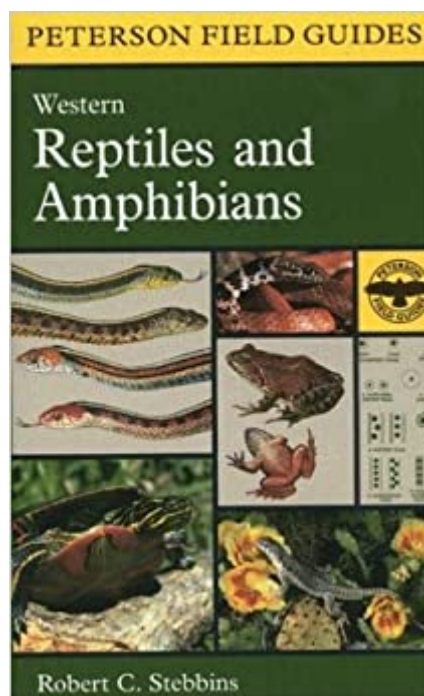


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A Field Guide To Western Reptiles And Amphibians: Field Marks Of All Species In Western North America, Including Baja California (Peterson Field Guides(R))



Synopsis

This guide describes 244 species plus 260 subspecies, including the key features needed to identify them. The 600 illustrations show details of anatomy, reproduction, scale arrangement, and life stages. Full range information is given in 200 maps.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Robert C. Stebbins is professor emeritus of zoology at the University of California at Berkeley and curator emeritus of the University's Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. He is the author of more than a dozen books, and his paintings and prints are prized by collectors. Roger Tory Peterson, one of the world's greatest naturalists, received every major award for ornithology, natural science, and conservation, as well as numerous honorary degrees, medals, and citations, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom. The Peterson Identification System has been called the greatest invention since binoculars, and the Peterson Field Guides[®] are credited with helping to set the stage for the environmental movement.

just received the book today & glanced through it write-ups look good but I was very disappointed to see so few photos & that they are lumped together in the center, not with the individual critters' write-up I'll need to buy some other book that will provide me what I was looking for

This is a beautifully done guide and I look forward to identify and document western herps this spring and summer.

Just what the doctor ordered.

nice illustrations, the distribution maps are not exact but works well, and have nice information about the species G G

Written by the leading expert in his field, this is the best book on the subject. I remember when I was in college that Professor Stebbins' class was always impossible to get into because he was so popular and respected. This book is his legacy... a highly detailed book with hundreds of beautifully rendered drawings. Each drawing is meticulous and a great learning tool. This volume is one of the best of the Peterson Field Guide Series and is highly recommended for all readers, even if they never venture outside.

This is a true field guide; it is small and sturdy enough to actually carry in the field. It's information is geared towards field work (where to find, when to find, certain critters, etc.). The species are well described, and ranges and descriptions for subspecies are present under the species accounts (far better than Audobon's field guide). Furthermore, the range descriptions are truly precise; it will detail the overall countours of the animals range and then the areas where the animal is not found. This makes it much easier to determine if a given animal is found in an area. Also, the plates are far superior to most photo's. They allow for a more clear view of thier subject, and highlight important identification characteristics. They are also done to scale (although scale used varies somewhat from page to page--it is listed on each page), which makes it easier to get an idea of size of the animal. This edition is somewhat old; '98 or so. I understand the book's been updated somewhat since then due changes in our knowledge and the taxonomy of the animals, but even this edition is still very functional in the field, or for a general reference.

If you were to only buy one book on reptiles and amphibians, this would be the one. No other author can come close to Rober C. Stebbins in this area. Not only is his writing, informative, easily understood, highly intersting and always engaging, but he also does his own drawings, from live specimens, and his artwork is quite incredible! I suggest that any parent of school age children consider buying this book as a present for his or her own kids. Young boys in particular are quickly

attracted to this kind of work and a book like this will serve as a real foundation for years of study and enjoyment. Teachers too will often find that boys who dislike school and "reading" in general, will just love this book. Anything spent on this book is money well spent.

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