The Comprehensive Signed English Dictionary (Signed English Series)

A complete guide to using the Signed English System

THE
Comprehensive
SIGNED ENGLISH
DICTIONARY

- Illustrated with more than 3,000 signs
- Lively, contemporary vocabulary
- Designed for signers of all ages

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Synopsis

The Comprehensive Signed English Dictionary is the premier volume of the Signed English series. This complete dictionary contains more than 3,100 signs, including signs reflecting lively, contemporary vocabulary. The American Manual Alphabet, numbers, and sign markers all are located in the front of the book for easy reference. Other sections provide a general description of the Signed English system, its logic, and its use. This dictionary will meet the language needs of students from preschool through their adolescent years and beyond.

Book Information

Series: Signed English Series
Hardcover: 456 pages
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ISBN-10: 0913580813
Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 1.4 x 11 inches
Shipping Weight: 3.7 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (27 customer reviews)
Best Sellers Rank: #113,275 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)   #64 in Books > Reference > Words, Language & Grammar > Sign Language   #89 in Books > Reference > Dictionaries & Thesauruses > English   #170 in Books > Reference > Words, Language & Grammar > Reference

Customer Reviews

My son is currently nine and is nonverbal. Further, the chances that he will become verbal are very slim indeed. When I purchased this book, it was recommended by his speech teacher. I first thought it was a book teaching me "A, B, C" etc. In fact, signed English allows you to speak in words instead of letters. My son will never get letters but he certainly relates to words. This book has a basic vocabulary but still is quite thick. The number of words is amazing and very useful. We use the book daily and my son's vocabulary has increased dramatically since we began using it. I have read the other reviews stating the alphabetizing is a problem but I can't think of a more practical way to organize such a book. Regardless, this is the book for those wanting to speak to a nonverbal person. Additionally, our son is developmentally delayed but he still is able to communicate with us thanks to this book. Those of you with nonverbal children will think you've discovered gold if you haven't been able to communicate in the past.
This is the best overall dictionary for signing that I have seen. It has more words than any other in my library, and it has lots of specific words that I usually don’t find (i.e. "diaper" and "diarrhea"). My biggest complaint is that this book does not include the historical clues that help me remember new signs (i.e. that "girl" depicts a bonnet string along the chin). I also am occasionally frustrated by the alphabetizing (it would be useful to find "you’re welcome" in the same place as "thank you"). However, when I simply need to look up a single sign, this is the book I always reach for, and I’m seldom disappointed.

Sure - you might buy another book if you are beginning to learn to sign. The other book would give you those hints to help you remember the signs. But this one includes TONS of signs you can’t find anywhere else - like Scotch tape, or McDonald’s, Hanukkah, gymnastics, etc. I found it invaluable as a major addition to my collection of sign books. It just can’t be beat.

Obviously, by the title of this book, you are aware that this is Signed English and not American Sign Language (ASL). What you may not be aware of though is that deaf adults do not use Signed English. If you are learning for a child, this is an awesome book! It is filled to the hilt with clear illustrations and well worth the asking price. But if you’ve decided to learn the real *language* of Sign, DON’T get this book. Again, deaf adults don’t use it. Many signs are similar, but MANY are not used at all in ASL. This is strictly an English-based book -- not something a serious student who wants to speak with adults in Sign would use. It all depends on why you’re learning and who you’re planning on conversing with. Children in elementary school? Get this book. You won’t be disappointed. Anyone else? Click on the back arrow key and continue your search. That’s just this deafie’s opinion. :v)

I don’t claim any professional qualifications in sign language, but I dabble in it. When I was teaching English in Korea, I used sign language as a motor activity. Now that I’m teaching preschool in the United States, I still use sign language as a motor activity. I refer to this book whenever a new topic comes up. I have had very few disappointments.

This sign language dictionary is a great resource in the classroom! I bought one for personal use after I had to return the school copy to the library at the end of the year. The order arrived before I expected and was as described.
The most simple way to learn easy and more difficult signs. This book makes it so easy to dive into a world of communication where too few have gone before. Easy to understand instructions and simple pictures.

Fellow residents and I purchased this excellent text which met every need we had. Two hearing-impaired ladies had moved to the retirement community where we all lived. This book served to help those ladies as well as the rest of the "class" in being better citizens by learning the art and science of communicating with one another. 's price and service were excellent.

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