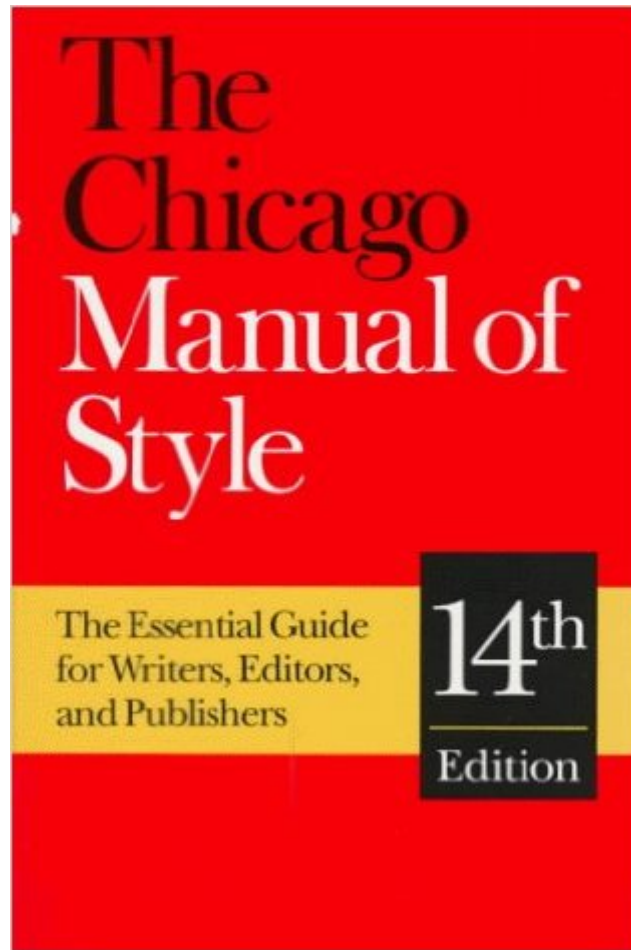


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The Chicago Manual Of Style: The Essential Guide For Writers, Editors, And Publishers (14th Edition)



Synopsis

The Chicago Manual of Style: The Essential Guide for Writers, Editors, and Publishers (14th Edition)

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Customer Reviews

If I somehow found myself in a scenario where I was coerced to operate a grammar hotline but restricted to having a single reference at my disposal, then the Chicago Manual of Style would be my weapon of choice. This venerable, thorough guide to editing and writing may be getting a bit dated, yet it remains an indispensable reference for serious editors and writers in nearly all disciplines. Two main attributes---its organization and its completeness---make this reference so valuable. For example, chapter 5, a treatise on the pleasure and pain of punctuation, starts with the various forms of terminal punctuation before moving into a substantial discussion on the comma (there are more than 20 subpoints discussed on the uses of the comma) and concluding with a roundup of the remaining commonly used marks of punctuation. It's easy to find out the distinction between, say an en-dash and an em-dash, or get a definitive answer about why we need to include serial commas (despite the outdated advice offered by the badly out-of-step AP Style Manual). The advice about names and terms found in chapter 7 seems daunting at first, but the presentation is, again, so well-organized and complete, that, after some study, you will start catching all the errors that make their way into too much printed material these days. The advice here about when to

capitalize words such as "federal," "government," or "state" trumps the misleading, confusing dictums of other outmoded texts such as the United States Government Printing Office Style Manual. One more example of why the Chicago Manual of Style is a beacon of calm authority can be found in the common sense approach to the difficult issue of being consistent in the use of numbers.

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