



The Complete Idiot's Guide to Freemasonry

S. Brent Morris

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What is the truth about the Masons suggested in Dan Brown's **The Da Vinci Code**? Can Freemasonry really be dated back as far as Babylon? Did they really coordinate the Boston Tea Party and the American Revolution? What really goes on at a Mason lodge during an initiation? Here is the real story behind the secret society that now boasts nearly five million members (and has included such illustrious fellows as George Washington and Benjamin Franklin), as revealed by a Master Mason.

- Offers a highly illustrated field guide to Masonic jewelry and symbols
- Includes further reading, a glossary, a list of famous Freemasons and information on Freemasonry in popular culture
- Morris is a Master Mason

The Complete Idiot's Guide to Freemasonry Details

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Author : S. Brent Morris

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From Reader Review The Complete Idiot's Guide to Freemasonry for online ebook

E.S. Wynn says

Good resource, but mostly for skeptics, conspiracy theorists and collectors of memorabilia, I think. Could use more detail, but then, there really only is so much that can be said. . .

Jason says

This is a clearly organized, well written reference book on Anglo-American Freemasonry by an author who has been a member of the fraternity for almost four decades. Dr. Morris supports the contention that Freemasonry evolved from a medieval trade guild into a modern fraternal society over the span of roughly two hundred years. He admits that he doesn't see much more than romantic speculation in historical theories that connect Freemasonry with alchemists, the Rosicrucians, the Knights Templar, and the "hermetic tradition" of the ancient Egyptians, and so the book doesn't give this stuff much coverage. It is an excellent reference for the practical, on-the-ground approach to Freemasonry, though. If you want to investigate "basic" Blue Lodge Masonry with its three degrees, or if you want to explore further in the York or Scottish Rites, this is a good book to have on hand.

James of the Redwoods says

Well written overview of the Freemason community.

Steve says

A solid compendium style review. Quick and enjoyable read.

Joshua says

Not as good as "Freemasons for Dummies," but still a good read.

Brian says

I read this as research for my podcast, so nothing about this was embarrassing.

Lynn says

We're new to this fraternity and needed a simple introduction, which this book provides. I found the history quite interesting, although I was already familiar with some of it. The guide to symbols is helpful, as is the brief overview of the various groups that have grown up around the Masons. Perhaps best is the level-headed treatment some of the misconceptions (and outright lies) some outsiders have about this group - the author addresses these, explains how they came to be believed, and presents rational rebuttals, based on freely available evidence.

Art says

Excellent source for the history, philosophy, and practices of Freemasonry. The author discusses Freemasonry's possible relationship to the Knights Templar, differences between the Scottish and York rites, how Masons are initiated, religious concerns about Freemasonry, urban legends and outright lies concerning Freemasonry, and a list of famous Freemasons (i.e. Buzz Aldrin, Nat King Cole, Davy Crockett, Jesse Helms, Rudyard Kipling, Douglas MacArthur, Mozart, Arnold Palmer, Paul Revere, Roy Rogers, Teddy Roosevelt, Harry Truman, Dave Thomas, John Wayne, and Brigham Young to name a few).

Rusty Booth says

Great overview. information is just enough to give you accurate initial evaluation of the craft.

Kip Williams says

I don't know what it is about the Complete Idiot's series but I'm always uncomfortable buying or mentioning them. Maybe the title? Anyway, I was curious to learn more about the Masons but too lazy to chase links all over the web. This was a book presented by a Mason who seemed oddly slanted towards the incredible good the fraternity does for the world. I didn't realize how sensitive the group is to conspiracy theories until Morris corrected all of the incorrect beliefs I didn't have about them. If I did believe the conspiracy theories and had the mistaken beliefs I don't think he would've laid a glove on them. This might be a great book for a fellow to read before his first lodge meeting. I can't recommend it beyond that.

Meshari says

I wanted to know what freemasons are. Wikipedia has a better summary. It may be a good book for a new recruit to freemasonry.
