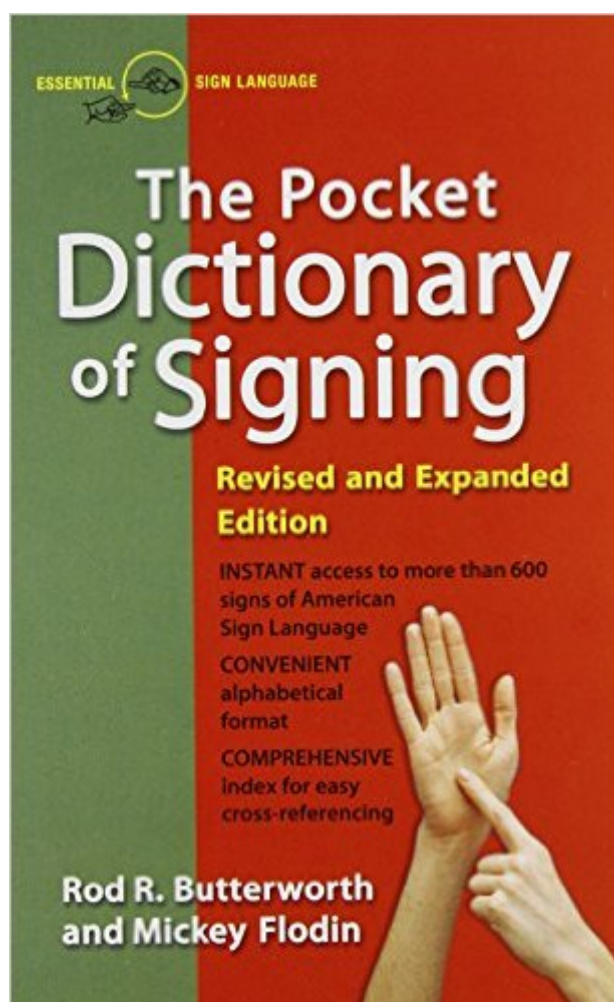


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The Pocket Dictionary Of Signing



Synopsis

With more than 100,000 copies in print, this easy-to-use pocket edition of Ameslan has become a classic in its field. Arranged in a dictionary format, the revised and expanded edition contains over 600 signing entries with accompanying directions, illustrations, and sample sentences.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

First of all, unless you have HUGE pockets, this thing is not a pocket dictionary. I'd recommend The Random House Webster's Pocket American Sign Language Dictionary if you want something that really does fit in your pocket. Also, don't be wowed by claims that this book gives you access to "over 600 signs." Six hundred is not very many, in the grand scheme of things, and my estimate is that about three in ten signs you'll be looking for (at least), you won't be able to find in this book. However, that's mostly a natural trade-off: if you want a book in a portable size, you have to sacrifice some of the less common words. Less acceptable is the fact that, in my edition, at least, many words are not included in the main dictionary but in an "addendum" at the back. There's no reason other than editorial laziness for not updating the book by including them in the main dictionary section, and this takes off major marks in my book, since it sometimes means having to look up a sign twice - again, often to discover that it's simply not in the book. Also mystifying is the fact that there is an index at the back of the book. In my opinion, if a dictionary is doing its job, the index isn't necessary. The index also isn't cross-referenced with page numbers; it's basically just a word list, with words highlighted in bold if they're in the book somewhere. There's also the fact that the illustrations show hands only, in stark contrast to my pocket ASL dictionary of choice, the

Random House Webster's, which shows full torsos for most signs, along with facial expressions. Hand shape is only one attribute of an ASL sign, but this book pays little attention to these other important features.

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