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Merriam-Webster's Italian-English Dictionary (Italian Edition)



Synopsis

Clear, precise definitions deliver the words you need to enable quick and easy understanding. Readers can speak and write accurately as IPA pronunciations are abundant.

Book Information

Mass Market Paperback: 416 pages

Publisher: Merriam-Webster, Inc.; 1 Blg edition (May 1, 2010)

Language: Italian

ISBN-10: 0877798583

ISBN-13: 978-0877798583

Product Dimensions: 4.3 x 1 x 7 inches

Shipping Weight: 9.9 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.3 out of 5 stars 37 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #85,562 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #43 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Foreign Languages > Italian](#) #161 in [Books > Textbooks > Reference > Dictionaries](#) #829 in [Books > Reference > Dictionaries & Thesauruses > Foreign Language Dictionaries & Thesauruses](#)

Customer Reviews

Merriam Webster Inc, Springfield, MA

Folks, It's finally here. I have been using the Baron's Italian Dictionary on my kindle for quite awhile. In terms of a straight-up dictionary, I like Baron's. However, in terms of a kindle dictionary, it is lacking. It cannot recognize conjugated verbs or even plural words. You have to figure out the root word, type it in manually, and then use the 5-way to move to the right and highlight the "dictionary" button to look things up. It's doable, but you have to have some working knowledge of the language in order to go from, for example, a conjugated verb to the root verb. And on the words it can look up, it does not show pronunciation. You have to open the full dictionary to see that. The Merriam-Webster's dictionary does not have these limitations. It recognizes conjugated verbs and gives you the root verb. It shows pronunciation right on the screen. It recognizes plural words. It also points out PALAVRA CHIAVE (key word) on important words. It does have trouble with apostrophe-joined words, but that's completely understandable (Baron's can't handle that either). The other Italian dictionary for Kindle (Andrei Pushkin and Dima Suponau) seems to also handle these things to some extent, but I downloaded the sample, and it's not near as comprehensive as

the Merriam-Webster's. In addition, right now the Merriam-Webster's is cheaper (don't know how long that will hold). I still like Baron's for straight lookup, and I have found that having both is advantageous. Each one gives a little different perspective on some definitions, and I've seen some things missing here that are in Baron's. However, the number of words and completeness of definitions in Merriam-Webster's is nothing to sneeze at. And as the default dictionary for reading Italian texts, the Merriam-Webster is the hands-down winner. Thumbs up. UPDATE: April 12, 2012 - I have spent some time now both with this dictionary and Baron's. I'm knocking off one star for reasons already mentioned on the reviews. It is not as comprehensive as Baron's. Now Baron's sometimes also misses some words, but this dictionary is missing more words than I would like to see. It's still very useful, and it still has the key advantage of understanding verb conjugations, plurals, etc. That functionality along with having _just enough_ words to be useful keeps it at four stars. If it didn't conjugate, I'd knock it down to a 3 or 2 most likely due to missing words. Would I still recommend it? Absolutely! Would I buy this dictionary alone? No. I use both this one and Baron's. When this one is missing a word, I go to Baron's and usually find it. I have this dictionary set as my kindle default dictionary when reading Italian books. When it doesn't find a word, I switch over to Baron's manually and look. You really need them both.

Unless you read simple texts written in modern Italian you will be disappointed. In a little more than one chapter of Pirandello, I came across 4 words that this dictionary does not recognize: ammiccare (to wink), trabaccolo (small fishing vessel), leggiucchiare (to read with difficulty) and infocato (or its variant: infuocato = blazing hot). Mind you these are Italian words, not Sicilian dialect.

This is a great dictionary, but the latest update to the kindle reader for ipad (downloaded on february 16, 2013), changed something so that now searches do NOT turn up most headwords (because of the apostrophes separating the syllables). The searches now turn up parts of words and find the full word in the definition (where the syllables are not marked off by appostrophes!). Needs an urgent fix, please. Being able to search outside the headwords and for parts of words would be a nice secondary option. It would be even nicer if the dictionary could suggest the correct spelling (eg if you search for "smarrito" but leave off an "r" it would be nice if, like google, ithe search would suggest the correct spelling.

Good dictionary for use w Kindle Italian books--I am studying Italian. But not all nouns or verbs are recognized, especially if conjugated or combined w other words, as is common with pronouns and

verbs. But in order to define words in Kindle app, you have to buy a Ital-Eng dictionary from . This is a good dictionary at a reasonable price

It's pretty useless.

I have purchased three Italian-English dictionaries for my Paperwhite Kindle and none of them define words inside the text as I'm reading. I have taken turns making each of the three dictionaries my default dictionary and still none work. Any advice? PS My Merriam-Webster Spanish dictionary works well!

When it knows the word you're looking for, the translation and usage is helpful. But frankly it's just hit and miss overall. I've been reading the newspaper la Stampa, and more often than not, the dictionary has no entry for the word I need to look up. I'd love to see an updated release that has a more complete vocabulary.

I found the selection of words to be too small. I am a fluent Italian speaker and I found many relatively common words missing from the dictionary. This would be a useful tool for beginners, but not for anyone who is an experienced or more than casual speaker.

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