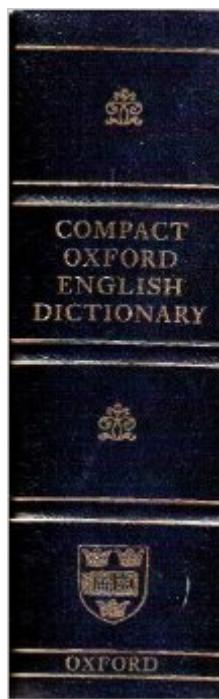


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# Compact Oxford English Dictionary



## Synopsis

This new edition of the Compact Oxford English Dictionary of Current English is a fully revised, updated, and redesigned edition of the Compact Oxford English Dictionary; 2nd edition. It aims to provide up to date and accessible information on the vocabulary of contemporary English in a conveniently sized volume, together with sound practical advice on writing good English in everyday situations. Based on the Concise Oxford English Dictionary (11th Edition), the Compact Oxford English Dictionary is directly informed by the evidence of how the language is actually used today, drawing on the analysis of hundreds of millions of words of real English contained in the Oxford English Corpus. This information is presented in a clear, concise, and accessible way; definitions focus on the typical meanings of words and are written so as to enable the user to understand the meaning of a word quickly and easily, without having to look up technical terms elsewhere in the dictionary. The new design and open layout, with each new section of an entry (phrases, derivatives, usage notes, and etymologies) on a new line, ensures that finding individual sections, senses, and entries is easy to do. The dictionary covers a broad range of vocabulary: while the focus is on the core language of contemporary English, there is also a wide selection of technical terms from specialist areas such as medicine, computing, and biology (for example, endorphin, echinacea, and megapixel). For the new edition, there are thousands more example sentences showing how words are really used; there is also much more help with pronunciation, grammar, and usage. A brand new Effective English section is to be found at the end of the dictionary, which offers the user practical help on achieving good English in everyday situations such as writing CV's, letters of complaint, and business reports, together with a section on formal and informal language and a list of commonly confused words.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Overall this is a very useful dictionary with a good selection of words; clear, concise definitions; and a logical, easy-to-use pronunciation system. However, this is a "Compact" dictionary, so in order to save space they have left out many pronunciations and etymologies. Also, it is written from a very British point of view, which, if one is an American, could cause some confusion at first. Although the seller labels this book (understandably) as the "Compact Oxford English Dictionary," they are in fact selling the "Compact Oxford Dictionary of Current English." The former is a micrographically reproduced version of the complete OED in two volumes, while the latter (sold here) is a small desk-dictionary. If you are looking for completeness I would suggest the 20-volume OED, but if you are looking for an easy-to-use dictionary that has a very large word-selection for its size, I would recommend the Compact Oxford Dictionary of Current English.

This compact and spartan OED of Current English is produced to fit the maximum number of entries in a compact space; the pages are thin, the definitions are terse, and there are no added maps, population tables, etc. A US user might cavil that a lot of British usage and slang is included. But on the whole it is a very useful dictionary, inexpensive, easy to read, with a vast number of words in a book one can carry about easily without back strain. It admirably suits the purpose for which it was designed, and I am happy to replace my old Webster with it.

I think this dictionary is okay. I expected it to have more definitions for the words than it does. I think it's good for maybe elementary school or something like that.

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