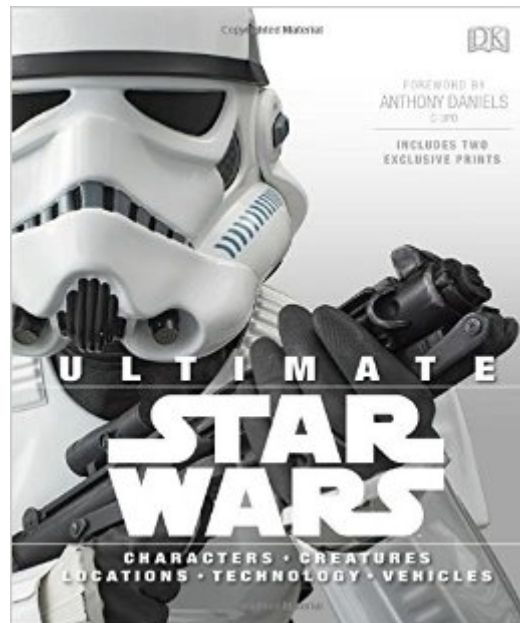


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Ultimate Star Wars



Synopsis

Become an expert on the Star Wars galaxy! Ultimate Star Wars® is an in-depth visual feast exploring the characters and storylines from the Star Wars galaxy. This is a beautifully illustrated guide that is structured chronologically and packed full of information about key characters and storylines from the Star Wars movie saga, The Clone Wars, and Rebels™. Ultimate Star Wars will get new and old fans caught up and knowledgeable on all things Star Wars. © & TM 2015 LUCASFILM LTD.

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Customer Reviews

View larger "A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away...." Foreword by Anthony Daniels - C-3PO

Ultimate Star Wars is a comprehensive, wonderfully detailed encyclopedia of the entire Star Wars galaxy that explores characters, creatures, locations, vehicles, technology, and more. Reflecting the saga's epic scope, Ultimate Star Wars is structured chronologically from Episode I: The Phantom Menace to Episode VI: Return of the Jedi, including Star Wars: The Clone Wars and Star Wars Rebels. This book also highlights key events from the saga and provides fascinating insights into the making of the Star Wars movies. Question to the authors: What is your favorite quote from the saga and why? Ryder Windham: "Sir, if any of my circuits or gears will help, I'll gladly donate them." That's what See-Threepio tells Luke after Artoo-Detoo is damaged in the first Star Wars movie. I've organized many blood drives with the Star Wars costumer clubs, and I always mention that quote because it's a great example of someone giving selflessly to help another. And it genuinely helps encourage fans to give blood. Q: Was

there anything that surprised you in working through the material for this book? Adam Bray: Star Wars is in the midst of a major transition, both in terms of what came before and what is coming in the future. Most surprising and gratifying was the level of freedom that Lucasfilm afforded us to frame the histories of each entry in the book. I think fans young and old alike will be excited to browse through the book and read a fresh take on the Star Wars universe. [Characters and Creatures](#) [Locations](#) [Technology](#) [Vehicles](#) A visually stunning, encyclopedic guide spanning the entire Star Wars galaxy.

[Key Event: Training on Dagobah](#) Compelled by Ben Kenobi's spirit to find a Jedi Master on Dagobah, Luke Skywalker begins his arduous Jedi training with Yoda. [View larger](#)

[R2-D2](#) Never reluctant to risk his own destruction to help his allies, R2-D2 has a close association with the protocol droid C-3PO, with whom he has participated in numerous historic battles. [View larger](#)

[Characters and Creatures](#) Tauntaun: Rebel soldiers discover tauntauns living in ice caves while building Echo Base. Tauntauns are easily domesticated and used as pack animals. Well adapted for cold, they have thick scales and fur, and can slow their metabolism to survive Hoth's freezing nights. [View larger](#)

[Vehicles Timeline](#) In a dangerous and unpredictable galaxy, vehicles have defined the course of civilization. They have been used as the means of exploration, for transportation and entertainment, and as awesome weapons of war. [View larger](#)

