

(Ebook pdf) Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language

Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language

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Thomas A. Knott, Paul W. Charhart William Allan Neilson : Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Webster's New International Dictionary of the English Language:

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. The ne plus ultra of American-English dictionariesBy V. K. ReiterDictionaries come and go but the Webster's International Unabridged, Second edition, is the absolute king of them all and has remained so since the 1930s, when it first appeared. Later printings retained the quality of the original while adding new words and locutions as they took their place in the culture. The people at the OED may quibble about the Yankee tone of of the Webster's Unabridged Second Edition but it is as necessary to the flowering of our national literary culture and discourse as spring dew is to the flowering of the high desert.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Fabulous! Must have over a million words. Complete definitions and word origin. The dictionary I got is in excellent conditioBy NENADFabulous! Must have over a million words. Complete definitions and word origin. The dictionary I got is in excellent condition.8 of 9 people found the following review helpful. Prescriptive rather than DescriptiveBy Kindle CustomerIn a (Rex Stout) Nero Wolf mystery, Nero is shown ripping apart a copy of Webster's Third International because it went from Prescriptive to Descriptive. His specific complaint was that Imply and Infer were treated as synonyms. And while it is true that many people use them that way, educated usage would frown on such. Alas. Those times are gone, my friend. We thought they'd never end.A prescriptive dictionary is probably hard to find these days. This may be your only choice in finding one.

From Wikipedia: "In 1934, the New International Dictionary was revised and expanded for a second edition, which is popularly known as "Webster's Second" or W2, although it was not published under that title. It was edited by William Allan Neilson and Thomas A. Knott. It contained 3350 pages and sold for \$39.50. Some versions added a 400-page supplement called "A Reference History of the World," which provided chronologies "from earliest times to the present". The editors claimed over 600,000 entries, more than any other dictionary at that time, but that number included many proper names and newly added lists of undefined "combination words". Multiple definitions of words are listed in chronological order, with the oldest, and often obsolete, usages listed first. For example, the first definition of starve includes dying of exposure to the elements as well as from lack of food."