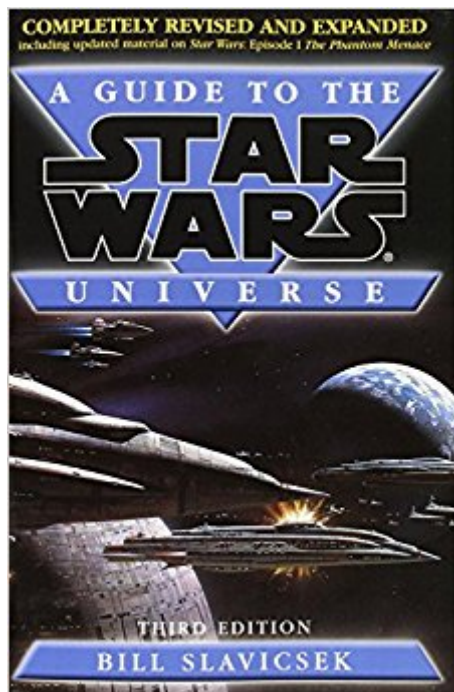


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A Guide To The Star Wars Universe



Synopsis

How did Exar Kun nearly destroy Luke Skywalker's Jedi academy? When did Han Solo first meet Chewbacca and Lando Calrissian? Where was Mara Jade when the Emperor died? What are the secrets of the terrible super weapons--the Death Stars, the Sun Crusher, and the World Devastators? What are the Qom Qae? How powerful is the Black Sun criminal organization? Looking for facts about the characters, starships, weaponry, droids, alien species, and historic battles in the most amazing adventure of them all? From airspeeders to N-1 starfighters, Coruscant to Tatooine, Nom Anor to Leia Organa--you'll find the whole universe of Star Wars covered here: The original Star Wars trilogy movies The novels--from Star Wars to Vector Prime The animated TV series Droids and Ewoks National Public Radio dramatizations Young Adult novels The Star Wars comic-books Role-playing books Video games and CD-ROMs. . . plus sourcebooks, storybooks, sketchbooks, portfolios, and more! Featuring new material on Star Wars: Episode I The Phantom Menace . . . the latest Star Wars series: The New Jedi Order . . . and the entire thrilling saga!

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Customer Reviews

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Devastators? What are the Qom Qae? How powerful is the Black Sun criminal organization? Looking for facts about the characters, starships, weaponry, droids, alien species, and historic battles in the most amazing adventure of them all? From airspeeders to N-1 starfighters, Coruscant to Tatooine, Nom Anor to Leia Organa--you'll find the whole universe of Star Wars covered here: , The original Star Wars trilogy movies, The novels--from Star Wars to Vector Prime, The animated TV series Droids and Ewoks, National Public Radio dramatizations, Young Adult novels, The Star Wars comic-books, Role-playing books, Video games and CD-ROMs. . . plus sourcebooks, storybooks, sketchbooks, portfolios, and more! Featuring new material on Star Wars: Episode I The Phantom Menace . . . the latest Star Wars series: The New Jedi Order . . . and the entire thrilling saga!

AA-3DO (ThreeDee)This multitalented service droid was in the service of Jedi Andur Sunrider when Sunrider died at the hands of Great Bogga the Hutt's gang of criminals. Programmed as a mechanic and pilot, A-3DO later served Andur's wife, Nomi, while she trained to take her husband's place among the Jedi.**[TOJ]A-9 Vigilance Interceptor**An Imperial starfighter that first saw action against New Republic forces during the events that led to the return of the Emperor six years after the Battle of Endor. It was designed as an answer to the Republic's A-wing fighters, but has limited maneuverability and a weak hull. **[DE, SWVG]Aalun, Syron**One of three famous Gand ruetsavii, or observers, who were assigned to Rogue Squadron pilot Ooryl Qrygg. They were sent to observe Qrygg's activities and determine his worthiness to become janwuine, the highest possible honor in the communal Gand society. In addition to watching Qrygg, Aalun and the other ruetsavii served as pilots and undercover operatives for the squadron. **[BW]Aar'aa**Members of a reptilian species of skin-changers, they are able to change the color of their pebbly textured skin to match their surroundings. The Ylesian priests used Aar'aa to guard their spice-processing plants. **[PS]AbaA Wookiee doll**, named by its owner, young Jacen Solo. **[CS]A'baht**, General Etahn Commander of the New Republic's Fifth Fleet. A'baht led from aboard his flagship, the fleet carrier Intrepid. His disregard for orders and the defeat of the fleet at the Koornacht Cluster led Princess Leia Organa Solo to relieve him of command and place the fleet under the authority of her husband, Han Solo. **[BTS]Abbaji**This planet is home to the Irugian Rain Forest, where one-hundred-meter-tall firethorn trees grow in a single grove. Prince Xizor, leader of the Black Sun criminal organization, counted a 600-year-old dwarf firethorn tree among his most prized possessions. **[SOTE]abo**An old Imperial slang word for the native inhabitants of a planet, often used in a derogatory manner. **[SME]Abregado-rae**This manufacturing and trade-oriented planet within the Abregado star system

