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TV Guide The Official Collectors Guide: Celebrating An Icon



Synopsis

TV Guide: The Official Collectors Guide is the ultimate price guide for collectors, as well as a history of TV as seen through the pages of TV Guide® magazine. The book contains almost 38,000 covers – all in color, as well as the values of every issue starting from the 1950s. It profiles the history of TV programs by decades and tells collectors where and how to find back issues. The book is 8 1/2 x 11 inches, perfect bound, and has 315 full-color pages. This is the first time every TV Guide digest-size cover has been printed in one publication. Dr. Stephen H. Hofer, a professor of communications at Chicago State University and curator of the Philo T. Farnsworth Television History Center in Auburn, Indiana, is the Editor.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book has thousands of color pictures of TV Guide covers. By just looking at the pictures, I get a complete review course in the history of television. I also never knew that old TV Guides are collectible. Some are even worth thousands! This is a great book. There is a history of TV programs, which I am going to read at some point, but for now, I must admit that I just like looking at the pictures. It really brings back memories.

This book has several major flaws. For a start, there is no index. The only way to locate covers with your favorite stars or shows is to browse the pages year-by-year. The price guide only gives values for "mint condition" issues, with no guidelines for how to adjust value for copies in less than mint

condition. (Most collectors' guides give a range of prices based on condition.) It would have been nice if they had included some lists, such as: the most valuable issues; issues with multiple covers; people who have appeared on the most covers; etc. All of these things are mentioned in the text, but there is no way to look them up except by browsing every listing. Despite these flaws, this is still an invaluable book for collectors, because of its comprehensive checklist.

A mind-bending, if not surreal, parade of TV trivia presented week by week, year by year, era by era. Every single TV Guide cover is shown in true color, from April '53 to the first mag-size issue from autumn of last year. They're arranged as text would be on each page, left-to-right, top-to-bottom and IN ORDER on each page, dated and readily viewable. They even include full displays of all fold-out covers, as well as every version of each multiple cover, such as the one which had to be updated at Michael Landon's death, different regional sport-season previews, and the 25-cover tribute to all the Star Trek cast. The book is in 3 main sections: 1) A 26-page section of blurb overseeing the history of TV Guide and background trivia of many of the covers 2) The section displaying the covers themselves, and 3) A listing of all covers (with dates and captions) and their collectible worth in mint condition. It is bound in durable yet manageable paperback binding. Anyone can invent their own TV trivia diversions just by scanning through this book (i.e. what are the earliest covers featuring people who are still alive? or Who has appeared the most times? or How did TV Guide handle documentarial times and issues [JFK's assassination, 9-11, the advent of cable & PBS etc.], or When did one television era end, and another begin? and the like). The price list section also serves as an easier-to-count ready-reference of all the cover headings. Mad Magazine presented a similar, also top-rate, timeline of all their covers a few years ago upon the advent of their 400th issue. The first such resource to incorporate all the TV Guide digest covers certainly doesn't disappoint.

The book pictures every TV guide cover ever issued. I needed to find a cover from 1966 for some artwork and it was listed. Values for each issue are also listed. I found the book gave me exactly what I was looking for.

I love this book! This has brought back so many visions and memories of years gone by which brings me to a safer place. Whoever can claim the idea for this wonderful masterpiece deserves much credit. Thank you for the nostalgia.

Enhanced with more than 3,700 full color covers from America's most popular, iconic, and widespread weekly magazine, "TV Guide: The Official Collectors Guide" compiled by Stephen F. Hofer (Curator of the Philo T. Farnsworth Television History Center, Auburn, Indiana, and who himself is the owner of one of the largest collections of TV Guide magazines and memorabilia in the United States) covers all the national and regional digest size covers from April 10, 1953 to October 9, 2005. Included are TV Guide foldout covers, holographic covers, and multiple covers. For the antique dealer and hobbyist collector, each issue has the current secondary market prices listed. Featuring memorable quotes from TV Guide and from television shows, "TV Guide: The Official Collectors Guide" is more than a price guide compendium, (and a superb history of the magazine itself), it is also a very highly recommended tour of American television programming through more than fifty years of popular culture.

I could not put this book down. The pages are filled with 3700 beautiful full color reproduction of all the digest covers from 1953 to the last issue Oct.9th 2006. I can now finally put a value on my digest collection. A fascinating book. Great job Bangzoom Publishers.Thank You

I was so happy to receive the TV Guide Official Collector's Guide, it is a great publication!! It has a lot more information than I expected - comments by stars over the years and much more!! It is very colorful and I will enjoy reading it for years to come. My 45 year old son has a collection of TV Guides and I know he will be interested in seeing the publication to see if the ones he has are valuable! Thank you

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