Ultimate Star Wars is a great book that will appeal of fans of all ages and interest levels. One of the authors, Ryder Windham, has worked on many great Star Wars books previously and does a great job compiling detailed information about the movies and their components. In his introduction, he begins with an interesting point: think of Ewoks, or Lobot, or the Slave I. These are never mentioned by name in the films, yet most casual fans are aware of them and know their names. That means they somehow absorbed that information from another source - perhaps the internet, a video game, a novel, an animated series, or maybe even an encyclopedia like this. The book is organized by topics - the first half of the book is Characters and Creatures, and then the second half of the book covers things like Locations, Technology, and Vehicles. Appearing at various points throughout the

encyclopedia are "Key Events" (the Duel on Mustafar, Training on Dagobah, etc.) The book is full of detail... each major character gets a biography, important events which they were involved, and sometimes other tidbits of info such as their wardrobe, their weapons, etc. Important characters like Princess Leia and Obi-Wan Kenobi get a full 2-page spread, while smaller characters like Poggle the Lesser or Jek Porkins only get a fraction of a page. But it's the inclusion of these small characters and creatures (who may only be on screen for a few seconds) that make the encyclopedia useful and comprehensive. Each section also includes a "timeline" and a "behind the scenes". So for example, the section on vehicles will have a Vehicle Timeline that covers the major events in the saga involving ships and transports - the Boonta Eve podrace, the Battle of Yavin (which destroyed the Death Star), etc. Then there will be a behind the scenes page that shows an AT-AT miniature, an early TIE fighter and X-Wing concept sketch, etc. For those wondering what canon is used for the encyclopedia, it seems to be the six Star Wars films as well as the Clone Wars and Rebels TV series. In looking through the book, I could not find any included subjects that were strictly EU and did not appear in the films/animated series. I should also mention that the book includes a nice foreword by Anthony Daniels, who briefly discusses the complexity of the saga and admits that despite his involvement in the saga over 30 years even he doesn't know all the facts. Overall, this is a highly-recommended product. The casual Star Wars fan will likely learn a lot; and even the most die-hard fans should learn something obscure that they did not know before. For a high-res image gallery, visit my blog:

movieartbook.com/2015/04/ultimate-star-wars-book-review.html You can also see my HD unboxing/flip-through here: [youtube.com/watch?v=VcjBp5Nip3o](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VcjBp5Nip3o) Thanks for reading, I hope this review was helpful!

DK Books' *Ultimate Star Wars* is a rather interesting book. This isn't just an updated ultimate visual guide to Star Wars. Instead, this is like five essential guides all rolled up into one. There's a section covering characters and creatures, a section for locations, a section for technology, and a section for vehicles. There are also timelines, and in general, the whole book is sorted in chronological order. So if you're looking for a character whose name you don't know, you can quickly flip to where they appeared in the films/tv shows. Yet the real objective of this book is a bit more bold than that. With the division between Legends and canon, this is the first guide to gather everything that is canon under one cover. In a way, it's the essential guide for the new era. At 319 pages, *Ultimate Star Wars* covers a lot of material. For fans new to the franchise or not that steeped in the material, this will be a book that will help you dig

deeper into the galaxy far, far away regardless of your age. Each section starts off with a timeline to help you sort through the material. There are lots of pictures to help you identify the element you're looking for. And buried within all those pages is a lot of detail pulled from the canon material. Keep in mind that everything in this book counts. It's all canon. However, for some fans, the lack of expanded universe material may be a drawback. As a long time Star Wars reader and a big fan of the EU, one thing I noticed when reading this book was how limited the knowledge was of the various characters. Quite simply, it's because the only things we know now are from the movies and the television shows. As of yet, we only have a handful of canon comic and books to draw upon for extra material. As Dan Wallace said, we have to unlearn what we have learned. The EU was a massive wealth of obscure, humorous and detailed background information, but now that it's all Legends, we have to be aware of what is actually canon. In that regard, Ultimate Star Wars is a very valuable resource as it can remind us of exactly that. What is Jango Fett's official backstory? Is Mace Windu still from Haruun Kal? Who is Darth Maul's mom? All of those questions and more are answered in this book, definitively. Reading through the early parts of the book, I did find myself going over a lot of stuff I already knew. With the big characters, and with the book sticking to canon, there's not much for well versed readers to learn. However, I did keep finding things as I went along. For instance, I didn't realize that the Gungans have two subspecies, the Otolla Gungans (Jar Jar) and the Ankura Gungans (Boss Nass). I didn't know that Ben Quadinaros went on to become Sebulba's greatest rival, or that Gasgano came in second place in the big podrace in The Phantom Menace. I learned that the name of the Tusken Raider who attacked Luke in A New Hope is named UroRruR (which is hilarious). Another thing I didn't know is that Yarael Poof, the extremely long necked Jedi Master on the council, had two brains and an extra set of arms (which are hidden under his robes). A few cool things to see set in stone was that Lando is still from Socorro, the Sandtrooper's pauldron ranking is laid out, and Obi-Wan really is from a planet called Stewjon. There are some errors in the book, though. Even Piell is accidentally listed as a Zabrak from Nar Shaddaa, the clone trooper's affiliation is Separatists, and Savage Opress species is Dathomirian. Still, with a book this size, there are going to be some errors, and there really aren't that many. What's more interesting are the things that are left unstated. For example, the book does not say that Boba Fett died in the sarlacc. Perhaps a hint that we may be seeing the armored bounty hunter once again? Overall, the book is pretty neat and definitely serves a purpose no matter how knowledgeable of a Star Wars fan you are. While the timelines aren't going to be very useful for those steeped in the universe, and the character

