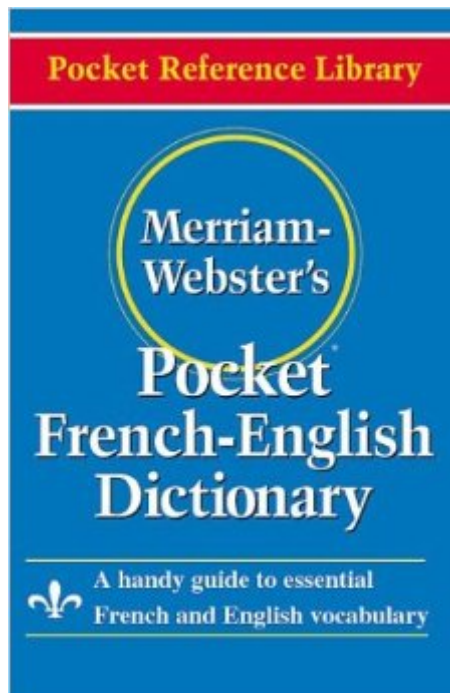


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# Merriam-Webster's Pocket French-English Dictionary (Pocket Reference Library)



## Synopsis

This bilingual, bidirectional compact guide to essential French and English vocabulary contains more than 40,000 entries and includes coverage of Canadian-French terms. English pronunciations are given in the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA). Special sections include Conjugation of French Verbs and Irregular English Verbs.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (73 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #8,163 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #5 in [Books > Textbooks >](#)

[Humanities > Foreign Languages > French](#) #5 in [Books > Reference > Dictionaries &](#)

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## Customer Reviews

This French dictionary is just the size and shape I wanted, but it has two problems. One I should have expected, but the other came as a disturbing surprise. The first, expected problem is that the print is quite small, and someone with less-than-perfect eyesight or anyone in dim lighting will have trouble making out the words. The unexpected problem is that pages 291 to 354 are missing in the copy I received! That meant that I was without translations for all the English words between "indigo" and "resuscitate" in trying to make myself understood to French speakers in Quebec. I probably should have demanded a refund, as the flawed dictionary is nearly useless. However, given the \$4.95 price of the book, it was easy to consider it a throw-away.

I got this dictionary for a three week trip to France. I speak enough French to hold a conversation. The dictionary is missing important french words. I stopped at a filling station to put diesel in the car. I thought gazole was what I needed, but I thought I'd double-check in the dictionary. It wasn't there! How could such a basic word (certainly a word vital for many travellers) be missing? Well, it turns

out there's a lot of words missing from this dictionary. Numerous times at restaurants, I'd look up an unfamiliar word to find that it, too, was missing. In the end, I just looked words up with my iPhone. The dictionary was largely a waste of space and money. (At least it was small and cheap.)

I would definitely recommend this dictionary as it was the perfect size to carry around while trekking all over France and yet there were very few words we tried to look up that weren't in it. The conjugation and French numbers information in the front were a handy bonus.

In a size that is easy to carry in every pocket or bag, this little wonder helps check those unknown French words fast. The verb tables in the front make finding conjugations much faster than the big verb books - I save those other books for more in depth study. I own three copies, and I may buy more soon.

I bought this because I was going to Paris and thought having a dictionary would be helpful. While it did prove helpful I was disappointed to find out that it geared towards Canadian French and it was 2008 version. Not something that was stated in the description and especially not something that old especially in this continuously changing world. There were a number of things I could not translate, I did not know if it was a colloquism or just outdated.

I travel to France on vacation regularly. And although I speak French reasonably well (I lived there for 6 years, 40 years ago) my vocabulary has diminished somewhat over the years. I like this dictionary because as well as being fairly small and compact for traveling - it fits easily in your pocket - it is very comprehensive in both English and French.

This dictionary is accurately named: it really is pocket-sized, which was perhaps the main reason I bought it. It is adequate for the limited way I use it, which is to help me read news articles in French during my commute. However, even with my limited use, I've discovered some of its shortcomings. For example, its entry for "devoir" does not include the sense "expected" or "scheduled," which is used all the time in news reports. After I bought this, my daughter found my copy of Steiner's dictionary, which I bought 20 years ago for my grad school language exam. It is only slightly larger and maybe \$1 more expensive than this dictionary and is probably a better choice unless you need something very small.

This is the smallest and lightest dictionary I own. It's truly small enough to be called pocket-size. As can be expected, the font is small (about 1 mm), but luckily for me, my reading vision is good, so it's not a problem. This is a basic French-English dictionary, so it doesn't have many extras. But it does have a small list of verb conjugations and word abbreviations. It's perfect for travel if you know French well enough that you don't need a phrase book. The pic shows square corners, but mine (which I bought at a Chapters/Indigo in Canada) has rounded outside corners which gives it a nice, ergonomic feel. I only wish the headwords were printed in a color other than black (some dictionaries use blue ink). But for around \$5 you can't go wrong. Merriam-Webster also makes other pocket dictionaries in this series.

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