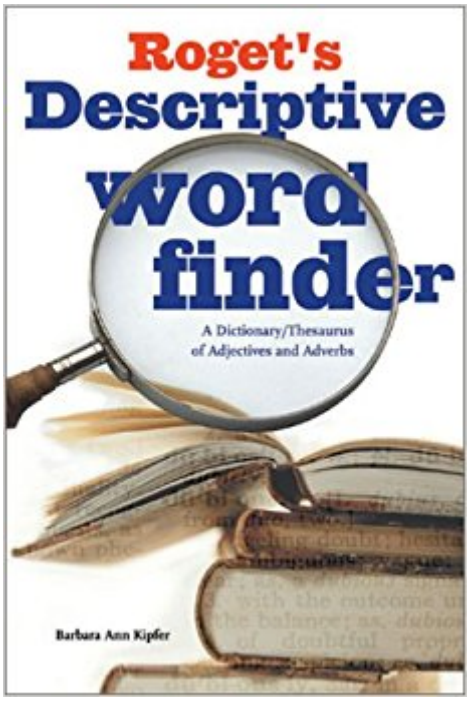
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Roget's Descriptive Word Finder



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Synopsis

An author’s guide to choosing the right word offers readers a topical organization to Roget’s classic reference source of the right descriptive adjective or adverb.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars 19 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,450,230 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #60 inÃ Â Books > Reference > Dictionaries & Thesauruses > Synonyms & Antonyms #251 inÃ Â Books > Reference > Dictionaries & Thesauruses > Thesauruses #2266 inÃ Â Books > Reference > Dictionaries & Thesauruses > Dictionaries

Customer Reviews

In her latest resource for writers, lexicographer Kipfer (Flip Dictionary; Roget’s Thesaurus of Phrases) offers scribes a hybrid dictionary-thesaurus of adjectives and adverbs, with thousands of words and phrases divided into 572 thematic categories, from "Abandonment-Discontinuance" to "Zoology." The format may feel strange to those who employ favorite synonym finders already, but the array of word choices in each category will no doubt win Kipfer’s system fans. Under the "Aberration-Unconventionality" heading, for example, the 80 entries include suggestions both basic (abnormal, amorphous, singular) and advanced (azygous, errabund, farblondzhet). The links between the headings and their potential descriptors sometimes feel a little shaky: would someone looking to describe a confinement pick hapteric ("fastening; holding fast") or in Lob’s Pound ("held playfully between the legs and feet of an adult; said of a child")? When a writer needs a synonym quickly, there’s no beating a good standard thesaurus, but this volume offers word-lovers a cornucopia of surprising lexical treats. With antepaschal ("before Passover or Easter), isogogic ("introductory"), predormient ("before sleep") and vanward ("at or to the front") all appearing under "Before-Preceding," and the "Writing" category offering allonymous ("ghostwritten"), cuneiform, Jacobean, out-of-print, prosaic and scribaceous ("fond of writing"), this is a diverting, quirky

resource indeed. Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc.

This s a "go-to" book when you want to use descriptive words outside of your repertoire.

great product

I utilize this daily.

I personally have a problem with describing things, people, and places, so Roget's Descriptive Word Finder is just what I need. So I think anyone who has the same problem can benefit from using this book.

Very helpful for writing fresh description. Easy to use and filled with words not often used. Great word any level or kind of writing.

disappointed---if I had picked it up in a bookstore I definitely would not have bought it---too many extremely obscure words

This is really a terrible book. First, the word choices it uses are weak. They're not words you want to use. Sure, they're interesting, but for those of us looking for that one right word that sums up the idea of a sentence, this book is just not a good option. I have not found one word in the book that I've used. Maybe they're in there, but I can't find them.Which leads to my second gripe: this book is NOT usable. When I'm writing and I need a word, I need it fast. What's a synonym for fast? Let's look for a heading for fast. Nope. Not under Fast. What about speed? Nope, no heading for speed. What about velocity? Nope. Nothing on that. I shouldn't need a thesaurus to look up synonyms for fast so that I can find the heading "Fast" is under in this book. I usually look for five minutes, get frustrated, throw the book across the room and go to a thesaurus on-line.This is a fine book if you just want to leisurely browse words, which I sometimes do, but don't buy it expecting you'll be able to quickly find a word you need when you need it. You will be disappointed. The only good thing I can say about this book is that it provides brief definitions of the words so that it's not just a meaningless word list. Still, that's not enough to make me recommend this to anyone.

I agree with the previous reviewers... this is an excellent alternative to a thesaurus. The lists of

synonyms each have a definition, so that you can find exactly the right connotation for your taste. I can’t count how many times I’ve looked up an idea in a thesaurus and all of the synonyms I found had exactly the same connotations (red, crimson, scarlet; instead of, say, bloody).I do have one MAJOR complaint, though - there is no key to this book! There is no Table of Contents or Index appendix.Sure, the ideas are categorized, but you have to scan through the entire book, page by page, hoping to run across the category you want. It’s a HUGE problem unless you’ve got all of the categories memorized. Sample categories from pages 272-273: Observance, Obstruction, Occupation, Occurance, Ocean. I don’t know about you, but those terms don’t automatically spring to mind when I’m looking for a word.Then you get to the "Quick Word Finder" appendix - pages 411-457 - and there are an entirely NEW set of alphebetized categories. You may have to check in both places.I still think it’s an awesome book... but please, please, please, I beg you, authors - add a key in the next edition! Please!

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