



The Philosopher's Toolkit: A Compendium of Philosophical Concepts and Methods

By Julian Baggini, Peter S. Fosl

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The second edition of this popular compendium provides the necessary intellectual equipment to engage with and participate in effective philosophical argument, reading, and reflection

- Features significantly revised, updated and expanded entries, and an entirely new section drawn from methods in the history of philosophy
- This edition has a broad, pluralistic approach--appealing to readers in both continental philosophy and the history of philosophy, as well as analytic philosophy
- Explains difficult concepts in an easily accessible manner, and addresses the use and application of these concepts
- Proven useful to philosophy students at both beginning and advanced levels

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Editorial Review

Review

"*The Philosopher's Toolkit* is a very good book. It could be highly useful for both introductory courses in philosophy, or philosophical methodology, as well as independent study for anyone interested in the methods of argument, assessment and criticism used in contemporary analytic philosophy. It is unique in approach, and written in a pleasant and considerate tone. Its authors are both competent philosophers, and the book visibly reflects their deep sympathy to the discipline and their appreciation of its unique character. This book will help one to get going to do philosophy, but more advanced students might find this text helpful too. I wish I had had access to this book as an undergraduate." (*Teaching Philosophy*)

"This book is ... an encyclopedia of philosophy. It should be of great use as a quick and accurate reference guide to the skill of philosophy, especially for beginners, but also for instructors ... highly recommended." (*Choice*)

"Its choice of tools for basic argument ... is sound, while further tools for argument ... move through topics and examples concisely and wittily... Sources are well chosen and indicated step by step. Sections are cross-referenced (making it better than the Teach Yourself "100 philosophical concepts") and supported by a useful index." (*Reference Reviews*)

"...the average person who is interested in arguments and logic but who doesn't have much background in philosophy would certainly find this book useful, as would anyone teaching a course on arguments, logic, and reasoning. Even introductory courses on philosophy in general might benefit because the book lays out so many of the conceptual "tools" which will prove necessary over students' careers." (*About.com*)

Review

"*The Philosopher's Toolkit* provides a welcome and useful addition to the introductory philosophy books available. It takes the beginner through most of the core conceptual tools and distinctions used by philosophers, explaining them simply and with abundant examples. Newcomers to philosophy will find much in here that will help them to understand the subject."

—**David S. Oderberg**, University of Reading

From the Back Cover

Building a solid intellectual foundation is crucial if one wishes to engage effectively in the practice of philosophy. This second edition of *The Philosopher's Toolkit* provides readers with the essential tools -- the intellectual equipment -- necessary for participating in thoughtful philosophical argument, reading and reflection.

The book begins with the basics of philosophical argumentation before moving on to address the important tools for assessment and criticism, the limits of argumentation and some of the radical critiques of standard philosophical methodology. Written in a highly accessible style, the entries are brought to life through the inclusion of vivid and colourful examples. For the second edition, many of the volume's original 87 entries have been enhanced, extended and updated, an entirely new chapter has been added on methods drawn from the history of philosophy, and the suggestions for further reading have been expanded.

This ingenious compendium of the methodologies and techniques of philosophy can be put to effective use

in a variety of ways – as an introduction to the essentials of philosophical reflection, a comprehensive course on philosophical method or a quick reference for clear and concise accounts of key philosophical concepts and methods.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Tameika Ahmed:

Reading can called imagination hangout, why? Because when you are reading a book specially book entitled The Philosopher's Toolkit: A Compendium of Philosophical Concepts and Methods the mind will drift away trough every dimension, wandering in each aspect that maybe mysterious for but surely will become your mind friends. Imaging every single word written in a book then become one contact form conclusion and explanation this maybe you never get just before. The The Philosopher's Toolkit: A Compendium of Philosophical Concepts and Methods giving you a different experience more than blown away the mind but also giving you useful details for your better life with this era. So now let us present to you the relaxing pattern this is your body and mind will likely be pleased when you are finished reading through it, like winning a. Do you want to try this extraordinary spending spare time activity?

Louise Guest:

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