Tameshigiri (試斬り) is the Japanese art of target test cutting. The kanji literally mean "test cut" (kun'yomi: じんぎり - tameshi giri). This practice was popularized in the Edo period (17th century) for testing the quality of Japanese swords. It continues to the present day, but has evolved into a martial art which focuses on demonstrating the practitioner's skill with a sword. Start by marking "Cutting Targets With The Japanese Sword: Practical Tameshigiri and Battodo" as Want to Read: Want to Read. See a Problem? We'd love your help. Let us know what's wrong with this preview of Cutting Targets With The Japanese Sword by Richard Babin. Problem: This is the wrong edition. Details: I received this book after making my purchase. It's not my problem. Thanks for telling us about the problem. Return to Book Page. Not the book you're looking for? Preview "Cutting Targets With The Japanese Sword" by Richard Babin. Cutting Targets With The Japanese Sword: Practical Tameshigiri and Battodo. by Richard Babin. The targets used in tameshigiri consist of makiwara (dampened straw mats tightly rolled), bamboo, and bamboo covered with makiwara. Prior to the 1970s, makiwara targets were sheaves of rice straw bundled into varying thicknesses. A sword oshigata (tang rubbing) appears in the book Military Swords of Japan: 1868-1945, which records Nakayama Hakudo's test results. I have a photograph of Nakamura Taizaburo sensei with the cut pieces of target remaining—just as in Nakayama sensei's case; and, I was present in Japan when my friend Ron Zediker (battodo 6th dan) was able to do likewise with a left kesagiri. 1980. Nihon To Tameshigiri no Shinzui (The Essence of Japanese Sword Cutting). Tokyo: Kodansha. Nakamura, Taizaburo. Cutting Targets With The Japanese Sword: Practical Tameshigiri and Battodo Paperback – November 1, 2005. by Richard Babin (Author), Bob Elder (Author). 4.5 out of 5 stars 7 ratings. The topic covered moves from a short history to the mechanics of cutting and the introduction of some basic positions and care to preparation of cutting targets. Read more. 2 people found this helpful. The volume does a great job of laying out the needed basics for Tameshigiri for mastery cutting with a Katana. I gave one copy to my daughter for her school. Read more.