
*ABC for Book Collectors* has long been called a classic, but this edition confirms it, by the fact that the British Library has joined with Oak Knoll as co-publisher. As a reference, the book provides enough information to answer the questions of the new collector while knowing when to stop, referring the reader to other, more detailed, sources. The most obvious change that has taken place between the 7th and the 8th editions is the inclusion of terms related to the Internet. Carter notes the Internet’s use primarily for information and pricing on books, and as a new site for auctions (eBay). New terms are connected to old, with cross-references to Internet terminology where appropriate. Other added entries focus on the mechanics of hand- and machine-press printing, recognizing that as publishing becomes increasingly digital, the understanding of presswork is likely to be unfamiliar to the new bibliophile. Also welcome is the addition of information on prominent bibliographers in history. Carter’s and Barker’s concise and clever writing make this work a pleasurable read. As in previous editions, the cross-reference system allows the novice bibliophile to cut quickly through unfamiliar jargon. Overall, the new edition remains an excellent resource for the individual book collector or for the librarian.

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