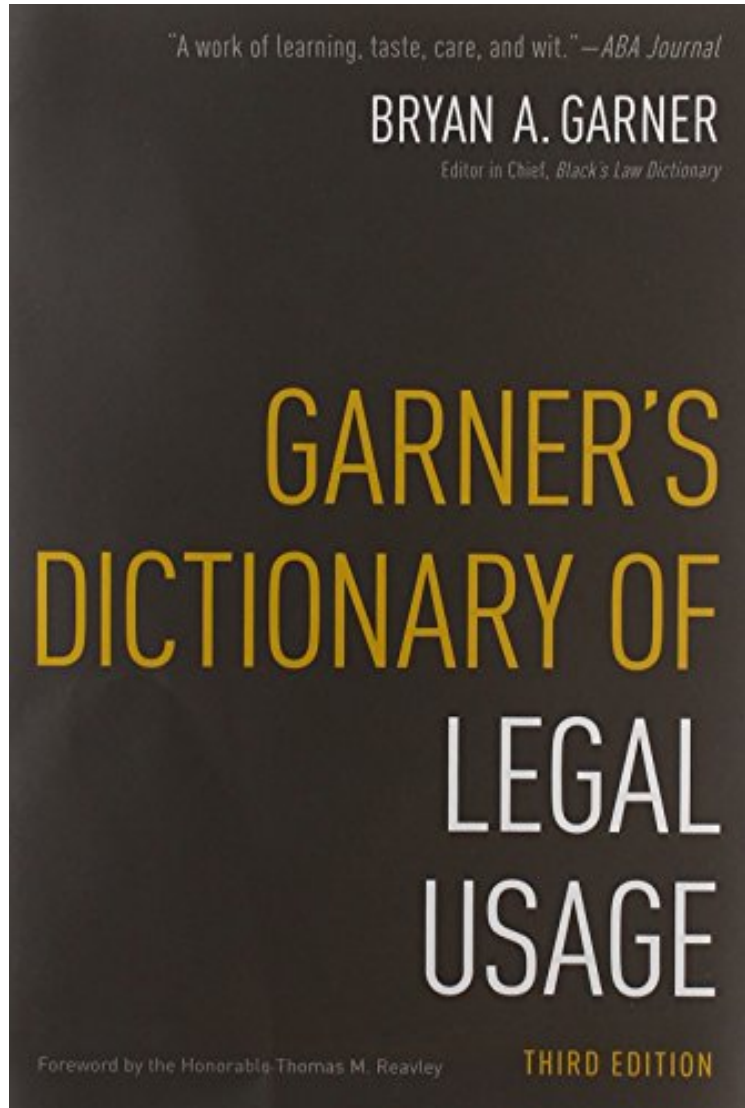


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Garner's Dictionary of Legal Usage

Bryan Garner

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Garner's Dictionary of Legal Usage should be in the office of any attorney, law clerk, or judge that is intent on improving his or her writing. This guide has become invaluable in assisting me in making more appropriate word choices in my briefs and e-mails. Garner brings clarity to the often unconsidered and useless conventions we attorneys use in our writing. Garner's Dictionary of American Usage is also a superb text that is useful for a wider audience, but this book is specifically geared to address the most common issues that arise in legal writing. As any lawyer worth his or her salt knows, precise use of the English language is key to being a successful advocate.

This new edition of Garner's Dictionary of Legal Usage discusses and analyzes modern legal vocabulary and style more thoroughly than any other contemporary reference work. Since the first edition, Bryan A. Garner has drawn on his unrivaled experience as a legal editor to refine his position on legal usage. The new Third Edition remains indispensable: Garner has updated entries throughout, while adding eight hundred new entries and new senses of existing entries, as well as thousands of new illustrative quotations from judicial opinions and leading lawbooks. Garner has also revised the selected bibliography, and expanded and updated cross-references to guide readers quickly and easily. The GDLU now has much greater depth in particular areas of law, such as immigration and intellectual property. More examples from British English sources are included, to illustrate the similarities and differences between American and British English, and to aid readers using foreign common-law sources. Dozens of sets of near-synonyms that have long perplexed lawyers are now concisely defined and differentiated. Asterisks now precede words and phrases that are invariably inferior forms, making it easy for readers to tell which ones to avoid. A new category called Interpretation, Modes of, outlines the theories and defines the terminology of interpretation, also known as hermeneutics. Entries contain the most comprehensive glossary available for words and phrases related to legal interpretation. And, for the first time ever, sources are consistently cited throughout, with a solid majority of citations from post-2000. A new preface introduces the reader to this edition and discusses the extensive content that has been newly incorporated. Influential writers and editors rely on Garner's Dictionary of Legal Usage daily. It is an essential resource for practicing lawyers, legal scholars, and libraries of all sizes and types, functioning as both a style guide and a law dictionary, guiding writers to distinguish between true terms of law and mere jargon and illustrating recommended forms of expression. Common blunders are discussed in ways that will discourage writers from any further use. The origins of frequently used expressions are described with engaging prose. Collectively, there is no better resource for approaching legal writing in a logical, clear, and error-free way.

There seems to be no linguistic topic he does not hold a vehement view on...The great strength of all the entries, whether controversial or not, is the compendious use of properly cited legal sources as examples. * Times Literary Supplement

*About the Author

Bryan Garner is the award-winning author or editor of more than 20 books. He is a prolific lecturer, having taught more than 2,500 writing workshops since the 1991 founding of his company, LawProse, Inc. His works include Garner on Language and Writing, Making Your Case: The Art of Persuading Judges (co-written with Justice Antonin Scalia), The Winning Brief, The Elements of Legal Style, and Legal Writing in Plain English. Garner has served as editor-in-chief of Black's Law Dictionary since 1995, and he is the author of the grammar-and-usage chapter in the venerable Chicago Manual of Style.