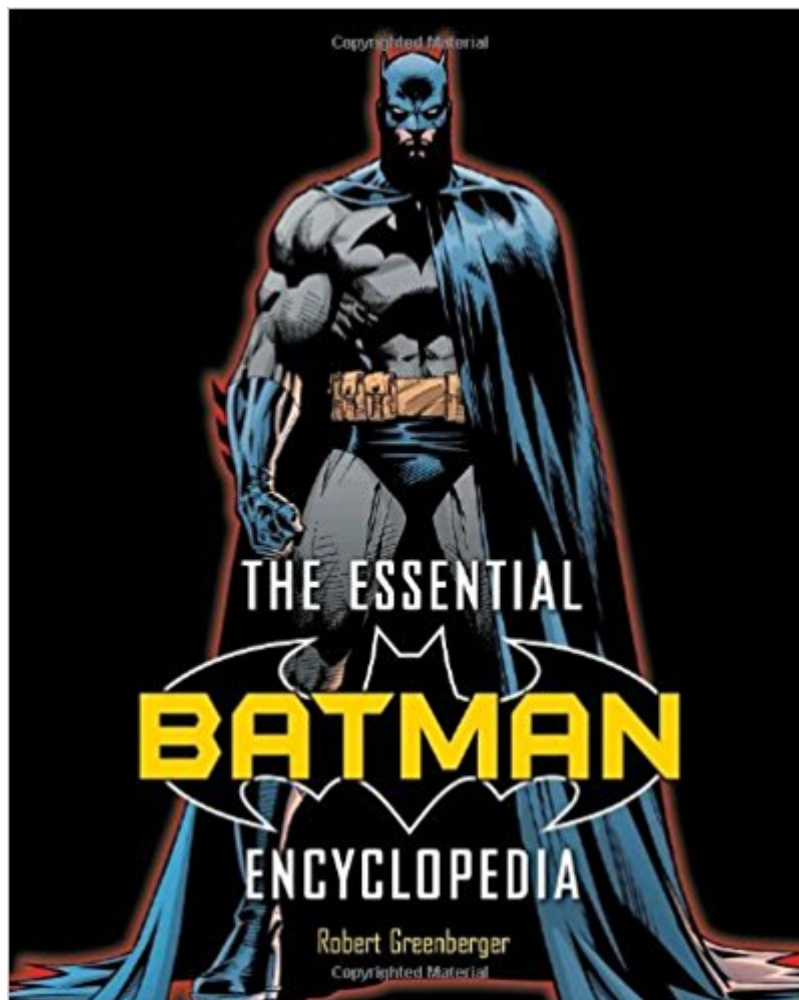


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The Essential Batman Encyclopedia



Synopsis

The ultimate guide to the man behind the mask . . . and the mythology behind the man. “Criminals are a superstitious, cowardly lot. So my disguise must be able to strike terror into their hearts. I must be a creature of the night, black, terrible. . . . I shall become a bat!” So declared millionaire industrialist Bruce Wayne, orphaned as a boy by a murderous thug and driven as a man to battle the scourge of crime by becoming Batman. Batman swooped into popular culture in 1939 and for nearly seventy years has thrilled audiences in countless comics, live-action and animated television programs, and seven feature films. Prowling the darkened rooftops of Gotham City, roaring through the teeming streets in the sleek, high-powered Batmobile, and leaping into action when the iconic Bat-Signal pierces the night sky, the Caped Crusader is a larger-than-life legend. And now, for the first time in more than thirty years, everything there is to know about Batman—from the beginning to the present, and from A to Z—is collected in one comprehensive new sourcebook. More than 500 pages of entries and illustrations include: fascinating details and the complete background on Batman’s origins; biographies of every major character in the Batman universe—including his closest allies, from Robin the Boy Wonder and faithful butler Alfred Pennyworth to Commissioner Gordon; and his countless enemies, from the Joker, Penguin, Catwoman, and the Riddler to Scarecrow, Two-Face, Ra’s al Ghul and Poison Ivy; classic black-and-white comic book artwork throughout; two sixteen-page full-color artwork inserts; Even an all-access pass to the Batcave couldn’t rival former DC Comics editor and Batman scholar extraordinaire Robert Greenberger’s exhaustive ultimate archive. The Essential Batman Encyclopedia is a must for every Batman fan’s bookshelf. BATMAN, the DC Logo, and all related names, characters and elements are trademarks of DC Comics © 2008. All rights reserved.

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Customer Reviews

Grade 6 Up – Over the last 69 years, Batman has experienced countless incarnations. For years, he seemed ageless and unchanging, but recently editors and writers have found many creative ways to explore the superhero's mythos. Expanding upon Michael Fleisher's The Encyclopedia of Comic Book Heroes: Batman (DC Comics, 2007), this volume attempts to clarify how Batman fits into these story arcs, and to catalog nearly every villain and close ally he encountered between 1939 and September 2007. Entries are limited to characters and information within the Batman universe. This focus on characters and internal plot may be fascinating to fans, but will limit the book's usefulness as a research tool. Fewer than one-third of the entries are accompanied by black-and-white illustrations. Two sets of color plates add much to the flavor of the work, though they impart little information. Overall, the book is extremely thorough within its scope and is well researched. – Dawn Rutherford, King County Library System, Bellevue, WA
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Robert Greenberger is the creator of Comics Scene, the first national magazine covering comic books, comic strips, and animation. He has worked for DC Comics and Gist Communications, and he served as director of publishing operations for Marvel Comics. Greenberger is the author of numerous novels, including adventures set in the Star Trek universe, and is the news editor for the trendsetting online popular culture site ComicMix. He lives with his wife, Deb, in Fairfield, Connecticut.

This is a very detailed book. I'm only on the second day looking at all the different entries and I'm finding more Batman related things that are really out there. The black and white sketches, with the colored sketches are amazingly beautiful. Highly recommended for any die-hard Batman fan.

Thank you

It's not the best compendium out there, but it is really great as an encyclopedia. The book is soft cover which makes it a little flimsy compared to others, but it's also very thick and contains a lot of great information.

This book is an essential for the serious Batman reader. It explores everything in this pop icon's comics mythos up until the disappearance of Bruce Wayne. Due note however that it does not cover Batman's big screen or small screen incarnations, simply the comic book lore. This encyclopedia can also help you if you find yourself getting lost with all the Grant Morrison current revampment of the character's past (i.e., you will be able to sort through the source material he's borrowed from). I highly recommend this book!!!

This book surprised me because initially I thought it was going to have pics of all the characters and a bio along with them. That was not the case but the insight this book gave on characters dealing with Batman is very extensive. If you are a Batman fan and wish to know more about him, this book is for you.

If you're a Batman fan, this book is a must have. It has everything you want to know about Batman, his rogues gallery and all of the Bat-family, I recommend this highly

The author left not a bat-stone left unturned, if it happened in the batverse it was captured in this book. Fun read and a good source for answers when your friends are debating the "facts"

By far a very inclusive detail oriented encyclopedia about the Batman mythos, which is also to say a very enjoyable read to those who love Batman and wish to learn more. Although there are small details missing or incorrect, it is not of major consequence as only an extreme Batman fan would catch it.

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