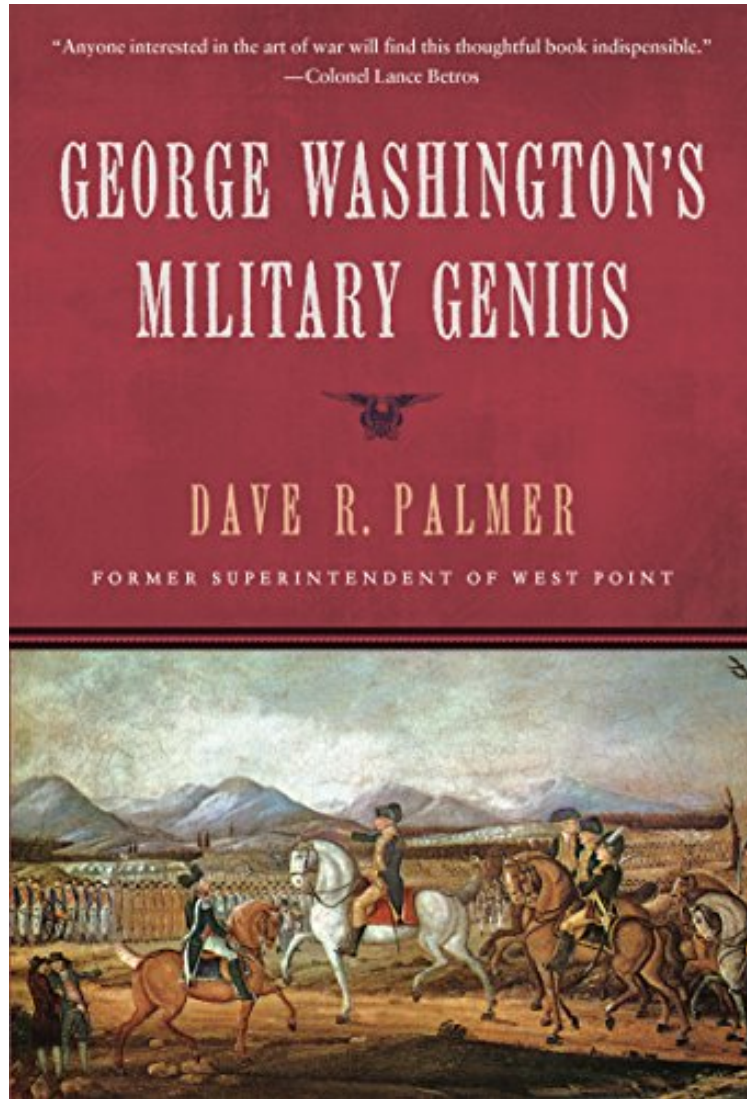


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George Washington's Military Genius

Dave Richard Palmer

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Dave Richard Palmer : George Washington's Military Genius before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised George Washington's Military Genius:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Audacious! Cautious! Decisive! Steadfast!By Samuel AdamsAll the terms in this review's title are attributed to George Washington in the arduous and daunting task undertaken by the well-described "Father of our Country." Dave Palmer's book on George Washington's military prowess, expertise, and, for sure, genius is much more than a mere rendition and a retelling of the many successful exploits of Washington as commander in chief for the long eight years of our war for independence. There is no doubt in any of the minds of those who have studied our Revolutionary War that General George Washington stands as the outstanding military