entries might be hit and miss, you will find things of interest. Personally, I really enjoyed the obscure characters from the Prequels, like the podracers. I got a lot out of the Star Wars Rebels characters as there were things there I didn't know or hadn't put together. There were a lot of fun things for the Original Trilogy characters, and the locations, technology and ship sections are all very cool. Whether it's a close-up shot of a lightsaber hilt or new stats for a starship, there is something to catch your attention. For the ship nuts out there, the Imperial I-class Star Destroyer is now 1,600 meters with 72 TIE fighters, 8 Lambda-class Imperial shuttles, 20 AT-ATs, 30 AT-STs or AT-DPs, 15 Imperial troop transports, 60 Taim & Bak XX-9 heavy turbolaser batteries, 60 Borstel NK-7 ion cannons, a contingent of 9,700 stormtroopers and crew of 27,850 enlisted officers and 9,235 officers. So yeah, they don't skimp on the stats, however, they do dodge them on the Super Star Destroyer so we still have to guess on how big that thing really is. In comparison to all of the guide books that have come before it, Ultimate Star Wars has a rich field of competition. Visually, it's hard to beat the Star Wars: The Complete Visual Dictionary as the layout of that book puts all the cool visual elements right next to each other for easy reference. However, it does combine everything into one book, which is very handy. Need to look up a blaster? The name of an Ewok? Or do you need to know what sector Cato Neimodia is in? Now you can get all those answers in one book without pulling up Wookieepedia and wondering if this is canon or Legends. In the end, that is the big draw of the book. This is the first guide to canon. Our knowledge is now limited to the first six films, Star Wars: The Clone Wars, Star Wars Rebels, and a small but growing handful of books and comics. At the kickoff point, this is a good book to get everyone started on the same page. As such, I give Ultimate Star Wars a four out of five. While not perfect, it still provides a lot of fun and useful content for Star Wars fans of all types.

DK publishing has released Ultimate Star Wars today, and, much like the title suggests, it is the ultimate book for Star Wars knowledge and information. This gorgeous, 320 page book is the most current, up to date resource for all things canonical in the Star Wars saga, and is a must have for any Star Wars fan. Not only does it answer many of your Star Wars questions, but invites fans in, both new and old, into the universe we all know and love so well. The layout is a visual splendor as well; if you are a Star Wars fan, this is the ultimate encyclopedia for you. The book looks at the series chronologically (films, animated series, and comics), and provides the most up to date information and resources on the saga. The layout is exquisite and pleasant to behold, and the prose is insightful, intelligent, and accessible. This should be no surprise, particularly since the four authors (Ryder Windham, Daniel Wallace, Adam Bray, and Tricia Barr) are no stranger to Star

Wars, and are all excellent writers in their own right. Whether the focus is on key events from the saga, characters, vehicles, or technology, the information gleaned through the text and layout are a proverbial banquet of information for fans. Once you have read the book, you will be hard-pressed to discuss Star Wars without it. This is a must-read book for any Star Wars fan, and is an outstanding resource. With so many things out now as part of the canon, Ultimate Star Wars is your gateway to retake your first step into a larger world, with all the knowledge you will need at your fingertips. Ultimate Star Wars is available wherever books are sold. Be sure to check it out today, as you won't be disappointed. Go grab a copy, get a cup of coffee, and let the debating and analysis begin anew!

5 out of 5

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