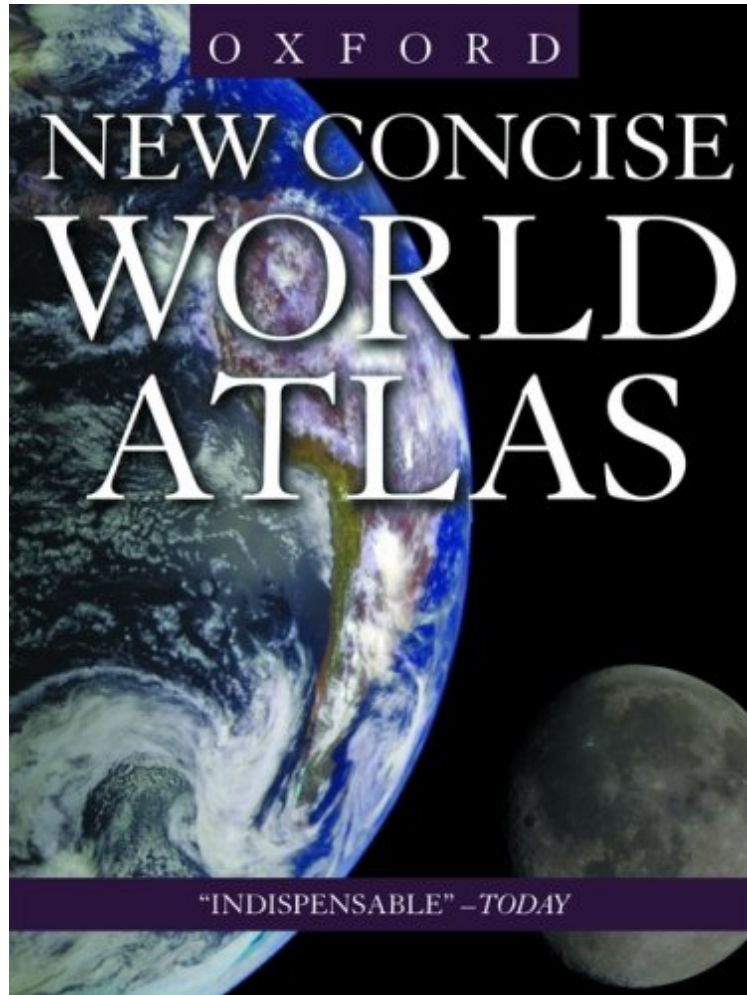


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## Oxford New Concise World Atlas

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From Publishers Weekly The editors of this marvelous atlas have managed to bundle hundreds of extraordinary, full-color maps into one well-organized, manageable volume. Revised to provide updated boundaries and province names in places like Afghanistan, the Czech Republic, Iran, Lebanon, Paraguay and Venezuela, the book also includes a chapter on geographic areas that have struggled with conflict over the past year. Twenty-two essays on the Earth's physical and sociopolitical characteristics appear in a section titled "Earth in Space," while another section, "World Statistics," lists the area, population and annual income of all the countries and territories in the world. The book also contains information on the population of the world's principal cities and extensive data on the world's climate and physical dimensions (including seas, mountains, rivers and lakes). The maps are of excellent quality, and the volume's size-10" by 13"-is perfect: the names of cities and rivers are big enough to be easily readable, but the volume is not unwieldy. For those in need of a reference book, this is an unquestionably sound buy. Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From School Library Journal Grade 6 Up This well-designed, slightly oversized atlas packs in an enormous amount of information. It opens with endpapers that provide a world and European map, a key, and an abbreviated index. The essential one-page "User Guide" discusses graphic aides and the sequential order of the visuals. The six pages of world statistics that follow (countries, cities, climates, physical dimensions, and regions in the news) are straightforward. An added plus is the "Earth in Space" section, a mini-encyclopedia that discusses a range of topics from the beginnings of the universe through the evolution of the natural and human worlds today. Along with essays, this section informs readers with charts, graphs, and diagrams. The impressive photographs also include satellite images. Six sections of detailed but easy-to-read colorful maps constitute the bulk of the book. Each begins with single-page physical and political maps of the region or continent it covers. Those that follow span spreads; some include insets. While not as thorough as the Times Atlas of the World: Comprehensive Edition (Crown, 1999), this up-to-date volume offers solid information on a wealth of topics, clear visuals, and an extensive index to the maps. Tina Hudak, St. Bernard of Clairvaux, Riverdale Park, MD Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. "This well-designed, slightly oversized atlas packs in an enormous amount of information...this up-to-date volume offers solid information on a wealth of topics, clear visuals, and an extensive index to the maps."--School Library Journal "Among the throng of 'concise,' 'compact,' 'quick,' 'essential,' atlases published over the last two years, this is among the more sophisticated, both in terms of map coverage and indexing....Recommended for all libraries."--Choice "...this up-to-date volume offers solid information on a wealth of topics, clear visuals, and an extensive index to the maps."--School Library Journal "This atlas offers excellent value for the price."--Library Journal