luminary of our struggle for independence. Palmer's book brings forth in no uncertain terms, well-documented and sourced, why this is the case. Above and beyond the stories of the battles, this book brings forth what is to me concentric circles of laying the groundwork for the struggle so ably led by Washington. If a reader desires truly to understand the politics, demographics, geography, economy, and finances (or lack thereof) surrounding the colonies before and during the war this book is the one to read. The author brings all the myriad of factors together to explain the condition of our country that led to our rebellion, the strengths and weaknesses of the political and military decisions during the war, the contributions especially of France to our success, and spares no discredit when Washington made his errors that were far exceeded by his triumphs. Little was known to me of the native American allies of the English and their second front against us on our frontiers. Extensive quotes from Washington's own correspondence personalizes the man. Two conclusions were left with me as I finished this book on July 4, 2012. Number one, George Washington truly was a military genius. Secondly, all Americans can feel blessed that a person such as Washington was available to lead our military forces in such a fine, distinguished, and professional fashion to win for us the freedom of our great country. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent book...By John Paul Sassone Palmer wrote an excellent book on Washington and how he adapted to and handled his army, Congress, and our foreign allies during the four phases of the war. He also makes a great point, and goes into detail about how this was not just a war for independence, but one of expansion and how territorial expansion beyond the 13 colonies was important to Washington and others. Easy to read, not bogged down in a lot of detail about specific battles, but a great book on strategy and how it constantly changes and evolves. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. George Washington as "Great Captain" By Stone Dog Former superintendent of West Point, Dave R. Palmer, has written an excellent work on George Washington as military commander in the appropriately titled *George Washington's Military Genius*. Really, this is a tonic to all the historians who consistently denigrate Washington as a general. Even though I have read several books about the Revolutionary War and George Washington's leadership of the Continental Army, the author surprised me with little bits of information that really helped me understand Washington. Example: Washington has been consistently berated for his numerous councils of war. Turns out that that holding those councils was in the instructions from Congress when he was first appointed to command. It was definitely an "Aha!" moment for me. The author begins with Washington's acceptance of command of the loose army at Boston and follows the Father of our Country through the war, through the battles and through the campaigns. At each point, Mr. Palmer not only gives a lucid explanation of each battle, but also lays out Washington's leadership and tactical intentions for each battle. Washington's "mistakes" are very much "armchair quarterbacking" by historians and, to be frank, I don't think Washington gets enough credit. He commanded an army of short-term volunteers with subordinate commanders (formerly booksellers, clerks, etc.) that were learning the ropes as they went. That Washington could successfully lead a young nation in war, remain obedient to a Congress that could not help him very much but was always ready and willing to meddle in the war's prosecution, offer battle to an experienced (if not always well-led) opponent and hold it together for as long as he did...he was darn-near a miracle worker! This book is very good at explaining the battlefield realities in the 18th century, the tactics and strategy employed by Washington (the term "strategy" didn't even exist at the time as we understand it) and how Washington was certainly one of the "Great Captains". Well written and enjoyable, I recommend this book with five stars.

George Washington's military strategy has been called bumbling at worst and brilliant at best. So which is it? Was George Washington a strategic genius or just lucky? So asks Dave R. Palmer in his new book, *George Washington's Military Genius*. An updated edition of Palmer's earlier work, *The Way of the Fox*, *George Washington's Military Genius* breaks down the American Revolution into four phases and analyzes Washington's strategy during each phase. "The British did not have to lose; the patriots did not have to triumph," writes Palmer as he proves without a doubt that Washington's continuously-changing military tactics were deliberate, strategic responses to the various phases of the war, not because he lacked a plan of action. Confronting the critics who say Washington's battlefield success and ultimate victories were a function of luck, *George Washington's Military Genius* proves why the father of our country also deserves the title of America's preeminent strategist.

"This is military history in the grand style." --Joseph J. Ellis, author of *His Excellency: George Washington* From the Inside Flap Too often George Washington gets dismissed as little more than a bumbling but lucky military leader. Not so, says distinguished military historian Dave R. Palmer in his compelling volume. Palmer shows in convincing fashion how Washington showed courageous flexibility in formulating the strategy that would bring the rebellious Americans victory in their War for Independence. From beginning to end, *George Washington's Military Genius* makes for gripping reading.... Highly recommended!! "James Kirby Martin, author of the award-winning *Benedict Arnold, Revolutionary Hero: An American Warrior Reconsidered* Too many Americans including scholars downplay Washington's military leadership, implying he was just the right man at the right place. General Palmer demonstrates once and for all that Washington had a strategy to win the war, and the determination to survive against all odds. James C. Rees, president of the Mount Vernon Ladies Association Palmer makes a convincing case that America is free,

united, and governed by civilians because of Washington's strategic foresight and tactical brilliance. Publishers Weekly Dave Palmer rightly portrays General George Washington as a shrewd and effective commander in chief who understood better than anyone American or British the connection between political goals and military operations during the American Revolutionary War. Palmer's superb history is clearheaded and insightful anyone interested in the art of war at the strategic level will find this thoughtful book indispensable. Colonel Lance Betros, head of the Department of History, West Point