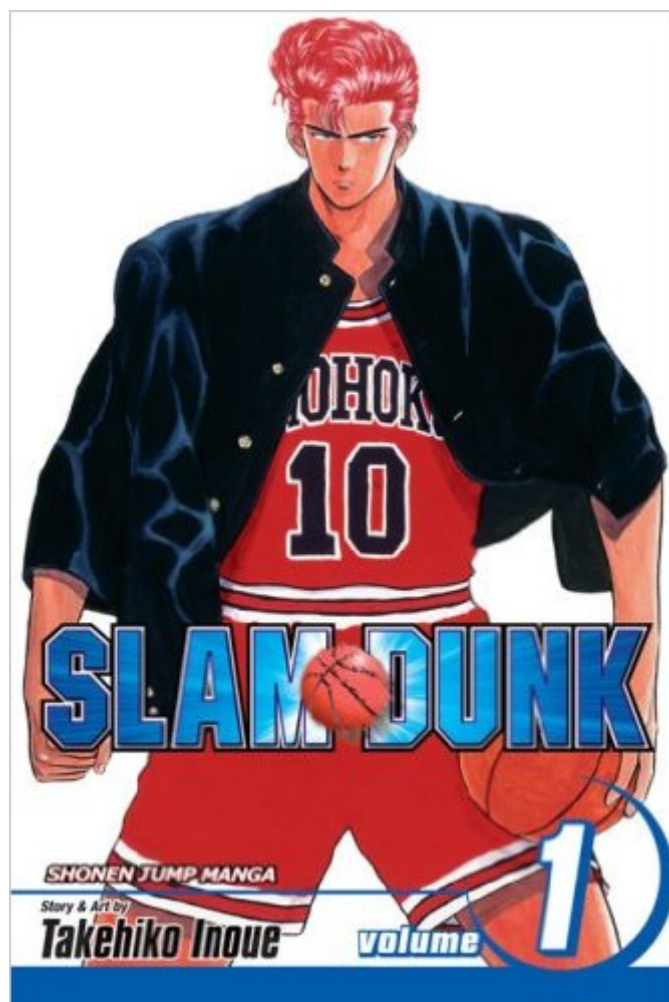


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# Slam Dunk, Vol. 1



## Synopsis

Basketball. The court, the ball, the hoop. The hopes, the dreams, the sweat. It takes dedication and discipline to be the best, and the Shohoku High hoops team wants to be just that--the best. They have one last year to make their captain's dream of reaching the finals come true--will they do it? Takehiko Inoue's legendary basketball manga is finally here, and the tale of a lifetime is in your hands! Sakuragi Hanamichi's got no game with girls--none at all! It doesn't help that he's known for throwing down at a moment's notice and always coming out on top. A hopeless bruiser, he's been rejected by 50 girls in a row! All that changes when he meets the girl of his dreams, Haruko, and she's actually not afraid of him! When she introduces him to the game of basketball, his life is changed forever...

## Book Information

Series: Slam Dunk (Book 1)

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: VIZ Media LLC (September 2, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1421506793

ISBN-13: 978-1421506791

Product Dimensions: 7.5 x 0.6 x 5 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars See all reviews (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #278,873 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #34 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Sports > Basketball #39 in Books > Comics & Graphic Novels > Manga > Sports #674 in Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Comics & Graphic Novels > Manga

## Customer Reviews

First year Shohoku High School student, Hanamichi Sakuragi had to be a tough kid growing up. Often teased for his red hair, Hanamichi and his friends would be part of a gang that grouped together to fight other gangs and to show that they are not afraid of no one. And for the tall Sakuragi, he has shown his power in defeating other people in fights. But there is another side of Hanamichi Sakuragi and that is the fact that he has been rejected by 50 girls in junior high school and now that he's in high school, #50 tells him that her heart is for Oda who plays for the basketball team. One day he meets Haruko Akagi, also a first-year student and is the sister of Takenori Akagi, a third-year student and the team captain of Shohoku High School's basketball

team. She also happens to have a crush on star athlete, Kaeda Rukawa, a basketball player that many girls at the high school have fallen for. And now Hanamichi Sakuragi wants to prove that he can also be a very good basketball player and hopes he can win Haruko's heart. But his brashness may put him in trouble with Haruko's brother, Takenori. As Hanamichi plans to join the Shohoku High School basketball team, not knowing how to play, will he make it through the first week of practice? Find out in vol. 1 of Takehiko Inoue's popular hit manga series "Slam Dunk"! What is "Slam Dunk"? I can easily remember the popularity of "Slam Dunk" during the early '90s. Despite being here in America, I would venture to the local Tower Records or travel to Japan Town and head to the Japanese bookstore to pick up the latest Shonen Jump magazine and watching the anime series.

We all do stupid things for love, especially in high school. Who hasn't tried out for the football team or cheerleading squad for the sake of popularity? Who hasn't joined a club just to be a little closer to a crush? Takehiko Inoue's Slam Dunk is just one of many endearing stories out there about how people are willing to change themselves to gain the attention of another. Hanamichi Sakuragi has a reputation: He's a thug who has been rejected by girls 50 times in a row. The latest one has turned him down for love of a guy who plays basketball. Now anyone who mentions anything even remotely related to the sport is a potential target for his fist. Hanamichi wants to turn over a new leaf in his first year of high school by shedding his old reputation as a reject, but how? The girls think he's nothing but a gang leader. How will they ever see his loving soul? While he's wallowing in his own misery, a girl named Haruko Akagi approaches the tall and muscular Hanamichi and asks if he likes to play basketball. Normally, this would incur his wrath, but Hanamichi is instantly smitten with the fearless girl and decides to play along. The two bond over her love of the sport. Hanamichi is sure that he's finally found the girl of his dreams. If only he could walk her home, then he could die a happy man. There's just one problem: He doesn't know the first thing about how to play basketball! He manages to fake it for now, and even impresses Haruko with his natural ability to jump high and slam dunk (when his aim is on). When Haruko confesses that she already has a crush on Kaede Rukawa, a star player whom she's always admired from afar, Hanamichi is crushed. That's not going to stop him, though!

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