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Understanding And Mastering The Bluebook



Synopsis

The Bluebook provides the rules for legal citation, but can be intimidating and frustrating to use. This survival manual teaches how to understand and master the essential rules for legal practitioners using a simple building block approach. Rules are fully described and illustrated using: Clear explanations and illustrations of the basic components of legal citations Step-by-step instructions for building citations to the most common authorities cited by legal practitioners Detailed guidance for citing legal materials to both print and electronic sources Examples, comparison charts, illustrations, and bullet-point explanations designed for quick mastery of basic Bluebook citation rules Tips, hints and cautions to help users avoid common citation errors Cross references to the controlling Bluebook rules A user-friendly format gathering The Bluebook's scattered rules for each authority into one place. This highly accessible companion to 19th edition of The Bluebook, A Uniform System of Citation is an indispensable tool for anyone who is new to legal citation or whose skills need refreshing.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I bought this book based on the previous glowing review and has shocked at how much this book failed to cover. I'm sure this book would be helpful for your first...maybe your second Legal Research and Writing Assignment. After that, it's not very helpful at all. In my opinion, all this book does is illustrate some of the rules. For instance in explaining the spacing & capitalization rules it has examples where to place spaces by using grey dots in between the abbreviations in order to illustrate exactly how it's supposed to look. So at a glance you can see that it's S.D.N.Y. v. S. Ct. - If you already know this... you don't need this book! In other sections, such as short form citation... it's

just got different examples but the exact same chart as the bluebook!! If you're having trouble finding things in the bluebook, then spend your money on the searchable online version of the bluebook instead of buying this supplement. Every time I've had an issue with a citation exercise or wanting to check my citation in a paper, this book hasn't had the answer and I've turned to the online version of the bluebook in order to search for it. The bluebook does tell you exactly how to cite everything, I think the main issue is its organization, the challenge is knowing where to look for the information you're after. If you find yourself looking up the same things over and over again... tab your bluebook. Sure, it looks nerdy but you're gonna save yourself time & frustration. The only people I would recommend this book to are individuals who are beginning law school in the fall and HAVEN'T taken a legal writing and research class in order to get ahead. Otherwise, the contents of this book will be explained during your course.

The author, Linda J Barris, is a law professor, and wrote this book to help students. She wrote the book so that first year students would be able to quickly get up to speed on a brutally confusing, convoluted, and disjointed citation system, the 19th edition of the Bluebook. Basically, she takes rules that are scattered throughout the blue book, condenses them, and puts them together in a way that is easy to read and understand. It contains tips, tricks, help with common trouble spots, and examples. This book IS NOT A SUBSTITUTION for the Bluebook. Rather, it is a sort of guide book, a starting off place. Students can use this book to learn the basics and to help them navigate the significantly more complicated Bluebook. If you are already an expert and know your way around the Bluebook this book will be unhelpful. As a student, I found this book indispensable. Although I have done a lot of legal writing, I still refer to this book from time to time when I can't remember something that I should know. I highly recommend this book. At this price, there is little reason not to pick it up.

I can't stand the blue books non-sensical citation rule organization and applicability to certain but not other situations, and I dislike how poorly they illustrate spaces and formatting in their samples. We used a citation book in law school, thank goodness someone wrote a book to guide me through the bluebook.

If you do not have this and are starting law school I do not see how you can maneuver The Bluebook. This is essential! Worth every single penny! Tells you where things are in The Bluebook which I found most helpful. It also gives great examples. Sometimes you can use this book without

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I am not a big fan of the "blue book." But I have to use it. I find that this book is really good for me to find a starting place, and can actually give you most rules for MOST of the types of citations you will be using. If you are on law review at any school, or working on significant legal writing, buy this book. Excellent deal!

Awesome so far! Really breaks down the Bluebook. I know some reviewers are claiming that all you need is the Bluebook and that this guide is basic. Those reviewers seem to forget 1) some people want to understand the Bluebook before ever stepping into law school; and 2) not every LAWR professor prioritizes citations. This book has really helped me gain confidence in my Bluebooking abilities. My only complaint is that a version of this guide is not yet available for the new 20th edition. My rating is really a 4.5.

This book won't answer all of your questions, but it will help you navigate the confusing Bluebook. The Bluebook gives very poor examples, but this book helps clear some things up. This is a must have for any editor of any review or journal. If your legal writing course or seminar course is Bluebook heavy, this book will help you too.

Now that I have branched out from the Nursing field have been studying law for a little while and I have to say that the field of Law has such inconsistencies that it is no wonder people find it confusing.. The AWLD, Bluebook, and God knows how many other "acceptable" formats exist. It is, simply, ridiculous. "Understanding and Mastering the Bluebook" makes some sense out of a very poorly designed book. I suggest that the Bluebook be removed from the shelves and replaced by this radically simplified, yet highly useful, interpretation. The fact that this 'owners manual' for the Bluebook is BIGGER than the Bluebook gives you an idea of how thorough the author is anyhow much effort was put into unraveling the most frustrating reference book on record. For the record, medicine is FAR more demanding than law yet less confusing. This book is essential for anyone studying law. Do not sell this book at the end of the semester. Buy it for keeps!!

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