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## Black On White



## Synopsis

Share these familiar shapes with your baby. It is never too early to look and talk together!

## Book Information

Board book: 12 pages

Publisher: Greenwillow Books; Brdbk edition (May 27, 1993)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0688119182

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Product Dimensions: 6.2 x 6.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 100 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #23,916 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #31 in [Books > Children's Books > Early Learning > Basic Concepts > Size & Shape](#) #60 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > New Baby](#) #1605 in [Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Psychology & Counseling](#)

## Customer Reviews

Tana Hoban has created an elegant solution for those who want to initiate children into the infinite wonders of reading. This picture book compels parents to talk to their babies as they share the wordless pages with their little ones. Black illustrations on a white background provide high contrast for infants' underdeveloped eyes. Soothingly familiar, silhouetted shapes--a leaf, a key ring, a bib, an elephant--will be recognized by the very young, and through these simple pictures, aspiring readers will begin to identify the link between the objects they see and the words their caregivers say. Hoban, beloved author of many childhood favorites, including *Black on White's* companion piece, *White on Black*, as well as *Is It Red? Is It Yellow? Is It Blue?* and *What Is It?*, has struck gold again--black gold, that is. It's the perfect baby gift! (Baby to Preschool) --Emilie Coulter

Guided by the same precepts as those inspiring Dick Witt's *Let's Look at Animals* and *Let's Look at My World* (see review above), Hoban creates two stylish board books using only black and white. One volume drops out clearly recognizable shapes from black ground (a sailboat, a bird, a flower and so forth appear in white); the other sets black objects against white ground. The black in both books is shiny enough to reflect images on facing pages. *White on Black* may be more dramatic, but *Black on White* is more varied, alternating solid shapes (leaf, fork and spoon) with patterned or

stencil-like images (butterfly, spectacles). Hoban's compositions are so supple and her layouts so well balanced that she casts a kind of spell; it's as if the color and black-and-white segments of the Wizard of Oz were reversed, with the ordinary seeming somehow magical. Ages 6 mos.-up.  
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I am a preK teacher and have used many Tana Hoban books in my classroom. I was looking for a gift for a baby shower when I saw this. The black and white silhouettes are perfect for infants. They need the contrast and simple pictures for their developing eyes. I purchased 3 of these and will be back to buy more for everyone I know having a baby.

I thought the pictures were kind of lame but it keeps my 4 months old attention and I ultimately that is more important. It is just your basic board book so no complaints about the material, got what I expected from that aspect.

This is one of several black and white books that we got before our first baby was born. He definitely did like the black and white books more than other books for the first several months, and this one was fine. However, I usually chose other books because I wasn't totally sure what one of the pictures in this book was supposed to be (Ritz crackers? Flowers without stems???) Also, the pictures are all completely unrelated to each other, so it may be hard to find things to say to your baby about them if you're not someone who can easily make conversation about anything! If I could only get one black and white book, I'd definitely go with "Look, Look!" by Peter Linenthal, as the baby was most fascinated by the pictures in that one, and it had a simple text (this book has no words) that helped me come up with stuff to say about each page.

I bought 2 different books for my newborn only to find out that both books by HOBAN have most of the same pictures in them.. Very annoying and a waste of money if you buy more than one..

Waste of money. You can easily find & put similar images found on the web together in a display book for your baby. Contrast images are favored by our newborn baby, but not worth buying a book to do so. New parent rookie mistake!

My daughter one month old likes it, she had even her favorite pictures there which she pays more attention than to the others, unfortunately there are just a few pages but for infant it is enough for

some time so it is nice for babies to look at black-white pictures because infants cannot see another colors so good and they also would like to have fun and with this book you can give it to them

I bought this for my daughter when she was 3 weeks old and started showing it to her immediately. She showed interest in it until she was about 3 or 4 months old. I still show it to her occasionally to work on her recognition of objects. Since the pictures are plain/basic I feel like it is less distracting and thus may be easier for her to focus on the image itself.

I was a little disappointed in this book. The pictures didn't provide a lot to talk about with baby. I ordered one with animals that were much more engaging to our baby and provided us a lot more to talk about.

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