was part of the New Republic some five years after the Battle of Endor. During the time of the Empire, the spaceport was considered on par with the worst places in the Rim Territories. Since the birth of the New Republic, the place has cleaned up its act. A bright, painfully clean cityscape towers over its landing pits, but the wild air of all spaceports, created by the mix of cultures and species, cannot be washed from the place. A repressive bureaucracy that struggled to bring outlying clans into line rules the world. [DFR, HE, HESB] Abregado system This planetary system is located in the Borderland Regions, a militarized zone that separates the New Republic from the remnants of the Empire. A vast manufacturing infrastructure links the system's planets, and the goods produced there are vitally important to the New Republic. [HE, HESB] Abrion sector The location of the planet Ukio, one of the top-five food-producing worlds in the New Republic. [LC] Abyssin A primitive and violent species that inhabits the planet Byss, located in the binary star system of Byss and Abyss. Averaging about two meters tall, each humanoid Abyssin has long limbs and a single eye in its forehead. [GG4] Academy, the During the time of the Old Republic, this elite educational institution produced highly trained personnel to fill posts in Exploration, Military, and Merchant Services. Under the rule of the Emperor, the Academy slowly turned into the training ground for Imperial officers, especially the Raithal Academy in the Core region. All of its numerous campuses, spread across the galaxy, had a reputation for a competitive selection process and a rigorous curriculum. [ISB, SW, SWR] acceleration compensator This device provides artificial gravity and neutralizes the effects of high-speed maneuvering for crew and cargo aboard space vessels. The Millennium Falcon, for example, is equipped with such a device. [HSE] acceleration straps These passenger safety harnesses, usually built into seats, serve to restrain passengers during takeoffs, landings, and adverse traveling conditions. [SW] Access Chute This kilometers-long tunnel snakes through the decaying buildings and docking towers of the spaceport moon Nar Shaddaa, leading to Shug Ninx's repair facility. An advertising holoscreen hides the entrance to the Chute. [DE] Accuser See Emancipator. Ackbar, Admiral A respected and highly regarded member of the Mon Calamari species, Ackbar overcame hardship and adversity to take a pivotal role in the Rebel Alliance and later the New Republic. His public life began when he served as the leader of Coral Depths City on the Mon Calamari homeworld. The Empire attacked the watery planet and enslaved many of its citizens, including Ackbar. He eventually became Grand Moff Tarkin's interpreter, and while in the Imperial's service he heard about the Rebellion and learned of a new superweapon. Ackbar made a study of Imperial tactics and defenses while serving the grand moff. Rebel agents released him from servitude during a failed attempt to assassinate Tarkin. Ackbar returned to his homeworld and convinced the normally peaceful Mon Calamari to join the Rebels,

