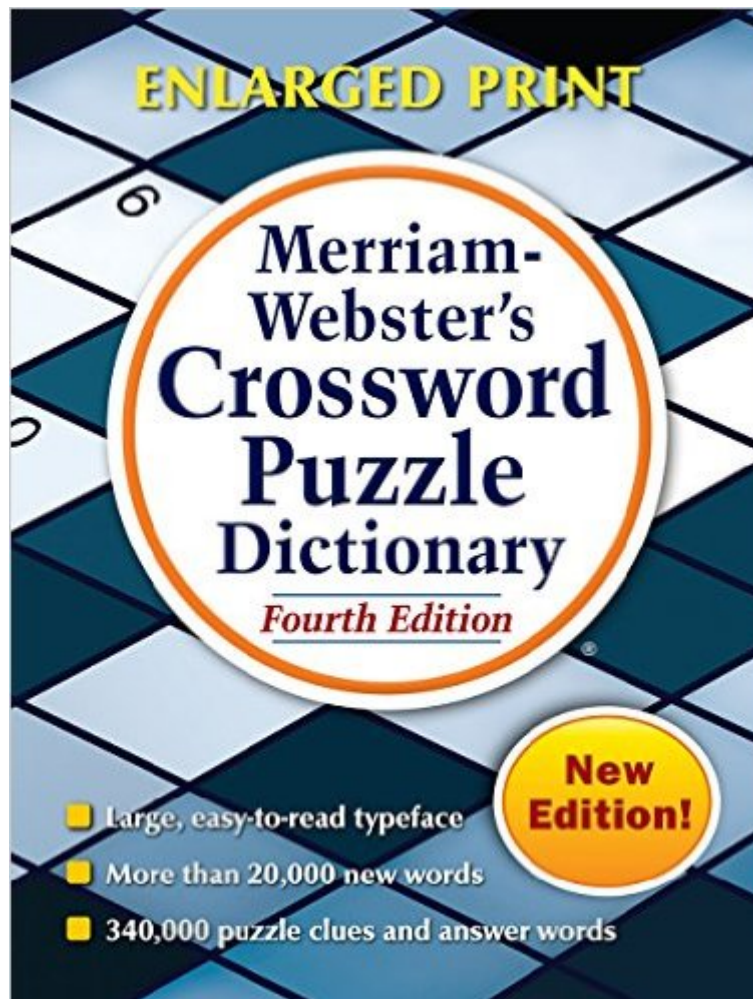


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# Merriam-Webster's Crossword Puzzle Dictionary, 4th Ed. New Enlarged Print Edition (c) 2016



## Synopsis

New Enlarged Print Edition! 2016 copyright. Features large and easy-to-read typeface with more than 340,000 clues and answer words and 20,000 new words. Organized alphabetically, by number of letters, and by common categories. New answer words and clues include: freegan, goji, pho, tweep, acai, coperncium, gassed, hashtag, haram, poutine, reggaeton, selfie, shawarma, steampunk, tweet and Yooper. Comprehensive coverage of "crosswordese" -the words, people and place-names most encountered by puzzlers.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (11 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #199,434 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #15 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Puzzles & Games > Crosswords > Dictionaries](#) #407 in [Books > Reference > Dictionaries & Thesauruses > Dictionaries](#)

## Customer Reviews

I got this for a person that was getting vexed that some of the crossword puzzles she works on seem to have some serious esoteric references. this may help. This seems to be the best one out there and is a very handy reference device!NOTICE: I have NOT receive this product for free or at a reduced price to make an "unbiased" review. I paid for it myself. I have NOT received any compensation to review the product. The above review is my opinion, after having purchased and used the product.SO THERE!

Useful for doing crosswords. I found it helpful to put a protective clear stick cover on as the binding and cover showed wear very quickly. I used the clear Contact film from [Amazon](#) and did a double coat. Much easier to navigate the girth of the book and keep it relatively tidy looking.

We bought this for my husband's grandfather after he told me how old his other crossword

dictionary was. He has thanked me multiple times for it and let me know each time he finishes a puzzle with the help of the book. It was a great purchase.

This book is much larger than I anticipated 9 1/4 x 7 x 1 3/4 but it is a gift for my 90 year old mother who is still doing her daily newspaper crossword puzzles and the large print should be excellent for her. If you are looking for something small and lightweight, this is NOT it.

Personally I think this is a great crossword dictionary. It is a rare occasion where I can't find what I need using this great book. The only reason I give it 4 stars instead of 5 is that the binding stinks. If you use it a lot as I do you'll find after not long that entire letter-sections worth of entries just come unglued from the spine so that one is constantly having to hold them in and be careful; not to let them fall out. This is the case both with the first volume I purchased years ago and the newer version I purchased a little more than a year ago. What a finally did, and it seems to have done the trick, is this: (1) clamp everything back together in a couple of hand-screw clamps; (2) using a hacksaw, saw 1/4 inch deep cuts 1 per inch across the spine; and then (3) glue string into the cuts. That seems to be holding up pretty well.

It is compiled using the American variant of English spelling (what else would you expect from an American publication?) and print font size is small (7 point) but reasonably clear. Line spacing is adequate at 8 points. Each "Headword" is followed by its synonyms in word length order (under digital word length number). As is usual in these dictionaries, there is lack of "uniformity", i.e. synonyms are not necessarily replicated elsewhere in the compilation as headwords and it is often necessary to do lengthy searches. Many expected words are missing. The search vocabulary is limited - with only an estimated twenty four to twenty eight thousand "headwords" (based on seventeen to twenty headwords per page and 1392 pages). The main problem with this book is its binding. It is a typical softcover with glued-in pages and they come out after as little as a single year's home usage. I managed to extend its life by carefully gluing pages back to the "spine" (such as it is) with PVA book-binders' glue, but more continually become loose and threaten to fall out. It is almost a non-stop rescue mission. My next Crossword Dictionary has just arrived - "The Chambers Crossword Dictionary" edition of 2015, published by Chambers of Great Britain and is compiled in, as expected and desired, English. It is a "Hard Back" volume and should last many years before use and hard work destroy the binding. Look for my review there.

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