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Star Wars: The Ultimate Action Figure Collection



Synopsis

Here at last is the complete and definitive collection of the more than 2,500 Star Wars® action figures produced over the last 35 years. Fans and collectors can finally trace the evolution of each character in toy form from the time of their first appearance through the designs of today, with pages of amazing and inventive variations crafted to tell the stories of Luke Skywalker, Darth Maul, and literally hundreds more. Compiled by Stephen J. Sansweet, owner of the world's largest private collection of Star Wars memorabilia, the book also showcases and details the rare, popular, forgotten, and beloved figures coveted by fans the world over, drawing figures from the feature film, video game, and cartoon realms of the vast Star Wars universe.

Book Information

Paperback: 352 pages

Publisher: Chronicle Books; 10/29/12 edition (November 28, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1452111308

ISBN-13: 978-1452111308

Product Dimensions: 9.5 x 1 x 11.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 95 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #175,014 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #6 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Antiques & Collectibles > Dolls, Toys & Figurines > Figurines #10 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Antiques & Collectibles > Performing Arts #21 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Antiques & Collectibles > Dolls, Toys & Figurines > Toys

Customer Reviews

" 8 out of 10. A must have for fans of the Star Wars universe."--Starburst Magazine"Steve Sansweet offers a new landmark accomplishment with this fascinating 352-page full-color tome." - Geek Magazine"Perfect for the toy nerd, Star Wars geek or collector. " Ain't It Cool News"Perfect coffee table fodder for the Force-obsessed." UnCrate.com"Incredible"- A Site Called Fred

Stephen J. Sansweet is a world-renowned Star Wars collector and authority. He lives in Petaluma, California.

The very first review I ever wrote for .com was for this book's predecessor: The Star Wars Action

Figure Archive. I liked the original quite a bit, so I immediately pre-ordered this book when I first saw it. I have spent the last couple of days carefully reading some parts and am quickly thumbing through others (for now) so I could write this review and let folks know what to expect. All things considered, I think this book is as good as the original in most ways and believe it easily deserves at least 4.5 stars (rounded up to 5 stars since fractions were not an option). Here's why. First, this is a reference book and not a price guide (so, it contains tons of timeless information, but no prices that are quickly outdated). Second, it shows a picture of every figure released as of the time the book was set to the publisher, including most variations and many more obscure figures (with nearly 340 pages containing 6 or more photos each, I have no doubt the author covers at least the 2300 figures mentioned in the intro). On a related note, all of the pictures are nicely sized so you can easily see the detail for each figure. For example, there are 54 Darth Vader figures covered over eight pages, and 89 Luke Skywalker figures covered over 11 pages. Second (at least for the vintage figures and probably for the rest, too, though I can't say for sure because I don't collect those), it shows each figure holding/wearing all of the weapons/accessories it originally came with. Third, it shows at least one still photo for a vast majority of the figures from the movies, TV shows, and/or comics (this is a wonderful way to see how the figures compare to the character they represent). Fourth, there is a brief commentary on every figure, and a slightly more in depth commentary on more important figures. Fifth, everything is in full color and on high quality semi-gloss paper (the book is an inch thick and weighs over 3.5 pounds). Finally, on p. 10 it shows a sample photo of the card/packaging from each of the 29 production lines included in the book (I mention this as it was one of my favorite features of the book). That said, this book is a reference guide for the figures themselves and therefore does not deal with packaging of each figure in any meaningful way (so, if that is what you are looking for this may not be the book for you). This is too bad as it was a great feature in the original book (and my primary reason for giving it 4.5 rather than 5 stars). But, it does what it set out to do exceptionally well, is very fun to go through, and contains a lot of useful information that is not readily available elsewhere (especially all in one place), and I'm happy to round up to 5 stars. So, I think most Star Wars action figure collectors will find it to be a worthwhile reference for their library.

Having recently gotten into collecting Star Wars again, this book is a rock star. It has great pictures of many of the different Star Wars action figures. I wish it had more written history of the older figures.

This weighty volume contains photography of all the 3 3/4" SW Action Figures, highlighting the best

example of each with a larger photo and verbose description. A great reference for collectors as well as an entertaining book to review all the thousands of characters that Hasbro & Kenner have produced into figures over the years. Its 352 large pages are filled with images and highlighted features of interest for each figure. If you collect figures this will be a great reference for your collection. I thoroughly enjoy this masterpiece. Great job Steve!

A must for those collector of STAR WARS collectibles and the various figures issued since 1977.

The pictures are grouped alphabetically by character name so it's easy to find whoever you want. And I confess, I found in this book a couple of obscure characters that I wasn't aware had been action-figurized. This book MADE me buy stuff on Ebay. It's the book's fault!

I bought this because I can't afford to actually collect all of these figures. Excellent coffee table and great little reference to the phenom that is Star Wars Action Figures! There are other books out there, but this one I found was just right for young and old to just marvel at the vast universe that Star Wars has created with their action figure line and guaranteed you will enjoy looking at them all! Fun book to read!

I grew up with Star Wars and still have all my original Kenner SW toys- they're a little beat up from years of play but hey that's what toys are for. Anyway when I heard about this book I had to pick it up. They've documented every figure from the Star Wars universe to date. I haven't really followed the newer figure releases from all the prequels so this got me up to speed- overall a great reference and seeing some of these figures brings back great memories. I do wish they would've put everything in overall chronological order instead of by character- just a preference thing.

The pictures are detailed. I did find a couple of my figures weren't included in book. It would be great to add a feature of "Items that come with figure". I have several figures which are missing weapons, helmets and backpacks/rocketpacks, etc. It's hard to know which specific blaster, helmet or extra item came with each figure originally. Many pictures don't get down to that detail level. All in all, a great resource for Star Wars figures. I still look through it every week.

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