bringing a much-needed fleet of capital ships into the Alliance arsenal. Shortly after the Battle of Yavin, the newly ranked Commander Ackbar proposed a plan for dealing with Imperial escort frigates. He argued that a specially designed starfighter was the Alliance's best hope--at least until more funds became available or the number of Rebel capital ships dramatically increased. With the aid of the Verpine, a renowned species of shipbuilders, Ackbar developed the B-wing starfighter. Ackbar then became one of Mon Mothma's two senior Rebel Alliance advisers. He was promoted to admiral and helped develop the plans for the Alliance surprise attack on the second Death Star battle station. He led the assault from the bridge of his personal flagship during the Battle of Endor. With the rise of the New Republic, Ackbar was named commander in chief of Republic military operations. As a member of both the Provisional Council and the ruling Inner Council, he helped forge the new galactic government. During the events surrounding the return of Grand Admiral Thrawn, Ackbar was falsely accused of embezzling New Republic funds thanks to fake evidence planted by Thrawn. Ackbar was later cleared, through the efforts of Luke Skywalker and his companions, and the Mon Calamari led the New Republic fleet to victory over Thrawn's forces at the Bilbringi Shipyards. A few days after Thrawn's defeat, survivors of the Emperor's ruling circle and a handful of Imperial fleet commanders attacked and recaptured Coruscant. Ackbar and other New Republic leaders planned a counterstrike, and their forces regained Coruscant a few months later. Later, on a diplomatic mission to Vortex, Ackbar's personal B-wing fighter crashed into the Cathedral of Winds. This towering crystalline structure was considered to be the world's greatest artistic treasure, and Ackbar was once again accused of a serious crime. His chief mechanic was discovered to have been an Imperial operative who had sabotaged the B-wing, and Ackbar was cleared of any wrongdoing. After he resumed his role in the New Republic, Ackbar returned to Vortex to attend the ceremony dedicating the rebuilt Cathedral of Winds. Winter, Princess Leia's aide, accompanied him on the trip, and the two developed a close relationship. [DA, DE, DFR, DS, HE, LC, RJ, SFS, SWCG, SWSB] Adamant Admiral Ackbar commanded this New Republic bulk space cruiser. Some nineteen years after the Battle of Endor, the Adamant was attacked while transporting a cargo of hyperdrive cores and turbolaser battery emplacements to the Kuat Drive Yards. It was boarded and captured by one-time Imperial TIE fighter pilot Qorl and his troops, who set the crew adrift in escape pods and made off with the cruiser and its cargo. [YJK] Adamantine This New Republic escort cruiser visited the planet Nam Chorios. The ship and its crew were lost when the Death Seed plague was unleashed on the surrounding sector of space. [POT] Adegan This star system located in the Outer Rim Territories was the site of an important Jedi stronghold in ancient times. [DE] Adegan crystals These crystals were the types most commonly used in ancient times in

the construction of lightsabers. They spontaneously emit powerful bursts of light and energy when resonant frequencies are transmitted through them. These crystals are also known as Iuum crystals.

[DE]Adin This former Imperial stronghold was the homeworld of Senator Meido. [NR]Adjudicator One of two Imperial Star Destroyers captured by the Alliance during the Battle of Endor, the Adjudicator was renamed the Liberator and placed under the command of Luke Skywalker. After the Empire recaptured Coruscant, Liberator crashed into Imperial City as the result of damages sustained during combat. Skywalker's skillful deployment of the Star Destroyer's shields and repulsorlifts prevented the death of the crew.

[DE, DESB]Adriana This gas giant, the third planet in the Tatoo system, has rings of ice. The rings are periodically mined to provide the planet Tatooine with water. [GG7]Af'El The homeworld of the Defels, or Wraiths, this high-gravity world orbiting Ka'Dedus specializes in the export of meleenium, a metal used to build durasteel. Af'El is the only known source of the metal.

[GG4]affect mind A Jedi Knight can use this Force technique to tamper with the perceptions of a person or creature. It creates illusions or blocks the senses so that the target can't understand what's really happening. It can also be used to alter a person's memories, replace them with false memories, or totally wipe out memories of a particular event. [DFRSB, SWRPG, SWRPG2]Affytechan A sentient form of plant life that originated on the Outer Rim world of Dom-Bradden. Each Affytechan appears beautiful, with a high musical voice and a body composed of thousands of colorful petals, tendrils, and stalks. However, it also smells of ammonia and musk. [COJ]Afyon, Captain Native of Alderaan and New Republic captain at the helm of the escort frigate Larkhess, Afyon grew bitter over the years, believing that men like him were doing the real work of the new government, while the credit was going to hotshot starfighter pilots. Right before the appearance of Grand Admiral Thrawn, his warship was relegated to cargo transport duty. During the Battle of Sluis Van, he proved himself to be an excellent commander. [HE, HESB]Agamar Home to the famous Rebel pilot Keyan Farlander, this planet is located in the Lahara sector of the Outer Rim Territories. Sites of interest include the large city Calna Muun and the backwater town Tondatha. The Empire wiped out the latter for harboring Rebel collaborators. [FP]Aggregator This Imperial Interdictor cruiser was the property of High Admiral Teradoc. He leased it to Ysanne Isard to aid her quest to destroy Rogue Squadron. The cruiser was badly damaged during a battle in the section of space known as the Graveyard of Alderaan. [BW]

For the time frame this book was issued, it answered many open ended questions. I wasn't impressed the dictionary type format but it works. There have been many consolidated books issued on the Star Wars Universe, if you are a Star Wars fan, I would say "get it" ...

