Grammar Girl's Quick And Dirty Tips For Better Writing

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Synopsis

Online sensation Grammar Girl makes grammar fun and easy in this New York Times bestseller. Are you stumped by split infinitives? Terrified of using "who" when a "whom" is called for? Do you avoid the words "affect" and "effect" altogether? Grammar Girl is here to help! Mignon Fogarty, a.k.a. Grammar Girl, is determined to wipe out bad grammar—but she's also determined to make the process as painless as possible. A couple of years ago, she created a weekly podcast to tackle some of the most common mistakes people make while communicating. The podcasts have now been downloaded more than twenty million times, and Mignon has dispensed grammar tips on Oprah and appeared on the pages of The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal, and USA Today. Written with the wit, warmth, and accessibility that the podcasts are known for, Grammar Girl's Quick and Dirty Tips for Better Writing covers the grammar rules and word-choice guidelines that can confound even the best writers. From "between vs. among" and "although vs. while" to comma splices and misplaced modifiers, Mignon offers memory tricks and clear explanations that will help readers recall and apply those troublesome grammar rules. Chock-full of tips on style, business writing, and effective e-mailing, Grammar Girl's print debut deserves a spot on every communicator's desk. --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book was created by a woman who runs an active podcast. That is, she is used to doing weekly little "tips" about how to handle a grammar situation. That's very cool in a quick-blurb world, but you can really see those roots in this book. There's no real coherence here, and if you pick the
book up looking for help with a given situation you'll have to dig to find the answer. One chapter is called "I'm So Stylish". What is that about? Apparently it's about writing "I'm sooooooooooooo happy" and that not being good grammar. Would I have ever thought to look in that chapter for that information? Would I have ever really wondered if spelling so with 18 Os was correct? The book is cute. If you read little snippets every day - perhaps as a "bathroom book" - you're sure to pick up some tips here. You learn about "that" vs "who". You learn about "like" vs "as". You might think a lot of these differences are minor. If you do a Google search you're sure to find people using every mis-spelling that exists, and breaking every grammar rule. However, it all comes down to being professional to your audience. If you continually mis-spell "existence" maybe 50% of your readers won't care - but the other 50% will be more and more turned off by your repeated mistakes. If we want to communicate clearly, it certainly is in all of our best interest to learn the proper rules and to try our best to follow them. I'm sure we can all name awful websites we have been to where the grammar was so awful that we could not follow what the person was saying. There are of course different degrees of this problem - so the more clearly you can write, the better! So in general I agree greatly with the premise. I think we should all learn to write more clearly.

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