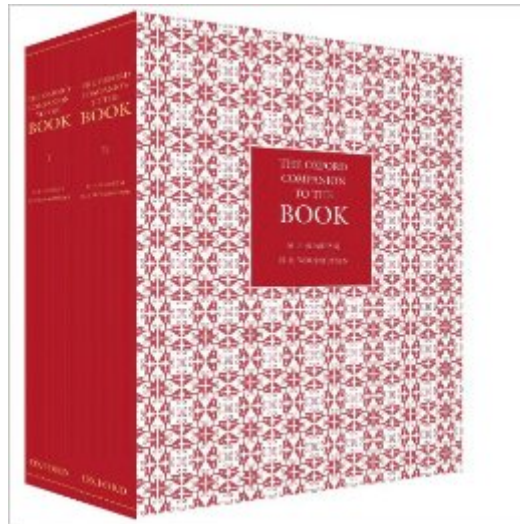


The book was found

# The Oxford Companion To The Book



## Synopsis

The Oxford Companion to the Book is the first reference work of its kind covering the broad concept of the book throughout the world from ancient to modern times. Along with such subjects as bibliography, the history of printing, editorial theory and practice, and textual criticism, it also engages with newer disciplines such as the history of the book and the electronic book. Additionally, the companion provides an engaging analysis of how books and societies have shaped one another. Written by the world's top scholars in bibliography and book history, the companion is an authoritative and highly informative work of reference for an international readership across a vast range of disciplines. This unique two-volume work is organized into two parts. Part I is a substantial series of introductory essays—over forty essays offer generic histories of the subject as well as surveys of the history of the book around the world, including the Muslim world, Asia, Latin America, and Sub-Saharan Africa. Part II of the companion comprises an A-Z section of over 5,000 entries on every aspect of this exceptionally rich and diverse subject, ranging from brief definitions and biographical entries to more extensive treatments. Both parts of the text are richly illustrated with reproductions, diagrams, maps, and examples of various typographical features.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 1408 pages

Publisher: Oxford University Press; 1 edition (February 8, 2010)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0198606532

ISBN-13: 978-0198606536

Product Dimensions: 12 x 5.2 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,002,278 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #189 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Antiques & Collectibles > Books](#) #207 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > History & Criticism > Books & Reading > History of Books](#) #212 in [Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Publishing & Books > Book Industry](#)

Due to this item's unusual size or weight, it requires special handling and will ship separately from other items in your order. [Read More](#)

## Customer Reviews

This volume is a departure from the usual OUP "companion" format. The first volume consists

largely of substantial essays on book-related essays, the remaining pages being given over to the more conventional dictionary format. It is also physically larger: two substantial quarto volumes that are lovely to look at but comparatively unwieldy to handle. The contents resemble some other less-useful companions in being decidedly academic in character. The professional specialties get extensive treatment, the notion of "book" is extended to cover material from the beginning of writing systems to the latest (as of a couple of years ago) in digital texts, and the prefatory essays give the history of the book global scope. There is less color and humor than one might hope for in a more companionable companion. If the entries are small, they are useful starting-points for investigations that will inevitably lead users to the internet where space is not an issue. In that respect the OUP has done the right and indeed a very clever thing in making a kind of ur-book out of this companion: as a physical object it is the state of the art in reference-book production with lovely typography, heavy paper, and binding that shouts "I am a book!" Indeed it is, and a timely book that fills a large gap in the shelf. No one does reference books better than OUP and they went all-out on this signature production. The price is steep but warranted by the quality of the product.

Two terrific tomes totaling 1,327 pages. The first 172 pages contain assorted essays on the physical development of the book. The next 271 pages consist of country-by-country histories of book publishing, distribution, related economic issues, etc. This section is justifiably Eurocentric and makes interesting reading. The final 884 pages comprise an alphabetic dictionary/encyclopedia of book terms, publishers, printers, collectors, booksellers, etc. This section generally does not include entries for individual authors (no Hemingway, Joyce, Milton, Dickens) but does mention a few names such as Jonson and Shakespeare with regard to their role in the history of the printed word. Likewise, specific literary works are not mentioned except for a handful of historical landmark publications. The books are of high quality, strongly bound, and, surprisingly, lay pleasurably open for reading. I rather wish the slipcase had been traditionally bookish...the publisher's tablecloth pattern would seem more at home among the cookbooks in the kitchen than in one's library. Perhaps a nice can of leather-brown spray paint...it's an old trick but it might just work.

Office desktop reference books can many times come across as spatially challenged ogres hogging slab space from more efficient Google accessible E-equipment. Not so with "The Oxford Companion to the Book," a compilation of the recorded word in all its forms and applications throughout history (1408 pages, Publisher: Oxford University Press). Ruminates on Hieroglyphics, Cuneiform Tablets, Papyrus, The Gutenberg Bible hot off the first press, and E-books infused directly in your computer

or phone. This behemoth is a powerful and almost exhaustive work on the evolution and impact of the book. Over a million words contained in two volumes, this is a book of books and has numerous features that would blow away the swiftest fingers on the most commanding search engine. If you find words, books, manuscripts, tomes, hardbacks, paperbacks, literature, treatises, and the like irresistible, you will take great delight in this nearly comprehensive set. Topics incorporated within these two substantial hardbacks are:- The work of 400 scholars from over 25 countries- Information on fonts and print- Ancient and modern writing instruments- Etymology- Philology- Colophons- Odd and interesting finer points of literature and word assemblages. Vast, deep, this labor takes you where few men have been at one time in one place. Even with the wonderful new internet resources available and its large price tag--book lovers, scholars, literature buffs, and information freaks will not regret purchasing this magnificent book on books. *The Necessary Existence of God: The Proof of Christianity Through Presuppositional Apologetics*

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Oxford Companion to Beer (Oxford Companion To... (Hardcover)) Companion Planting: Companion Gardening - A Practical Guide For Beginners To Learn Everything About Companion Planting (Organic Gardening, Container Gardening, Vegetable Gardening) The Oxford Companion to Wine (Oxford Companions) The Oxford Companion to United States History (Oxford Companions) The Oxford Companion to the Book The Oxford Book of Caribbean Verse (Oxford Books of Prose & Verse) The Oxford Book of Japanese Short Stories (Oxford Books of Prose & Verse) The Oxford Book of French Short Stories (Oxford Books of Prose & Verse) The Oxford Book of Prayer (Oxford Books of Prose & Verse) The Return of The King Visual Companion: The Official Illustrated Movie Companion (The Lord of the Rings) The Two Towers Visual Companion: The Official Illustrated Movie Companion (The Lord of the Rings) CRUISING BETWEEN BUENOS AIRES AND VALPARAISO: A Traveler's Companion Edition Revised 2016 (Traveler's Companion Series 2) A Prairie Home Companion: 3rd Annual Final Performance (Prairie Home Companion) CONCERTGOERS COMPANION 2: HOLST TO WEBER V. 2 (THE CONCERTGOER'S COMPANION) Star Trek: Voyages of Imagination: The Star Trek Fiction Companion: The "Star Trek" Fiction Companion Clinical Companion to Medical-Surgical Nursing: Assessment and Management of Clinical Problems, 9e (Lewis, Clinical Companion to Medical-Surgical Nursing: Assessment and Management of C) The Genealogist's Companion and Sourcebook (Genealogist's Companion & Sourcebook) A Feminist Companion to Luke (Feminist Companion to the New Testament and Early Christian Writings) The Oxford Companion to Crime and Mystery Writing The Supreme Court of the United States: A Student Companion (Oxford Student Companions to

American Government)

[Dmca](#)