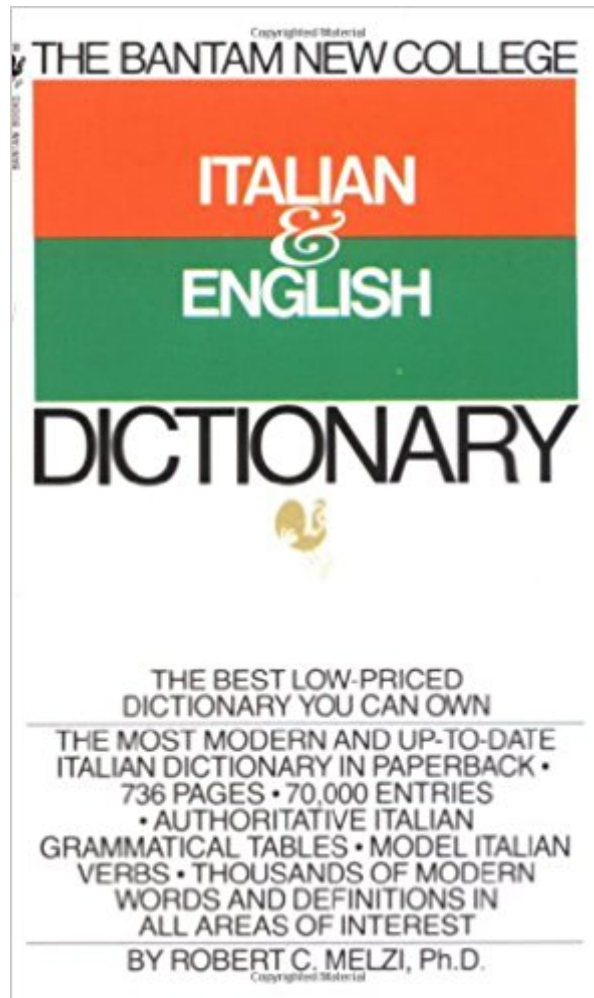




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The Bantam New College Italian & English Dictionary



Synopsis

With 736 pages and more than 70,000 entries--no other portable Italian and English paperbound dictionary offers you so much a so reasonable a price. The Bantam New College Italian & English Dictionary is the finest low-priced dictionary you can own, the most complete, the most convenient to use. Designed by foremost authorities, it includes thousands of modern words and definitions you are not likely to find elsewhere. Among the special features: concise Italian grammar, a table of Italian irregular verbs, and a guide to Italian pronunciation. All in one, easy-to-use, easy-to-carry compact volume.

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As I wrote for the similarly priced Barron's ("Pocket Dictionary") this is a great dictionary if, uh, this is the kind of dictionary you want. It is taller than the Barron's but less thick and carries easily. It has **MANY** more words than the Barron's (though they claim the same number). But the print is smaller, basic black, and not simple to read. It has NO phonetic spellings. But if all you want is the definition, this is the one to buy if you want one to carry around. The Barron's is shorter, thicker (1.5 inches---doesn't fit in pant's pocket--neither does the Bantam but the Bantam doesn't claim to be a pocket dictionary). The Barron's has phonetic spelling. Not important to me but important for many. The Barron's has blue print for the entries and is easier to read. Fewer words but plenty for travellers. So if you want more words, go Bantam; if you want easier to read and can live with the fewer (but plenty) words and can handle a fat little book, go Barron's. To me, if you're a real student then buy the big \$16 Barron's (not the "Pocket"). Not portable but has everything and easier to read.

This is my second copy although I'm still using my highly annotated first copy. I loved Bantam's New College Latin-English Dictionary (I wore out at least three of them over several semesters) and the Italian-English version is just as useful for anyone studying Italian.

Seems like a good dictionary. The product is old and says published in 1976 even though the description said 1984 (which is still old) The only reason I bought it was because it was the brand recommended by my Italian teacher and I could not find a newer edition. Not sure I would have bought it if the description said 1976. That is a long time ago. The product does look like almost new even though it has been sitting on a shelf for thirty- forty years. I already have the large Barron's version so was looking for something smaller that I could carry to class.

After more than 30 years in existence this is still the best pocket size dictionary of its kind. I have a Master's Degree in Italian and lived in Italy for 9 years. When translating the many many texts, both historical and contemporary, required on a graduate level I was surprised at how often the Melzi dictionary was all I needed before going to my huge hardbound Garzanti dictionary. What I

particularly like is that Melzi gives you so many of the idiomatic expressions and constructions that use the word in such a way that are incomprehensible if you are limited to the normal definition. Language is always changing so you're bound to find expressions and uses that are too new to be covered but for quality standard Italian of the 19th and 20th centuries you can't go wrong here.

The print is so tiny I can hardly see it unless I use a magnifying glass which is a pain.

The words are really small, and there is no phonetic pronunciation of the Italian word. Good for a quick reference dictionary if you have great eyesight and good light. Everyone perceives products based on their own resources and needs. This may be sufficient for you, but in that I am learning Italian, I probably should get a bigger dictionary.

The size of this is great w/ helpful grammatical tables of the definite articles, pronouns and adjectives as well as useful verb tables and model verbs not found in my textbook which made a huge difference doing my homework. I did purchase a second dictionary that was heavier and seems to have more obscure words in it but this has still been a great buy for me. I haven't taken it out for a trial run in Italy yet but would definitely bring it along as I'm sure it will be more travel friendly than the other dictionary I bought which is heavier and thicker.

Excellent

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