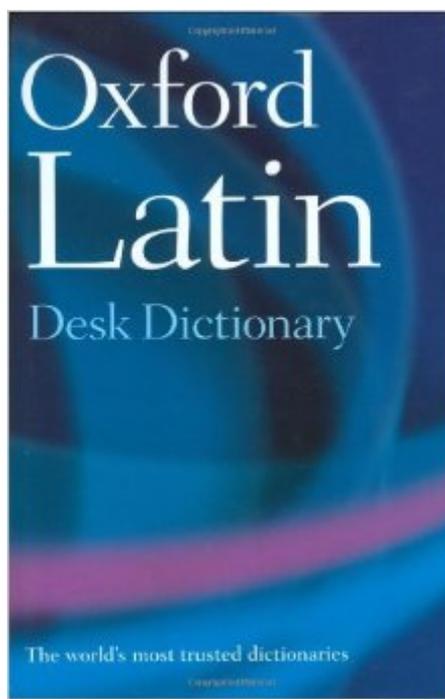


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# Oxford Latin Desk Dictionary



## Synopsis

This is the first edition of the Oxford Latin Desk Dictionary, offering essential coverage of Latin words and grammar, as well as extra information on Roman history and culture. It takes account of the latest research into Latin, and is designed specifically to fit the needs of today's student. It covers over 46,000 words and phrases, including additions from the writings of Plautus and Terence, and from the study of Silver Latin. Common irregular verb parts are given as headwords for greater clarity, and boxed notes provide help with language usage, and with difficult words and constructions. There are detailed appendices on historical, mythological, and geographical names, as well as sections on money, weights and measures, dates, and times, poetic meter, and medieval Latin. With a timeline of important dates, and biographies on Roman writers, this edition is packed with interesting and essential information on Roman history and culture. Also with pronunciation help and a guide to Latin grammar, this compact and affordable dictionary is a necessity for all students and adult-learners of Latin.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This dictionary is just fine for the beginning and intermediate student. For those of you who need references to ancient works look to The Unabridged Oxford or Lewis and Short (both of which are very expensive), or Cassell's (which is what I used in advanced university-level Latin). The person who gave the dictionary one star obviously bought the wrong book. Latin students know that *facto* comes from the verb *facio*. Books of Latin phrases that appear in the modern world are all over the place, and should not be confused with a dictionary.

I found this to be a really helpful dictionary. The size and price are perfect for the beginning to intermediate Latin student, and the "Latin to English" translations have been updated by the editors to conform to modern the understanding of words. It sure beats using older Latin dictionaries (such as Lewis' "Elementary Latin Dictionary," last updated in 1888 and still used in my undergraduate college) which requires you to translate the Latin word, and THEN translate the archaic Victorian words to something more contemporary. This dictionary gets 4 stars instead of 5 only because the "English to Latin" part was not updated, and still reflects Latin scholarship from over 100 years ago. Granted, most people today with the exception of university students will not be writing much original Latin prose, but it is nice to have some updating just for studying. A word regarding the gentleman whom gave this dictionary 1 star -- the dictionary does not include phrases. However, the dictionary does have great extra features including a complete Latin Grammar, a list of Roman weights and measures, and some other neat sections relating to classic literature. Anyone who has even a rudimentary knowledge of Latin will have no troubles whatsoever with translating any basic Latin phrases they may encounter. *Ispa Scientia Potestas Est!*

As a Classics student I had access to the HUGE Oxford Latin dictionary, and loved it. Now that I do Latin for fun, I didn't want to get one of those as they are extremely expensive and non-portable. This is much better than a paperback and has had all the words I have needed so far, plus great tables of declensions, etc. Cheers to Oxford for this one!

This is a rewrite of a previous review I had here. I have increased my review by one star since then. In my earlier review I criticized the book's omission of names such as gods; you can't find "Iuppiter, Iovis" in the main dictionary. However, I've since found that there is in fact a list of historical and mythological figures in the very back of the book (after the English-to-Latin section, oddly enough). There are frequent usage notes sprinkled throughout the Latin->English portion. For example, the entry for "dicere" will tell you that the Romans used "negare" instead of following "dicere" with a negative verb. It also explains, for instance, that "abicio" is really pronounced "abiicio" (the first "i" being a consonant, like "y"), and as a result the "ab" is considered a heavy syllable. There is something weird going on with the word "locus". This very common word is missing in my copy of the book. However, using 's "search inside this book" feature, you can indeed find this word, so I can only assume its omission was a mistake that has been fixed in later printings. Hopefully there aren't too many other such mistakes. Still, I'm not inclined to give it five stars, partly

because the presence of one mistake may suggest the presence of more, and partly since there's no way of knowing whether a particular copy of this book will have this mistake without opening it and finding out.

Wheelock's Latin (Wheelock's Latin) This handy desktop reference is full of surprises. It is well arranged, as expected. Also expected was the Summary of Grammar since this is standard operating procedure for this type of reference. Unexpected was the quick reference section to historical, mythological, and geographical names, Latin Writers, key dates, later Latin (language) developments, and a few good maps. This is a must for the average Latin student and beyond for a quick, easy reference. Don't expect it to be a full lexicon. Remember, it's only a desk reference and fulfills that function with style and ease.

The Oxford Latin Dictionary is the perfect reference for those who want to know the Latin terms and definitions of them. I like how the book provides famous Latin people in the back and gives a brief biography the person. For example, St. Augustine is listed and he was known for his book called "Confessions", which is a major work in the eyes of Roman Catholics. It also gives a brief detail of changes of Latin during the Late and medieval periods, maps are found in the back, key dates of Roman history, and historical, mythological, and geographical names in Latin. Also, found in the dictionary are summaries of grammar skills of Latin, Roman dates and times, and Roman weights and measures, and Roman money. Overall, it is definitely recommended for those who need a reference dictionary and the student learning Latin.

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