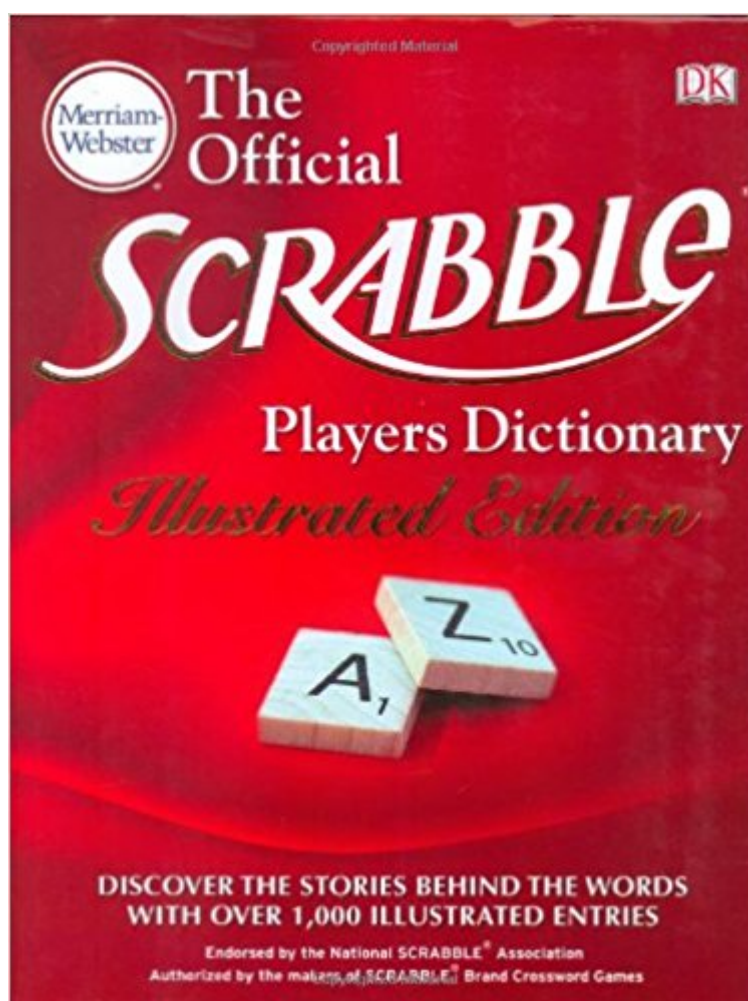




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# The Merriam-Webster Official Scrabble Players Dictionary, Illustrated Edition



## Synopsis

The wildly popular word game, Scrabble(r), was conceived by Alfred Mosher Butts, an architect out of work during the Depression, and was trademarked in 1948. More than 40 years later, over 100 million Scrabble sets had sold worldwide, including 30 million in the USA alone. And, in 1991, shortly after the fall of the Berlin Wall and the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the first worldwide Scrabble tournament had been scheduled. With so many Scrabble aficionados, and the solid success of other Scrabble dictionaries, especially the Merriam-Webster titles, the time is right to add an illustrated dictionary to the Scrabble lexicon, using the Merriam-Webster text.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I purchased this dictionary in my early enthusiasm for playing Scrabble. I paid about \$70 for it which is way too much for what it provides. A much cheaper paperback version would suffice for the average Scrabble player. I didn't know I'd come to prefer the Tournament Word List which doesn't exclude politically incorrect words as this does. Words such as Jew, for example, are not included in this book. This dictionary also doesn't include the pronunciation of words which for its cost it should. The tournament word list also doesn't include pronunciations or even definitions, but it is inclusive of all words allowed in tournament Scrabble games sanctioned by the National Scrabble Players Association. I wouldn't say I hate it because it is easy to read, due to the large size of its fonts, and its illustrations of many words are often informative.

I bought this dictionary used as a Christmas gift because I couldn't afford it new... or so I thought. The book was listed as being in "very good" condition so I had high expectations. However, when it arrived I was greatly disappointed. The edges of the dust cover are pretty beat up and it's dirty and has what appear to be smudge stains on it. The inside of the cover has writing on it from its previous owner which greatly annoys me because although it's used, I would like to play it off as new since it's a gift but now that's virtually impossible. The worst part is that on the inside of the dust cover the original price of the book is listed from when it was first sold in 2008 (4 yrs ago), it was \$35.00. I bought it used and as an older edition and I bought it for \$41.00. I'm upset to say the least, clearly I've been ripped off and I will most definitely be sending this book back!

This dictionary is a joy to browse, and organized for easy use when your Scrabble partner plays a dubious word. There are usually one or more sidebars on every page; many with full-color illustrations, giving more information in one of four areas: origin, extended definitions, fun facts about the word, or detailed illustrations. The format is very useful, with all the various forms in bold, followed by a brief definition: FORM v -ED -ING -S to produce FORMABLE adj FORMABLY adv All variant spellings are listed, and Canadian forms flavour the listing too. For words whose meaning are obvious when the prefix of re- or un- are added, those words are listed without any definitions in a multi-page sidebar; very handy. The lists of words in the back are quite helpful; I didn't know there were so many 8 letter words with five vowels! Almost two pages worth. I appreciate that since this dictionary is for a family game, words that would get a vulgar warning in the normal dictionary are not included. So sorry, Billy, you can't look up swear words! The book *The Cuckoo's Egg: Tracking a Spy Through the Maze of Computer Espionage* mentions a word jaeger used by a computer hacker that helps the author figure out the hacker's location, and the author found out the meaning from a Scrabble fan! So it is nice to look up that word in this dictionary.

We got this book for "the latest and greatest official words." It has those, but there are not that many new ones, as it turns out. Mostly what it has are distracting photos and articles. A better book would have had index marks indented for quick alphabetical look-ups, larger print, and, an uncluttered layout for getting on with the game without delay or eyestrain.

I would have rated it higher, but the inane illustrations and word origins are a waste of space that could have been put to better use, especially had they more words in the book.

I have been meaning to update my mom's Scrabble dictionary for YEARS since she constantly challenges me on newer words by saying, "If it isn't in the Scrabble dictionary (meaning her outdated one), it's NOT a word!!" Well, ok then... time to get the latest edition! This version in the bookstore was between [...] more than here on . And with the free shipping - it's worth it! AND you save a trip to the store. I personally love the colors, pictures, and little articles. It's good reading again when I'm waiting for my turn to play. :) It also has the updated 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 letter word lists plus lists of words with the "odd" letters (z & q) and lists of words with tons of vowels, etc... Can't wait to give it to her on Christmas!

i purchased the Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (used) and am very pleased with the product. It is a wonderful tool for not only playing scrabble, but also in general information re the origin/history of many words. The book is in excellent condition. In fact, it is like new. I have never purchased a used item thru .com before and am so pleased with this one that I am sure I will try another used item, should the occasion arise. The book arrived in a very timely manner. So, I am pleased with all aspects of this purchase. Thanks

I've only recently gotten serious about Scrabble and started trying to learn some of the weird vocabulary you need to really play well. The dictionary is a must in this regard. Pros: Large, easily readable typeface and lovely layout, which is very nice when you are looking up a lot of words from a wordlist you are studying. Cons: It would be nice to know which words are new (since the previous edition) and also to have a list of words that were deleted from the previous edition, too. Overall, a very nice product for a reasonable price.

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