I grew up on Star Wars, but lost track when the new trilogy came out. This guide has helped me understand some of the characters and places that have been introduced. It's easy to use and read.

Cool book

Because the "Star Wars Universe" this guide covers is as vast and populated as George Lucas' "galaxy far, far away," it's impossible for even the most prolific researcher/writer to keep up with all the new additions as books, games, collectibles and even animated episodes appear almost on a monthly basis. For even though the Star Wars canon (read, "official version") only includes the six filmed Episodes, their novelizations, and their direct off-shoots (such as the National Public Radio dramatizations and the Cartoon Network's Clone Wars miniseries), there are also tons of Lucasfilm-authorized Expanded Universe novels, comic books, and games (roleplaying and computer games) that have added planets, political entities, droids, weapons, spacecraft, alien and human characters that go beyond Lucas' filmed works. In some ways, Bill Slavicsek's 596 page A (as in A-3DO, a droid once owned by the Jedi Knight Andur Sunrider) to Z (ZZ-4Z, yet another droid, this time once Han Solo's mechanical housekeeper, last seen recovering from an attack by Boba Fett) book serves as a "poor man's Star Wars Encyclopedia," since the format is very similar and essentially covers the same territory -- down to the style of the entries -- as Steven J. Sansweet's more expensive and even more outdated (circa 1998) reference book. The Guide is, obviously, a must-have reference work, and Slavicsek has done an excellent job at compiling all the data from not only the first four filmed Episodes (the cutoff point in this edition for the movies is Episode I: The Phantom Menace) but also every licensed media release, including young reader books (The Glove of Darth Vader), comic books (Tales of the Jedi Knights, the Dark Empire series), and such forgotten (and forgettable) TV offerings as the Droids animated series. I don't know if there will be an interim Guide published by Ballantine Books before the release of Episode III next year; I had hoped to see a fourth edition this year that would cover Episode II and the New Jedi Order series after Vector Prime. Then again, Sansweet's more expensive Star Wars Encyclopedia has not been updated yet, so I am guessing the next editions of these two wonderful references will be released in a few years.

'Completely revised and expanded' is what the cover of the Third Edition 'Guide to the Star Wars Universe' says, but when those who own previous editions flip through the pages, they find a great

deal of what they have read before with scant passages of new information, and Slavicsek professes to be a huge Star Wars fan, I find it odd that he completely misses entire series of novels-like the Aaron Alston series of X-wing books. Plus Slavicsek touches on the Phantom Menace with character bios, places and equipment, but he ignores a lot of the other material-books and comics-that came out after the film. As well there is very little new art, and none of the art is original, rather pictures we have seen before, (and gives us one of the dumbest pictures of Corran Horn I have ever seen). He makes no mention of Dark Forces II: Jedi Knight, which in my opinion is one of the best pieces of Star Wars related material released in the last five years. Now, that is not to say that the book isn't worth the money. It is overflowing with all sorts of obscure facts from sources that many people might not otherwise read-like it draws heavily on the Star Wars role playing Game material (West End Games, not Wizards), though I suspect that it mainly because Slavicsek wrote a lot of those books as well. It takes from comics, novels, movies, even the forgettable Droid and Ewok TV shows, and the two Ewok movies, even the Holiday Special, which we won't talk about. Ever. I think it falls apart because they released it too soon. It covers Vector Prime, but none of the five other books that followed it in the New Jedi Order series. No mention of 'Onslaught', 'Ruin', 'Heroes Trial', 'Jedi Eclipse' or 'Balance Point', and perhaps Del Rey should have waited until they had been published before releasing this to make it even more up to date. Still, it is an excellent source of Star Wars information, a great source for role playing material and a reference to all the books and comics you haven't yet read. Not great, but still pretty darn good. May the Force be with you.

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