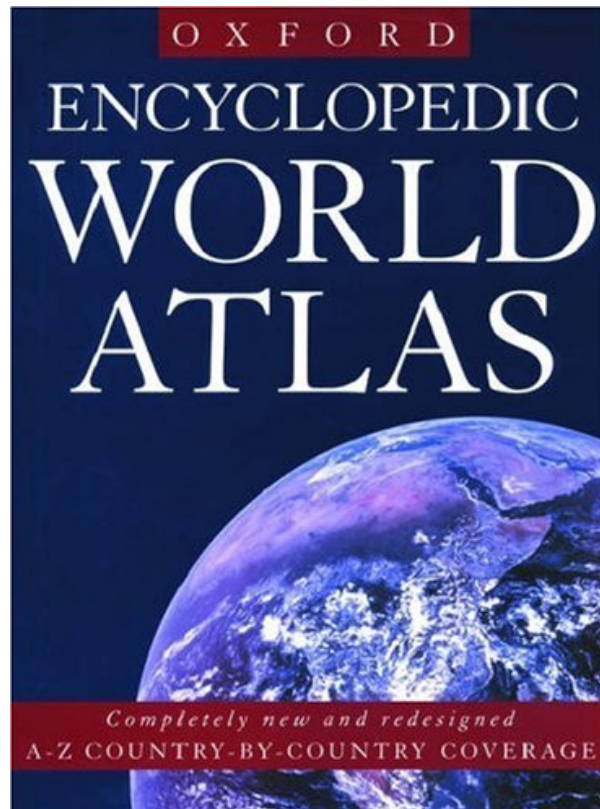
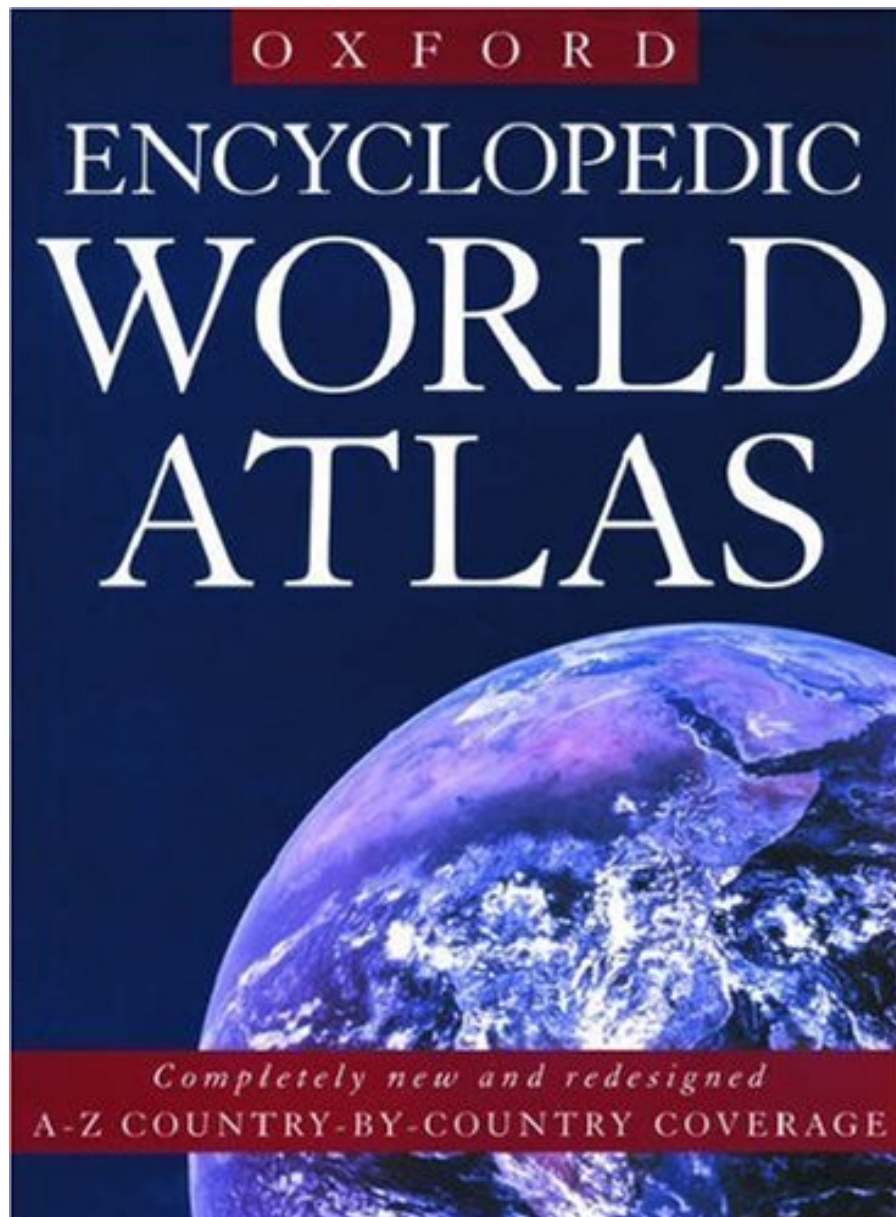


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PRESS PDF

Dubbed "the information atlas" by librarians everywhere, Oxford's Encyclopedic World Atlas has been completely redesigned to provide much easier access to its wealth of geographical data.

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Completely up to date, packed with data, and more easy to use than ever, Encyclopedic World Atlas is indeed "the information atlas," an ideal resource for business reports and homework assignments, and the first place to turn to answer questions about the world around you.

- Sales Rank: #3067796 in Books
- Published on: 2000-10-05
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 12.10" h x 1.00" w x 8.90" l,
- Binding: Hardcover
- 288 pages

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A Regretfully Poor Revision

By D. Smith

After owning a number of atlases and eventually giving them all away, I happened upon a second edition of the Oxford Encyclopedic World Atlas. It was nothing short of perfect. It had compiled comparative world data, organized in an informative way and treated each country with a wonderful summary. It was useful and beautiful.

Therefore when the fifth edition was announced I placed my order. Rarely have I've been so disappointed when expectation sees reality.

First of all, the wonderful global comparisons of oceans, climate, wealth, energy etc., have been replaced with common continental summaries. Worse though is the fact that these summaries consist only of those incomprehensible theme maps of temperature, precipitation, vegetation and land use. It was because all the rest of the atlases had these useless enigmatic diagrams that I gave them away. I defy anyone to dig any useful information off a January Temperature map. I rather suspect that this information is more readily available and cheaper to obtain making the publication more cost effective for OUP. That it becomes more useless to the reader by the same turn doesn't seem to matter.

The country summaries have been ordered a-z as opposed by continent. This certainly makes it easier to find them but renders them out of any context whatsoever. But even here the work is substandard. For instance in the summary of Argentina, the section on the Economy ends with "...which are heavily" One wonders - heavily what? Sloppy.

Why UOP would take such a solid franchise and ruin it through conscience manipulation and sloppy design and editing is beyond me.

For the killing of truly useful tome OUP should not receive even one star, but I will give it two. The first is for the editions that bravely preceded this one. And the second is for my hope for the sixth edition. In the meantime I strongly recommend that the staff at OUP convene at the pub for it is apparent that their office decisions regarding the Oxford Encyclopedic World Atlas are abysmal.

0 of 3 people found the following review helpful.

I love this atlas!

By Ben Single

It's so easy to use and great for my daughter's book reports. Well worth the money. I think the other reviewer who doesn't like the revision is mistaken.

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