

(Free pdf) The Oxford Dictionary of English Proverbs

The Oxford Dictionary of English Proverbs

F. P. Wilson

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#143341 in Books 1970-10-15Ingredients: Example IngredientsOriginal language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.50 x 2.02 x 6.50l, #File Name: 0198691181950 pages | File size: 26.Mb

F. P. Wilson : The Oxford Dictionary of English Proverbs before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Oxford Dictionary of English Proverbs:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. "More than we use is more than we want."By David R. AndersonScholarly. Compiled in the same manner as the Oxford English Dictionary. For all but the most academic specialists, the extensive history of the proverbs it includes is far more than enough. Does the reader really need more than one early example (many dating to Chaucer's time or before) to get the feel for the proverb's staying power.The editors' solution to the problem of listing the proverbs alphabetically rather than by its first letter, often a pronoun or preposition that fails to capture the sense of the proverb, but by the first word that does convey its subject, e.g. "The taste of the kitchen is better than the smell." becomes, "Taste of the kitchen is better than the smell, the". This makes for complicated listings when the subject comes late in the proverb. E.g. If you list, hanged, the thief is sorry he is to be, not that he is a thief," you end up with an awkward formulation.That's not my only gripe. The editors strike me as a bit prudish. The proverbial advice to head of the house, "If you can kiss the mistress, never kiss the maid," shows up in W. Carew Hazlitt's marvelous "English Proverbs" (2nd edition 1882) even though it is a bit off color.. But it is not included in the Oxford collection under "maid", "mistress", or "kiss".End note. The Hazlitt, older, but despite the Oxford's dismissal of it because it is alphabetized in the conventional manner, is more useful if you ask me. And it has ample scholarship about the origin and derivation of many of its listings. And, believe it or not, is available from at least one reprint publisher, maybe more. And addall lists a copy or two of the original.0 of 0 people found the

following review helpful. Four StarsBy OdoDaxSisko97Dated and format and layout could be better but still good0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy R. SawhneyThanx.

A comprehensive dictionary of proverbs in all their variant forms from the earliest recorded use, with generous cross-referencing and precise identification of sources.