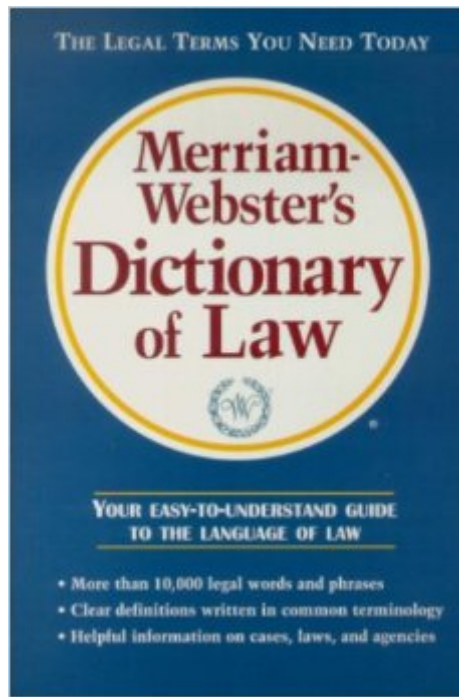


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# Merriam-Webster Dictionary Of Law



## Synopsis

Includes 7,000 entries for the legal terms most likely to be encountered in every day situations: drafting a will, signing a contract, entering into litigation, and more. Quotes and examples of words are used in context to demonstrate usage.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

i compared this to black's law dictionary when i bought this particular dictionary. i found that the definitions were just as comprehensive as the black's and that layout was easier to understand. the price is also big plus since it is half the cost of the blacks

I keep this legal dictionary at my right hand on my desk and refer to it almost daily. It is a perfect legal dictionary for non-lawyers. I'm not a lawyer, but have been involved with litigation as a plaintiff and am training as an expert witness. Sometimes it's helpful to know what "voir dire" and "subpoena duces tecum" mean. Even for somebody who's studied Latin and French, lawyers sometimes pronounce things differently than you'd expect - and this dictionary has helped. I also appreciate having a copy of the constitution in the back, as well as a guide to the judicial system. Included is a bare-bones outline of criminal and civil procedure which will be helpful for the layperson. The appendix also has lists of important cases and important laws (can you remember Marbury vs. Madison from high school civics?). I know that Black's Law Dictionary, Eighth Edition (Black's Law Dictionary (Standard Edition)) is the standard, but you can't beat this dictionary for its price, size, and coverage.

I had planned on buying "Black's Law Dictionary", but the review of this dictionary made me think twice. I did a comparison of some key words and phrases between these two and several others. This one was the winner. The price was not an object, but it sure is nice to pocket the extra money. This dictionary had similar definitions, but slightly more readable. What was the tipping point were the additional description of how they are used -- not just the definition, but what it means and some historical usages. The extras at the back are nice. They will probably be more useful than I had suspected, especially the summaries of important Supreme Court cases.

I purchased this for my Kindle Fire based on the good reviews I've seen on . From a content standpoint, it seems to have everything and more that I've been looking for. However, like the New Oxford American Dictionary supplied with the Kindle Fire, I haven't found an easy way to look up a definition. If you use the "search" function, a slow global search of the entire Law Dictionary is initiated. For example, a search for "probate" returns all mentions of 'probate' throughout the dictionary. If you are lucky enough to wind up on a page that has a link to the actual term, then clicking on the link will take you right to it. Some terms are listed alphabetically in the "list of group entries" section of the book. However they are not clickable links. On the Kindle Fire, pressing and holding over one of these terms does pull up its definition, not from the Law Dictionary but instead from the New Oxford dictionary built into the Kindle. It's odd that looking a term up in the Law Dictionary returns a definition from the standard dictionary. Maybe I'm asking too much from an eBook, but it seems that one of the primary functions of an electronic dictionary is its ability to provide easy and reliable look-up.

As a legal dictionary, it is fine -- does everything I need it to do. However, as a Kindle book, it loses its value because it is impossible to search. A HUGE net efficiency loss. With a real dictionary you can approximate the location of a word in the alphabet then quickly scan for the bolded word you want. The Kindle version shows a new definition on a new page, thus you must scan each and every page and wait for each and every page to load to narrow down to the word you want. For example, I spend about 30 seconds screwing with page scroll to find the letter "I" then another 2-5 minutes to narrow down to "In rem." Any other reference I have--for example Garner's Legal Usage--I can locate a word in under a minute., please add a way to Index and search definitions in any dictionary you offer.

This law dictionary is complete, great for those who are students or just in need of a legal dictionary. I used it in my paralegal class and found more than enough information. Others like Blacks are much more expensive, and honestly for my needs this volume is just great!

I am getting into the paralegal field and needed to become aware of some new terms. This has helped me out very well. I could have gone online to find the new terms but this is much handier to have. I am not sure of how it compares to other law dictionaries yet but I think every paralegal should have one.

I sampled three popular law dictionaries for Kindle (1) Law Dictionary, (Mass Market) 6th Ed. (Barron's Legal Guides) , (2) Merriam-Webster's Dictionary of Law, and (3) Nolo's Plain-English Law Dictionary. By far, the best I'd seen is Barron's. Among other things, instant search is enabled, and there are hotlinks to related terms. Webster's is next (e.g it's got hotlinks, but shows only one definition per page). Nolo is the worst; it's like all they did was convert the text. Try before you buy.

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