Barron's Pocket Dictionary & Thesaurus

THE DICTIONARY: More than 40,000 words defined
THE THESAURUS: More than 100,000 synonyms

* All headwords printed in color
* Corresponding dictionary and thesaurus entries on the same page for easy reference

Robert Allen, Editor

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This revised edition of the popular Barron’s Dictionary & Thesaurus packs more than 40,000 words with their definitions and synonyms into a handy pocket-sized book. The new edition is small enough so that students can conveniently fit it into a backpack, carry to classes, and use as a reliable reference when writing essays and term papers. It’s a two-in-one word guide, with the top portion of each page serving as a standard pocket dictionary and the bottom part of the page set up in a thesaurus format. Headwords in both sections are printed in color. Each dictionary headword is followed by its part of speech and definition. Every thesaurus headword—in addition to its list of synonyms—comes with an example sentence that uses the word in its standard context. The thesaurus section offers a total of approximately 100,000 synonyms for the book’s headwords. Corresponding dictionary and thesaurus entries are always cited on the same page for fast, easy reference.

**Book Information**

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**Customer Reviews**

This book gets 5 stars ONLY if its intended use is for students learning the English language who need a very small paperback that can be used easily next to a computer or fit into a backpack or other carrying piece easily. These might be students learning English as a foreign language or students in certain kinds of middle school and high school English classes and certain kinds of college English classes. Students with advanced vocabularies in English might find the book too basic, leaving out more complicated words and spellings. Having a thesaurus at the bottom of the
page is handy; and the format is a mixture of clarity and lack of clarity. What's clear are those words followed by "an opposite would be," but what's unclear without scrutiny are words listed at the top and seemingly unrelated with no explanation in spots and what at times looks like a repeat of a word and definition from the top but no opposites or ways to create opposites using the words given. I did look closely at several pages and this is my assessment but if anything is incorrect here (I don't have my copy immediately handy), it's probably best to realize that for at least one reader the thesaurus part had its easily understood and helpful moments combined with more complicated scrutiny that someone valuing speedy reading might enjoy less. I personally prefer Roget's thesaurus and its format and personally prefer having many more words included than this dictionary/thesaurus has.

This Barron’s Pocket Dictionary comes with a nice, clear protective cover. The paper material is of good quality and each word is in bold blue which makes it easy to see and read. A blue box highlights the alphabet on the edge of each page (makes it easier to jump to the correct page). The size is just right to carry around. And the definitions are easy to understand. I found that more than a few words (which were included in two other pocket dictionaries that I own) are missing from this dictionary. For example, I couldn’t locate 'ambiance' or 'enamor' (which was included in both Webster’s New World and Merriam-Webster’s Pocket Dictionaries). Overall this is a nice-looking and well laid-out dictionary/thesaurus but is a bit limited in the variety of words. This pocket dictionary would probably be better suited for ESL students just learning the language.

Great for students who have difficulty with vocabulary, plus it’s small and has both dictionary and thesaurus. This is perfect because sometimes the definition in the dictionary can be more confusing than the word!

This dictionary was aimed for a specific target users, I quote from the back cover: "...reference volume especially created to meet the needs of middle school and high school students"; if this is the case, one would expect that basic scholastic terms as: axiom; oxymoron; rhapsody; euphony; impressionism; blog; CPU; FPD; GDP; quixotic, would be included; hence the 3 stars. Despite of what I just said, there are many useful features in this dictionary & thesauruses: Alphabet letters are listed on the margin of each page. This feature enables effortless search for cross-references and additional headwords. A handy approach to: synonyms, antonyms, slang, idioms and phrases which are listed beneath or aligned to its headword. Each headword with its different meanings is followed by an example sentence to demonstrate its correct grammatical usage. There are also "usage tips"
clarifying confusable headwords e.g. "affect" & "effect", there are also up-to-date changes in meanings of words as "gay" which indicates mainly a "homosexual", and less the older meaning of "cheerful". The headwords definitions are clear and in simplified English, which makes it also a useful dictionary for ESL students, immigrants or anyone whose English is a Second Language (ESL).

I love this book! I was in need of a good pocket dictionary and thesaurus for school and I found it! This book has a great amount of vocabulary and I love how it has word definitions on the top of the page and the thesaurus on the bottom. It is a great fit for a desk but I wish it was just a little smaller!!!! but otherwise, love it!!!!:

I like the dictionary because it is small and has all the information. I am learning English and this is very good for study, is good too for present the TOEFL. I recommend it ;)

I liked the idea of my students for learning words and uses in the Thesaurus, but am dismayed to be unable to find so many words! Needs larger Vocabulary.

Since receiving this product, my vocabulary has extrapolated into an incandescent fountain of knowledge. Six more words seems superfluous now?

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