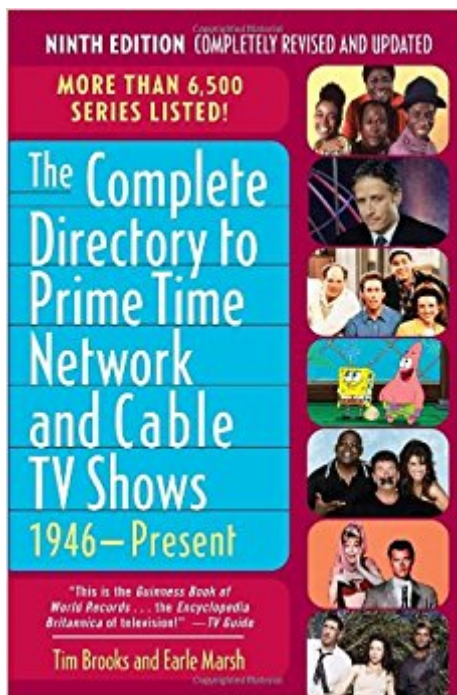




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The Complete Directory To Prime Time Network And Cable TV Shows, 1946-Present



Synopsis

AMERICA'S #1 BESTSELLING TELEVISION BOOK WITH MORE THAN HALF A MILLION COPIES IN PRINT "NOW REVISED AND UPDATED! PROGRAMS FROM ALL SEVEN COMMERCIAL BROADCAST NETWORKS, MORE THAN ONE HUNDRED CABLE NETWORKS, PLUS ALL MAJOR SYNDICATED SHOWS! This is the must-have book for TV viewers in the new millennium "the entire history of primetime programs in one convenient volume. It's a guide you'll turn to again and again for information on every series ever telecast. There are entries for all the great shows, from evergreens like *The Honeymooners*, *All in the Family*, and *Happy Days* to modern classics like *24*, *The Office*, and *Desperate Housewives*; all the gripping sci-fi series, from *Captain Video* and the new *Battle Star Galactica* to all versions of *Star Trek*; the popular serials, from *Peyton Place* and *Dallas* to *Dawson's Creek* and *Ugly Betty*; the reality show phenomena *American Idol*, *Survivor*, and *The Amazing Race*; and the hits on cable, including *The Daily Show* with Jon Stewart, *Top Chef*, *The Sopranos*, *Curb Your Enthusiasm*, *Project Runway*, and *SpongeBob SquarePants*. This comprehensive guide lists every program alphabetically and includes a complete broadcast history, cast, and engaging plot summary "along with exciting behind-the-scenes stories about the shows and the stars. MORE THAN 500 ALL-NEW LISTINGS from *Heroes* and *Grey's Anatomy* to *30 Rock* and *Nip/Tuck* UPDATES ON CONTINUING SHOWS such as *CSI*, *Gilmore Girls*, *The Simpsons*, and *The Real World* EXTENSIVE CABLE COVERAGE with more than 1,000 entries, including a description of the programming on each major cable network AND DON'T MISS the exclusive and updated "Ph.D. Trivia Quiz" of 200 questions that will challenge even the most ardent TV fan, plus a streamlined guide to TV-related websites for those who want to be constantly up-to-date SPECIAL FEATURES! " Annual program schedules at a glance for the past 61 years " Top-rated shows of each season " Emmy Award winners " Longest-running series " Spin-off series " Theme songs " A fascinating history of TV " This is the Guinness Book of World Records . . . the Encyclopedia Britannica of television! " "TV Guide

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

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television! • "TV Guide --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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TV --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

February 2012 Addendum: I just read a comment made by one of the authors, Tim Brooks, which is from an interview he did shortly after this editions publication in October 2007. He stated there that this edition may be the last one. The article can be found here: [...] I can't describe how disappointed I am at this, now belated, news! This is one of my all time favorite books, and I've purchased every edition since around 1988. The tenth edition should have come out nearly four months ago now. I contacted the publisher and they informed me that this book is not on their schedule for publication for the next 12 months. It seems that his comment has now come true. Unless someone else takes it over, we probably seen the last edition of this outstanding publication. I have been purchasing this book since the fourth edition, which was Published in approximately October 1988 or so. I love this book! It tells you pretty much ever wanted to know about a TV show and its cast! I am constantly referring to it when watching my favorite reruns, and often just browse through it, and seem to always across and old favorite that I'd not thought about for some time! I also love the grid section in the back that tells you what each Networks' schedule was like season by season. This book is revised every three (3) or four (4) years. This current edition came out in the Fall of 2007, so the tenth edition should be out within the next couple of months if they follow their previous publication pattern. You can learn not only about the shows, but who was in them, what other shows they did, and occasionally some information about noteworthy guest stars. For the next and/or future editions, though, here are some improvements I would like to see included (in no particular order: The next edition is likely to grow by at least a few hundred pages with all the new shows that have come out since the last edition, so I'd like to see a new, wider page format, similar in size to what the Golden Retriever Movie Hound book is published in. This would also allow them to make the font just a bit larger, too. Some of the synopses seem to end rather abruptly, leaving the reader hanging; it would be good to fix this. If there were some interesting facts behind the show, i.e., ratings issues, and what they did to try improve ratings, or some other controversy or news-worthy event, mention that as well. I'd also like to know what lead to a show being cancelled. Did they decide they'd reached their creative end, like in M*A*S*H? Was it due to declining ratings? Was it some other reason, such as the death of the series lead? Whatever it was, I'd like to see this information included in the synopsis. I also love to have some photographs, perhaps for those historically significant or noteworthy shows. Not tons of photographs, necessarily, just enough to lend some pictorial history. In addition to a larger size font, I'd like to see perhaps a new, more easy-to-read font as well. Nonetheless, this book is a great addition to your library. And

don't ever through your old editions away! Pass them on to a friend or colleague!

Sadly seems is the last edition... authors passed or retired? But well passed the past update cycle. When they started it in the late 70's they were seasoned TV people. Plus now with online first run stuff the whole mix has gotten much more complex. Still a historical reference well worth having.

11/29/2013 2:33pm The Complete Directory to Prime Time have been buying this book for 30 years and it sits right next to me on my shelf, as I always need to look up another series. I wish they would list the number of episodes produced, they do that for syndicated series, cable but not for the main network series. I like this book but I do need say to the authors they should not list the final episode air-date when the network chooses to bring the series back as filler for the summer or an empty time-slot. Another quibble, the book has taken remakes of successful series and combined their histories as one series, including final air-dates, for example "The Odd Couple" 1970-1975 with "The New Odd Couple" 1982-1983. I find the extensive cast credits, timeslot changes, original debut and final air-dates, and the series format/plot/summary and for long-running series, a history, very helpful.

Not much detail is given for most shows. A minor disappointment.

This is the ninth edition of this masterwork television directory, and if rumors are true, it will also be the last print edition. (If there is to be a tenth print edition, it is greatly overdue given the spacing of the first nine editions.) I bought the first edition of this book, and I have bought most of the others too. I keep this book next to the TV and consult it very often. If a series appeared on network or cable television, even briefly, it is in here. The cast lists are very thorough and complete.

Many thanks to Tim Brooks and Earle Marsh for the best book about television series airing on US TV. The 'small screen' companion to Leonard Maltin's 'big screen' movie reviews guide, the Complete Directory to shows has been an indispensable reference for several decades. That there will be no future editions is most disappointing and we can only hope the authors have a change of heart and find the hours in their busy lives to continue what is a very, very valuable information resource!!!!

It's like a trip down memory lane! The only other edition of this book I owned was the version

published in 1987. So this edition is a quantum leap forward. I challenge you to find a more thorough guide to prime time TV. This book has everything - down to the minutest detail. Even if you just scan through this book you'll see in-depth references to shows you've long forgotten about. It really is like flipping through an old family album that has been lost to time or stashed away for years. The memories just come flooding back to you. Special enhanced bonus: the appendixes at the back that break down the shows by longest-running, spin-offs, etc. No kidding: the last time I sat down to read through this book, I let SO MUCH time go by that by the time I put it down I had to shave again. Absolutely worth picking up, but nearly impossible to put down!! Don't believe me? Read some of the other reviews listed here for this simply fantastic reference book. There's a reason everyone gives this book 5 stars!

This is my second version of this book. It is wonderful!!!! I use it for reference almost every day. Great for settling family disputes and answering or verifying trivia questions. Worth its weight in gold. I even enjoy just sitting down and reading it like a book. It is a necessity for anyone who likes to know specifics about television.

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