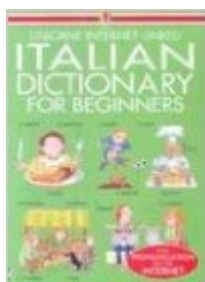


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Customer Reviews

I came across the Usborne "Beginner's Italian Dictionary" some years ago, when I was living in Minnesota, and escorting between ten and fifteen Macalester College students to Rome annually for a month-long January course in Art History and Archaeology. My students found it the perfect book for picking up a large amount of vocabulary within a short time. Although I found it in the children's section of the bookstore, the cleverly illustrated 45-chaptered dictionary constitutes a wonderful vocabulary builder for all ages. Organized topically, every two-page chapter depicts situations such as 'Meeting people', 'Families', 'Houses and homes'. The depicted objects are clearly labeled, for example, the table, the chair, the floor, the light, in the Sala di Pranzo--the dining room--are identified as la tavola, la sedia, il pavimento, and la luce, respectively. The depicted objects are supplemented by a list of vocabulary and idiomatic expressions. Chapter topics range from the practical, such as the Post Office and Bank, Travelling by Train, and Illness and Health [as one who has lived in Italy, I can assure you that these chapters contain vocabulary that is extremely helpful as well as necessary] to the perhaps not absolutely necessary, but nevertheless instructive chapters on the 'Countryside', 'The Farm,' and 'Pets'. At the end of the book, after 'In, On, Under,' and 'Action words', there is a useful chapter on grammar hints, a phrase explainer, and a thorough English-Italian word list, which contains a good phonetic key to pronunciation. Conveniently sized and not too-heavy, The Usborne "Beginner's Italian Dictionary" is just the thing to tuck in your suitcase on a trip to Italy. Highly recommended.

I love having the pictures to reinforce learning AND the internet link for pronunciation for words. A little difficult to use, but I'll get used to it.

I purchased this book for my college daughter taking first semester Italian. She and her room mate had lots of fun making labels all over their dorm room identifying things in Italian.

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