



Sherlock Holmes for Dummies

Steven Doyle , David A. Crowder

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Get a comprehensive guide to this important literary figure and his author.

A classic literary character, Sherlock Holmes has fascinated readers for decades -- from his repartee with Dr. Watson and his unparalleled powers of deduction to the settings, themes, and villains of the stories. Now, this friendly guide offers a clear introduction to this beloved figure and his author, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, presenting new insight into the detective stories and crime scene analysis that have made Sherlock Holmes famous.

Inside you'll find easy-to-understand yet thorough information on the characters, recurring themes, and locations, and social context of the Sherlock Holmes stories, the relationship of these stories to literature, and the forensics and detective work they feature. You'll also learn about the life of the author.

Better understand and enjoy this influential literary character with this plain-English guide. Gain insight on these classic Doyle tales -- from the classic Hound of the Baskervilles to the lesser-known short stories to Holmes stories written by other mystery writers. Explore the appearance of Sherlock Holmes on film, TV, and stage. Examine Holmes today -- from the ever-expanding network of fans worldwide to story locations that fans can visit. It's elementary! *Sherlock Holmes For Dummies* is an indispensable guide for students and fans alike!

Sherlock Holmes for Dummies Details

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From Reader Review Sherlock Holmes for Dummies for online ebook

Richard says

More than you could ever imagine you would want to know about the Great Detective. Every time I thought I would quit reading this, something else would jump out at me that I had to find out about. Many explanations of all that Victorian stuff, the characters and everything else in the stories.

Excellent table of contents, index and list of Sherlock Holmes societies in North America, including two where I live.

NJ Wong says

Excellent book about the Sherlock Holmes stories. Unlike other "For Dummies" books that I have read, I feel that the contents in this book is actually more useful for a reader who has already read the Sherlock Holmes stories, than one who has not. As the book provides a lot of analysis and background info about the stories and characters in general (i.e. trivia).

I will heartily recommend this book to anyone who is already a fan of the stories, and wants to know more about the character. This book will not be helpful to someone who is not already a Holmes fan.

Amy says

Decent book. Much better if you are reading it for a few sections rather than cover to cover like I did.

Each section is made to stand alone, so a lot of stuff is repeated.

It has some good information on the books, but I have yet to read all of them, so be careful if you don't want to be spoiled.

I liked the sections where it talked about the adaptations of different books/movies/series about Holmes, though this was written just before the Robert Downey Jr. movies and BBC's Sherlock started. Would have thought they would have delayed going to print a little so that those could be included. Maybe there will be an updated Dummies book soon?

So, it is a good resource for the casual fan. If you are a huge fan of the Doyle books, you will really like this - unless you know everything already ;)

Alison says

I found this book helpful in giving me background knowledge for Laurie R. King's Mary Russell series.

Amy J says

Full of fantastic information, I loved this book. I gathered a plethora of information for further investigations.

Rozonda says

Excellent book. I have been a Sherlockian for nearly all of my life,. have read all of the Canon and lots of pastiches, parodies, and essays on the Great DEtective. And yet, I have learned a lot from this book and enjoyed it thoroughly. Reccomended.

Apokripos says

I'm such a dummy! 8`P

Alice Doherty says

An all-together very interesting read for Holmesians and people who simply wish to understand the canon better. It's really informative, especially with historical references and breakdowns of each story. I will certainly use this book for further reference as I read more of Arthur Conan Doyle's works.

Amy Adams says

This is a great book for any Sherlock Holmes fan, old or new.

Jia Hui says

So far so good, all of the chapters were very detailed and in depth. Going to finish it and see how the book is as a whole.

UPDATED

Just finished speed reading through the last few chapters and I have to say I'm impressed with the amount of information there is in just over 300 pages. It must have took ages to collaborate all the different information from different places. I especially liked chapter on the villains and other characters, the chapter on Sherlock Holmes's detective skills and strategies and the chapter on the top 10 Sherlock Holmes related places to visit! Definitely a 5 for this book!

Ian says

Very informative. I do have a couple of nitpicks though. First of all, there are too. Many. Exclamation. Points. To quote Mr. Lippman from Seinfeld, "Get rid of the exclamation points. I hate exclamation points." Also, and I can't fault the book for this obviously, but it came out before the wonderful BBC series Sherlock, which I would've loved to have read more about. Besides those issues, not bad for the first ...for Dummies book I've ever read.

Portia Costa says

A wonderful guide to the world and the cases of Sherlock Holmes. Being a Dummies book, the information is presented in a lighter, easy to follow, slightly humorous way, but still the main author, **Steven Doyle**, shines through as meticulous Holmes scholar whose enthusiasm and love for the Great Detective makes for a super read.

Reading this has made me eager to read more of the original Sherlock Holmes stories, to discover how different they are from some of the cinematic interpretations.

Grace Best-Page says

I bought this as a gift for someone, but perused it before wrapping it. I'm glad I did, as I had thought I knew all there was to know about my hero and his life and times, but was pleasantly surprised to learn even more about what surrounds him.

Sarah says

This solid reference work delves deeply into the canon and culture of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's immortal sleuth, Sherlock Holmes. From prefatory matters like Conan Doyle's life and inspiration for creating his detective to the postscripts of the myriad Sherlockian societies and adaptations in all media, this book covers it all, albeit briefly. Then again, there would hardly be room for Victorian London and all of Holmes' literary offspring if each of the short stories received the level of attention paid to *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. The authors are clearly serious fans, given the level of research and adulation, but they leaven the facts with humor.

Joanna says

One of the better resources actually. Full of information.
