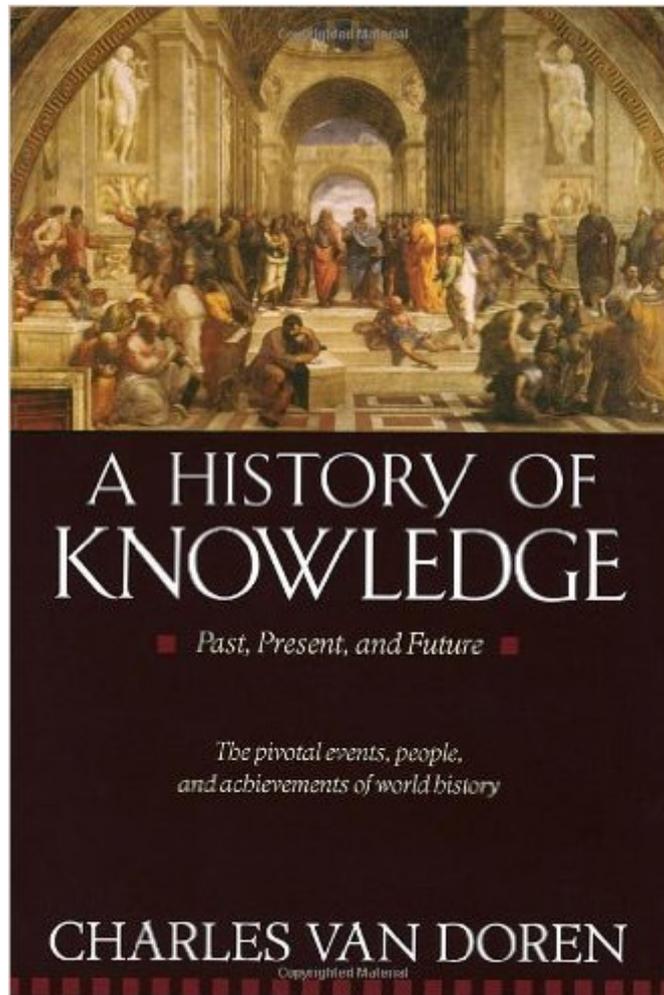


The book was found

A History Of Knowledge: Past, Present, And Future



Synopsis

A one-volume reference to the history of ideas that is a compendium of everything that humankind has thought, invented, created, considered, and perfected from the beginning of civilization into the twenty-first century. Massive in its scope, and yet totally accessible, A HISTORY OF KNOWLEDGE covers not only all the great theories and discoveries of the human race, but also explores the social conditions, political climates, and individual men and women of genius that brought ideas to fruition throughout history."Crystal clear and concise...Explains how humankind got to know what it knows."Clifton Fadiman
Selected by the Book-of-the-Month Club and the History Book Club

Book Information

Paperback: 448 pages

Publisher: Ballantine Books; Reissue edition (March 17, 1992)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0345373162

ISBN-13: 978-0345373168

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.7 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (110 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #203,667 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #170 in [Books > History >](#)

[Historical Study & Educational Resources > Reference](#) #181 in [Books > Reference >](#)

[Encyclopedias & Subject Guides > History](#) #531 in [Books > History > World > Civilization & Culture](#)

Customer Reviews

Charles Van Doren undertook an ambitious project in this book, which according to its cover blurb purports to be 'a compendium of everything that humankind has thought, invented, created, considered, and perfected from the beginning of civilisation into the twenty-first century.' There are, alas, a few things missing, as this book only has a bit over 400 pages. But that does not really detract from the thesis of the book; it is certainly a worthy outline of human history, particularly approached through the lens of intellectual achievement and the advance of knowledge. Van Doren, as you may recall, is the Van Doren who got caught up in the quiz show scandals of the 1950s. Ironic that this fate should befall him, as his learning would obviously put to shame the current crop of would-be millionaires so popular on the television today. But, I digress. Van Doren spent the two decades before writing this book as an editor for Encyclopedia Britannica. He has put together a

worthy outline to knowledge, broad in scope and with just enough detail to satisfy the hunger and whet the appetite simultaneously. The voluminous literature dealing with the idea of human progress is decidedly a mixed bag. While some of these writings are impressive and even inspiring, many of them are superficial, perhaps even ridiculous, in their reiteration (especially during the nineteenth century) of the comforting prospect that every day in every way we are growing better and better. Van Doren does believe in progress, but not in inevitable progress. He distinguishes between general knowledge and knowledge of particulars, and explores the inter-relationship of knowledge and happiness: The desire to know, when you realise you do not know, is universal and probably irresistible.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

A History of Knowledge: Past, Present, and Future Viruses, Plagues, and History: Past, Present and Future The Young Earth: The Real History of the Earth - Past, Present, and Future Challenges of the Muslim World, Volume 19: Present, Future and Past (International Symposia in Economic Theory and Econometrics) Water 4.0: The Past, Present, and Future of the World's Most Vital Resource An Introduction to the Art of Theatre: A Comprehensive Text- Past, Present, And Future Spanish: Verbs Fast Track Learning: The 100 Most Used Spanish Verbs with 3600 Phrase Examples: Past, Present and Future The Healing Timeline: God's Shalom for the Past, Present and Future Pendulum: How Past Generations Shape Our Present and Predict Our Future How Star Wars Conquered the Universe: The Past, Present, and Future of a Multibillion Dollar Franchise Sustainable Fashion: Past, Present and Future Divination for Beginners: Reading the Past, Present & Future (For Beginners (Llewellyn's)) Thunder & Lightning: Weather Past, Present, Future World Trade Center: Past, Present, Future SELF ESTEEM: How To Live In The Present Moment, 2.0 - Let Go Of The Past & Stop Worrying About The Future (Self Help, Mindfulness & Emotional Intelligence) Historical Thinking and Other Unnatural Acts: Charting the Future of Teaching the Past (Critical Perspectives On The Past) The Arid Lands: History, Power, Knowledge (History for a Sustainable Future) Dancing from Past to Present: Nation, Culture, Identities (Studies in Dance History) Past Time, Past Place: GIS for History The Mystery of the Shemitah: The 3,000-Year-Old Mystery That Holds the Secret of America's Future, the World's Future, and Your Future!

[Dmca](#)