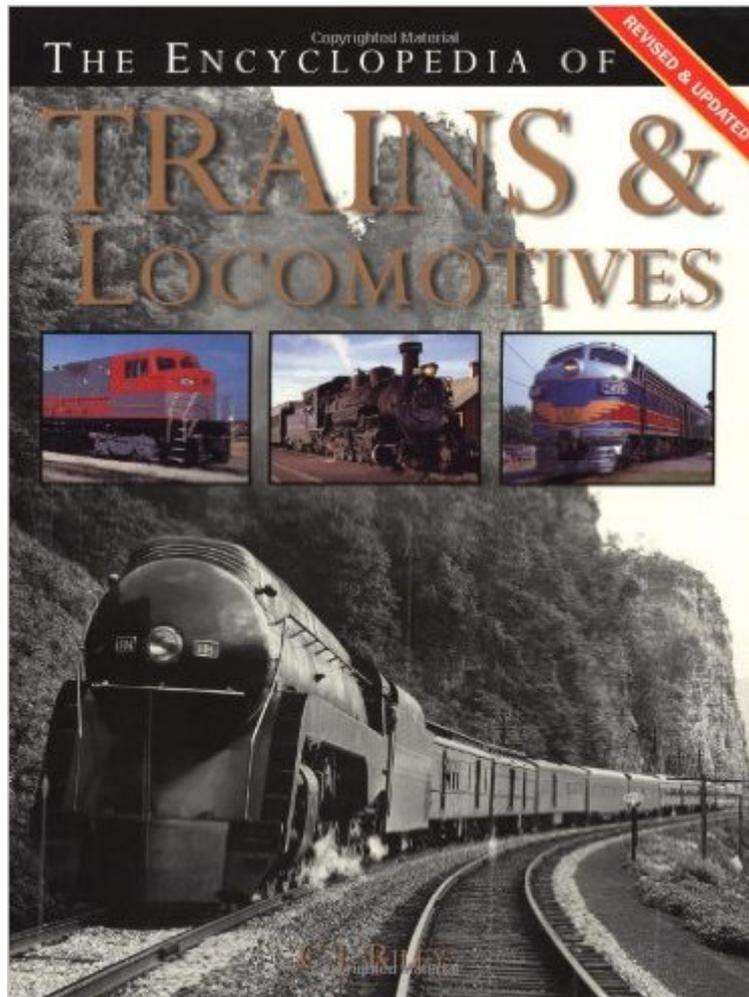


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The Encyclopedia Of Trains And Locomotives



Synopsis

Alphabetically organized, fully cross-referenced, and packed with photographs, this enticing encyclopedia makes the perfect gift for anyone who ever felt drawn to the sight of an onrushing train. It features the most significant innovations in locomotive technology, as well as the most important and colorful characters from the history of the iron horse. Thrill to the true story of Casey Jones and his ill fated final journey; was he simply trying to stay on schedule that day--or was he determined to die? Read about the difficulties encountered during the construction of the Cape-to-Cairo Railroad, Cecil Rhodes's™ ambitious and still unrealized dream of a trans-African railway. Marvel at the magnetic levitation trains that have the capability of traveling at speeds in excess of 200 miles per hour. With its facts and details, fabulous lore and photographs old and new, this reference brings history to life as never before.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Of all the Christmas gifts I have received, this book has to be one of my favorites. A great many old and new photos and illustrations. Rather than grouped by category, entries are alphabetized as in a standard encyclopedia. A great variety of subjects are covered: the very first steam engine inventors, steam, diesel, and electric building companies, their founders and the engines they built, various car types, track gauges, some famous railroads in North America and other parts of the world, well-known railroad and engineering feats, and more. Appendices list production figures for General Motors/EMD, Alco, and General Electric (what, no Baldwin?), as well as railroad mergers,

all up to around 1992 or so. The entry I found most interesting was that on Australia, with its haphazard lack of any coherent rail development, resulting in several different track gauges that proved a real headache in later years. While not comprehensive (and not claiming to be so), this encyclopedia is a well researched and written reference work, and is certainly a bargain as well. ---
Paul H!

The Encyclopedia of Trains & Locomotives is a great source of information for novices and experts alike. It also includes some very detailed appendices that are unequalled. Overall, it is a wonderful reference for the price

As other reviewers have said, this is not an up-to-date (It's almost 20 years old), truly comprehensive volume or of particular use to the advanced railroad fan. So why does it get 4 stars? It gets four stars because at current used prices (5-7 dollars including shipping) it's an excellent value for a book that covers a wide-range of railroading topics in an easy to use encyclopedia-style manner of organization. The appendices are particularly interesting for their tallies of engines and such. Though it is a "popular" level reference, the entries for each subject are lengthy enough to feel that one gets more than simple surface-level information. So far it seems the selection of entries are such that virtually any topic (pre 1995) that the non-expert might think of are covered. Lastly, it was an excellent choice for my particular use. I'm attempting to cheaply acquire a stable of large, reference and coffee-table style books to indulge my casual interest in railroading and my young child's desire to look at train pictures. This book is definitely a good addition to such a collection. Interesting information for me and lots of lovely pictures for him.

The appendixes are worth the price of the book. they show how many locomotives were produced by class and Railroad Lines mergers. All fascinating and important information for train buffs.

It does have significant history, certain details, and nice pictures. It is a good guide for kids because it is not so thorough that they don't want to read it all.

Does not even include the American standard, one of the most influential of North American locomotives

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