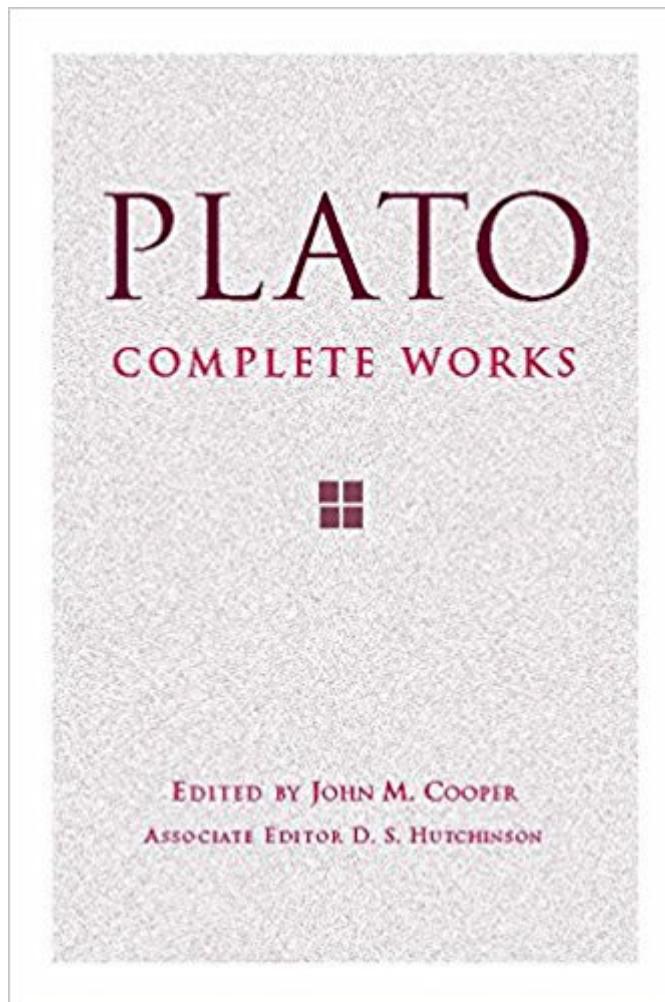


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# Plato: Complete Works



## **Synopsis**

Outstanding translations by leading contemporary scholars--many commissioned especially for this volume--are presented here in the first single edition to include the entire surviving corpus of works attributed to Plato in antiquity. In his introductory essay, John Cooper explains the presentation of these works, discusses questions concerning the chronology of their composition, comments on the dialogue form in which Plato wrote, and offers guidance on approaching the reading and study of Plato's works. Also included are concise introductions by Cooper and Hutchinson to each translation, meticulous annotation designed to serve both scholar and general reader, and a comprehensive index. This handsome volume offers fine paper and a high-quality Smyth-sewn cloth binding in a sturdy, elegant edition.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

One might be tempted to ask whether another collection of Plato's works is really necessary, given that they have been translated many times. But several factors set this particular volume apart, making it a worthy addition to most libraries. The translations are all relatively recent and thus reflect contemporary language use and terminology. The collection includes works such as the *Minos*, *Epinomis*, *Demodocus*, *Eryxias*, and *Axiochus*, which, though generally considered not to have been written by Plato, are "Socratic" in form or style. The text itself is clearly printed and laid out, with useful notes, and Cooper's introduction and notes about the translations are helpful in setting the dialogs in context. Finally, given what the purchaser receives, the price is reasonable.

Recommended for all libraries. Terry C. Skeats, Bishop's Univ. Lib., Lennoxville, Quebec Copyright

"This is clearly the definitive edition in English of the Platonic writings. It replaces completely the Hamilton-Cairns collection. . . . The notes are at just the right level, and the index is very helpful. The translations are both readable and accurate. They are always reliable, and in most cases the best available. It is the one volume of Plato every student of philosophy will want at her or his side."

--Michael D. Rohr, Rutgers University "The most important publishing event in Platonic translation is the Complete Works edited by Cooper and Hutchinson. . . . Hackett has lavished great care in the production of this volume: fine India paper, elegant typography, sewn binding, and cloth boards. . . .

It should be in every library and on the shelves of all lovers of Plato."

--Steven J. Willett, *Syllecta Classica*

"The edition is a vast improvement over the Princeton/Bollingen edition, the former standard. Congratulations on a fine work!"

--Christian K. Edemeyer, Columbia University "It is hard to imagine how this English translation of Plato's Complete Works could be improved upon. A

century may pass before it has a rival. Its editors and translators deserve the highest praise."

--David K. Glidden, University of California at Riverside

I got this book because I haven't read Plato in a while and I wanted a convenient volume that I could keep by the bedside. It would be good for me, I decided, to read a dialogue each night before bed. Who knows, maybe I would even dream of Socrates. When I am not reading it, the 1800-page volume can also serve as a sturdy little bedside table, a handsome place to put your tea and biscuits. (If you don't mind setting your cup of tea on the cornerstone of western civilisation.) It has been a delight to rediscover the dialogues in these elegant contemporary translations, and a surprise to discover so many additional works that I had never seen before. The publisher's workmanship is beautiful too, with quality paper, good cloth binding, and attractive typesetting with generous margins. I like to have room on the page to scribble my own impertinent replies to Socrates, and to ask him questions that he always affably refuses to answer. Yesterday I had left the book open in the middle of *Alcibiades*. When I came back into the room one of my children was reading it. "What's this?" she said. "A novel, or a collection of stories?" "It's philosophy," I said. "Philosophy!" She was stunned. "I never knew philosophy was so funny." It is a testament to the quality of these translations that a child could mistake Plato for a novelist; that she could read him without having the faintest idea that it was Serious Business; and that her first response to Plato's Socrates was laughter.

A handy compendium with superior translations (more or less).

If you ever wanted to heft the entirety of Plato's writing in one dictionary-sized volume, this is it! I went through about 1/3 of this book for a university Plato class. All of the translations I read were fairly decent, and the footnotes were decently helpful, but not exhaustive. If you're curious about Plato, and willing to invest in a single, large volume, this is a fairly good one. I would also recommend <http://perseus.tufts.edu> to anyone who's curious about Plato, but not (yet) willing to spend any money on it. They have all of his works online, along with many other classic works.

I was looking forward reading his works for the first time. However, to read this edition would take an electron microscope to bring the text to a readable size. Very disappointed!

It remains true that all subsequent political philosophy is a footnote to this. Anyone who reads the whole thing carefully will have no doubt, as Leo Strauss recognized, that *The Republic* superficially says the opposite of everything else Plato wrote and was doubtless intended by him as Aristophanes-type satire — a goof for all time, for anyone who takes it literally.

It's Plato. I won't review Plato. It's a great printing: legible and clear. Impressed.

An excellent addition to any library and a must-buy for any lover of Plato or philosophy. I couldn't find any significant flaws or anything to complain about in this collection. I have already read all of his works, but I had to get this and I was not disappointed. —

Bought this as a gift and he loved it!

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