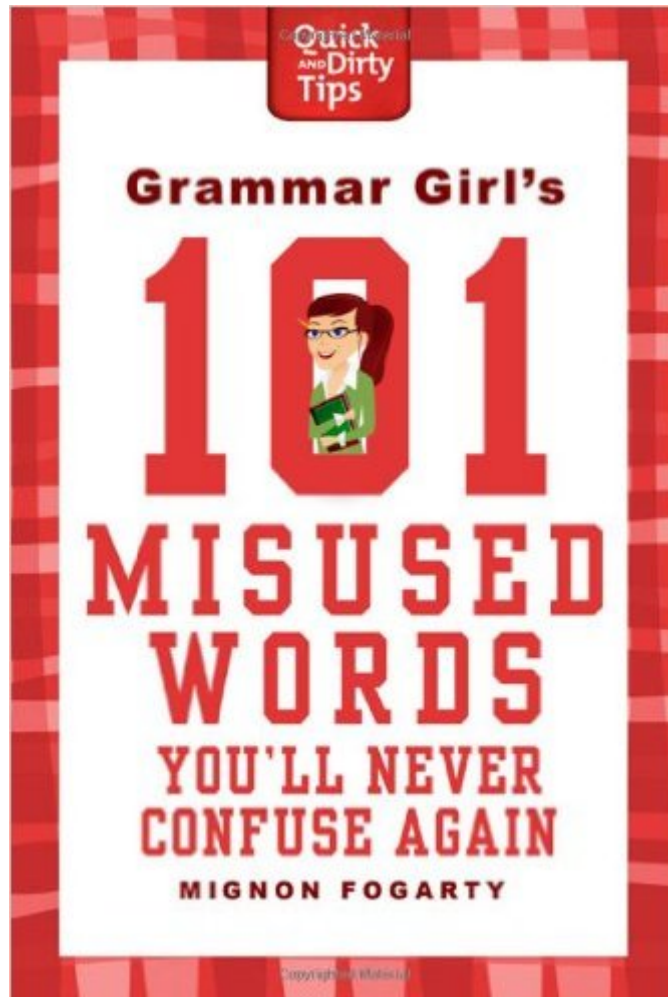


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# Grammar Girl's 101 Misused Words You'll Never Confuse Again (Quick & Dirty Tips)



## Synopsis

Millions of people around the world communicate better thanks to Mignon Fogarty, aka Grammar Girl, whose top-rated weekly grammar podcast has been downloaded more than 30 million times. After realizing her fans were asking the same questions over and over, Mignon decided to focus her attention on those words that continuously confound the masses. In Grammar Girl's 101 Misused Words You'll Never Confuse Again, you'll learn:- When you should use affect and when effect is right- Whether you should say purposely or purposefully- The difference between hilarious and hystericalPacked with clear explanations, fun quotations showing the word used in context, and the quick and dirty memory tricks Mignon is known for, this friendly reference guide ends the confusion once and for all and helps you speak and write with confidence.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Grammar Girl has a knack for putting the most useful information from dictionaries and style guides together into one fun-to-read place. I teach English and would love to require (or give) this book to each student (not to mention most of my friends and family members).Even if you think you have a firm grasp on easily confused words (capital/capitol, hone/home, trooper/trouper), you might find that you're wrong. Grammar Girl gives enough background on the words to help you understand why the words are often confused and then even offers tips for how to prevent mixing them up again. (Take "trouper," for example. So many people spell it "trooper" when they mean "trouper,"

and Grammar Girl explains that the expression "What a trouper" comes from when an actor [a member of a troupe] nails a particularly tough role. That is why it should be "trouper," not "trooper" in that context. Neat, huh?) Keep in mind that you can't count on spell and grammar check to catch these errors in usage, especially if the words mixed up are the same part of speech, so this small, handy book belongs in every writer's desk and every student's backpack. Parents, use this (and Grammar Girl's other Quick and Dirty Tips books, such as Grammar Girl's 101 Words Every High School Graduate Needs to Know) to quiz your kids at the dinner table. These books are small, inexpensive, fun, useful, and portable.

This book helps readers solve the most common problems people make with word usage when both writing and communicating. In the introduction to her book, Fogarty addresses the reader by mentioning how English can be tricky to even the most advanced in the language. After drawing the reader in with her introduction, Grammar Girl then dives right into her list of confusing words. On each page, Fogarty states two words that are regularly confused with each other. The use of quotes from modern television and movies make the terms more relatable to everyone. Shortly after distinguishing between each of the two words, a quick and dirty tip is located in a box at the bottom of the page that explains how Grammar Girl remembers when to use each of the two words discussed. After the book has been read, it is sure to be used as a reference guide to keep in your library for quick reminders the next time someone is stuck on a word. Mignon Fogarty must have had this thought in her mind when writing this book because each of the words placed in alphabetical order through the book. This will make referencing trouble words easy in the future and this book a must have for anyone, beginner or advanced in the language, who never wants to confuse words again.

Grammar Girl does it again. I've always loved her clarity and the real world examples that she provides in her blog and her publications. 101 Misused Words is exactly what it sounds like except I think the "101" part might be more of an estimate. I think she covers more than that. This book is an A-Z list commonly misunderstood and abused words. If you're a nerd like me, you'll probably be happy to read this book from cover to cover. Otherwise, browse through the contents to see what's included and then keep this book as a desktop reference. One note on the Kindle version (which is how I purchased this title): The Kindle is really good for novels and publications that just contain long flows of text. I expected trouble with a book like this, because the paper version of the book includes lots of formatting and visual queues to help make her point. I was pleasantly surprised by

the creative formatting in this Kindle version. I didn't see any of the usual Kindle formatting problems. Well done Grammar Girl!!!

Unfortunately, even if I could give this away to all of them, what are the chances they'd read it? That's the problem. This is actually for those people who really do give a darn how they use words. And, hey, maybe forget about the students. I think this should be handed out to all those wannabe authors who put out those cheapie e-books that I have been gullible enough to order for my Kindle. This book is not all-inclusive. How can it be when it's only 101 misused words? But it does have some of my really big peeves: lie v. lay/ loose v. lose/ peak, peek, and pique/ affect v. effect/ complement v. compliment/ compose v. comprise, and more. One missing pair that really needed to be included but is not is "discrete v. discreet", but you can't have everything, I suppose. And it's fun to read, written with a sense of humor and with clear explanations. Oh, if only this could get more people to care that you lay down the law but you lie down on your bed.

So many, many people need this book. Flesh out vs. flush out. Because of vs. due to. