soul locked into a body of living iron. Now they are agents of the government, slaves of the military -alchemical complex, using their unique powers to obey their orders...even to kill. But their powers aren't unique. The world crawls with evil alchemists. And in pursuit of the ultimate alchemical treasure, the Philosopher's Stone, their enemies are even more ruthless than they are...

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This has the first 3 volumes in one book for slightly more than one book would cost on . by the time you pay shipping for any one volume, it is around \$6 for a good copy. This is brand new and it's \$8.50. AND- it's exactly the same as the single version, meaning it has all the little extras like the cartoons and author notes that are in a regular manga copy at the front/back. The only thing it doesn't have is the ads. Unless you collect these for the cover art (which ain't so great for this

series), you can't beat this.

It came on time with no damage but I soon discovered it had the THINNEST paper I've ever seen! I think I'll just get the individual mangas from here on out...

This is my all time favorite anime/manga. It is intense, it is controversial, touching, emotional, and full of action. The story is very quick to develop and enthralling. The pace is slow in the first book, but picks up so much that you will have read the entire book without ever stopping. It is a brilliant buy. I love it

In short, Fullmetal Alchemist epitomizes everything that makes a good shonen manga worth reading while simultaneously avoiding many of the flaws of the form. It isn't as action-packed as series like Naruto or Dragonball Z, but this is actually one of its strengths: the character moments (both the quiet interludes and the humorous asides) lead you to invest emotionally in the characters, which ultimately makes the action scenes punchier and more potent than the wall-to-wall action we see in many shonen manga. The supporting cast is memorable and surprisingly well-developed, and the world evolves intelligently and organically as the series progresses. Some of the nuances of the metaphysical questions raised by the protagonists seem to have lost something in translation, but on the whole, Fullmetal Alchemist is a strong manga with enjoyable characters and interesting stories (including both vignettes and longer arcs) and a broad palette of moods and tones. It's also a good introduction to manga for readers of American comics, as it's got a somewhat Western sensibility in its approaches to both action and humor. It speaks effectively to both male and female audiences, and at this price (around ten bucks for three volumes!), it's an incredible bargain. This book is highly recommended both to fans of manga and those who've been curious but not yet taken the plunge for themselves.

I was really looking forward to this release since every other 3-in-1 release from Viz has been fairly high quality. But they really skimmed out on this one. The paper is essentially newsprint. It's so thin that you can see the lines on the opposite side. It's not at all up to their typical standard of quality and does a major disservice to Arakawa's art.

The first volume of the Fullmetal Alchemist 3-in-1 releases combines the first three volumes of Fullmetal Alchemist manga into one edition. Like the Bleach omnibus edition, the physical height of

the volume is not drastically different from the regular manga editions, and a lower quality paper stock is also used. Edward and Alphonse Elric are the main characters of the series, and they are brothers who practice alchemy. After the death of their mother, they tried to bring her back to life by using alchemy. In alchemy, there is a law of equal exchange; in the process of trying to bring their mother back, Alphonse Elric lost his body. His brother, Edward, attached Alphonse's soul to a suit of armor; but to do this, Edward had to sacrifice one of his arms and one of his legs. Their friend, Winry Rockbell, and her grandmother create prosthetics for Edward that are known as "auto-mail." Edward is now known as the "Fullmetal Alchemist," and he has become the youngest State Alchemist in history. The series follows Edward and Alphonse as they search for the Philosopher's Stone, a legendary artifact that the brothers believe will allow them to recover their bodies. Over the course of the three volumes included in this omnibus, Ed and Al find themselves in several adventures. By the end of the omnibus, there are even times when Ed finds himself doing some serious soul searching; this is especially true in the story about Shou Tucker, the "Sewing-Life Alchemist," and his daughter, Nina. In this volume, we also meet Scar, a man using alchemy to kill State Alchemists. The brothers also learn a very important secret concerning the Philosopher's Stone, which they are hoping to find in order to return to their original bodies. We also meet Winry Rockbell and Sheska, a bookworm with a photographic memory. In Fullmetal Alchemist, Arakawa is able to find a good mixture of action and character development to tell a compelling story. One of my favorite sections in this omnibus is the Shou Tucker story; not only was I moved by the actual story, but I also appreciated how Arakawa handled the aftermath of the story with Ed. I also appreciate how Arakawa is able to incorporate comic relief in the series, and is able to make it feel natural in the story. Arakawa uses the "busy" panel effects for the battle sequences, but the effects really don't come across as being "over the top." She also utilizes "sound effects" in a very effective manner. Even in regular scenes, Arakawa's art style is visually stunning. Her characters all have very expressive, even Al as a suit of armor. The combination of the art and the storytelling makes Fullmetal Alchemist a compelling read, and I can't wait until I can read more to find out what happens next. I wrote this review after reading a copy of this manga volume that my husband and I purchased.

Son purchased this for his gf and she loved it. What a great price for the first three volumes. My son and I still get teary-eyed when we see photos of Colonel Mustang and Lieutenant Hughes. Good times. Good depressing times haha.

First off, I love Fullmetal Alchemist! However, I need to address the physical quality of my book

here. I have owned this volume for about a month now and was extremely careful with it--no bent cover, cracked spine, dog-eared pages, etc. However, last week I discovered that despite my care the paper jacket had come unglued from the pages of the book. Even though I do not expect paperbacks to be bound as well as hardcover (i.e. with a cloth binding), this was ridiculous. I'm going to glue the cover back onto the book, but I won't be purchasing any more volumes from this particular printer.

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