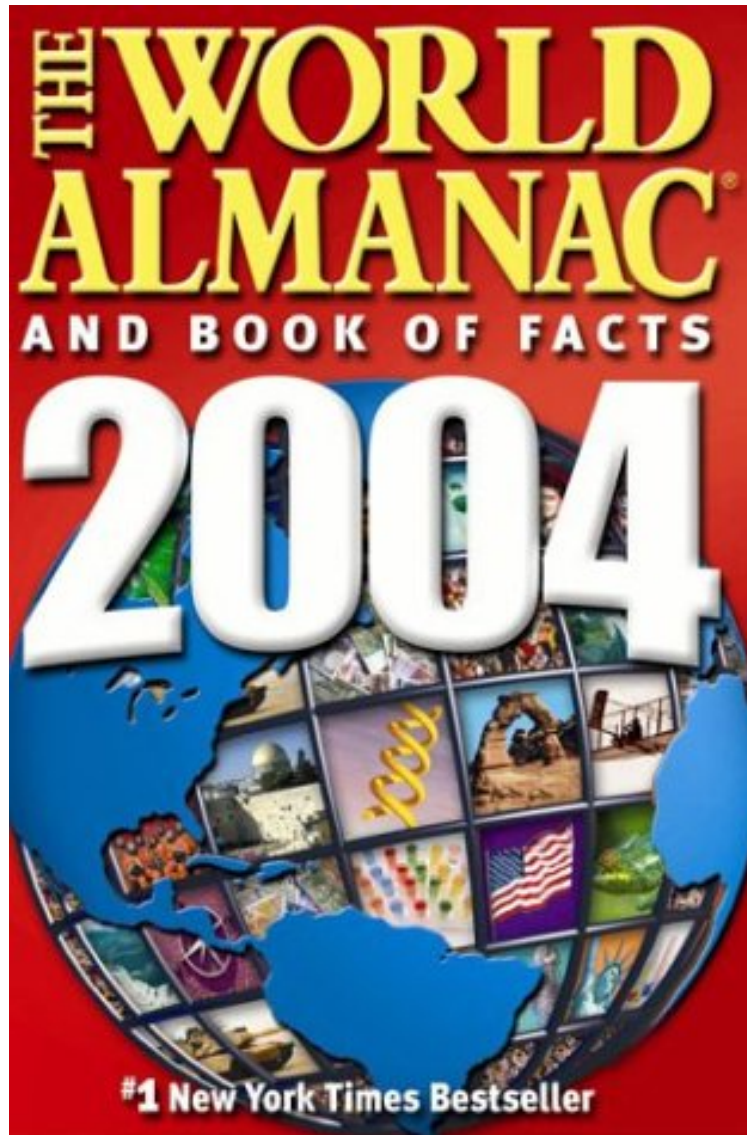


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The World Almanac and Book of Facts 2004 (World Almanac Book of Facts)

Editors of World Almanac
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Editors of World Almanac : The World Almanac and Book of Facts 2004 (World Almanac Book of Facts) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The World Almanac and Book of Facts 2004 (World Almanac Book of Facts):

11 of 11 people found the following review helpful. The standard in almanacsBy Brian MelendezThere are many

imitators on the market, some of them quite good, but this almanac has set the standard for more than a century. The New York World newspaper began publishing an almanac in 1868, "a 120-page volume with 12 pages of advertising." The newspaper suspended the almanac's publication in 1876, but publisher Joseph Pulitzer revived it in 1886 as a "compendium of universal knowledge." The almanac has been published annually since, outliving the newspaper whose name it still bears. (The World Almanac is not the oldest almanac in publication, however: that distinction belongs to The Old Farmer's Almanac, which is "North America's oldest continuously published periodical," founded in 1792.) The World Almanac contains much useful information that belongs in any serious basic-reference set. For the world, the almanac presents basic statistics about each nation, and about the world's major religions; and summarizes the world's history, with more detailed histories of the United States and of the preceding year. For the United States, the almanac reprints the nation's organic documents, the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution; lists every community with a population over 5000, with its ZIP code and area code; lists every county (or parish or division) and county seat; contains a directory of the entire Federal government, including Congress and all congressional committees, every executive department, and every court and judge; presents basic statistics about each state and major city, and a short biography of each president; and much more. The almanac also contains bountiful information about education, science, sports, and many other topics. No other single volume offers such a wealth of information on such a variety of subjects.

10 of 10 people found the following review helpful. No home should be without one

By James Ferguson
This is my favorite almanac. It is compact, easy to use, with well organized information. I think it is more complete than other almanacs, offering extensive coverage of the US Presidents, elections, and a state by state breakdown of Presidential elections since 1952, even going so far as a county by county breakdown in the hotly contested 2000 election. It has excellent sports coverage, as well as arts and entertainment. It presents the US Constitution in its entirety, along with brief synopses of landmark Supreme Court Decisions. This almanac also provides a short history of the National Anthem and the contentious Pledge of Allegiance, which had "under God" amended to it in 1954. It is packed with other vital information such as a breakdown of membership of religious groups in the US, the location of these religious groups headquarters, and a record of Easter Sundays up to 2100, so that you can plan ahead for this ever-shifting holiday. There is a very good section on health and nutrition, including dietary requirements for children and other salient information on how to better maintain your health. And, there is a comprehensive section on the nations of the world, including many timely statistics that will clue you into the demographics of the vast multitude of people. In short, everything you need to know to keep abreast if this ever-changing world we live in, as well as help you solve the NY Times crossword puzzle.

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Stunning Value

By political idiot
Open this 1000+ page book to any page and find something fascinating. Save for maybe the dictionary, I can say that about few books. For raw statistics the only book on par with this is the Statistical Abstract published by the US government. However, the abstract weighs in at nearly 7 times the cost of the world almanac. This book is clearly the best value going. I buy one of these every couple of years and it continues to be fresh and full of interesting facts about our world.

The World Almanac 2004 continues the 135-year tradition of excellence, and provides today's readers with the information they need, available anytime, anywhere. Highlights include:- Expanded coverage of the most turned-to sections: noted personalities, education, space, sports, nations of the world, awards, and consumer information- Enhancements and improvements on every page of the book- Two color photo sections, with highlights of the year's most noteworthy people, places, and events - Free monthly e-mail updates provided to all readers throughout the year- Larger type in selected sections and more illustrations throughout the book- Authoritative, comprehensive and timely information on just about everything: census figures, health, historical anniversaries, presidents, personal finance, religion, sex, statistics, weather, and so much more - all in one book!

Its mind-boggling the amount of stuff you can find in this book. And it's the kind of thing one needs every year, too, because the world keeps changing. - Knoxville News-Sentinel
Every household needs a copy. - Richmond Times
The most useful reference book known to modern man." - Los Angeles Times
The biggest bargain on the shelf. - Esquire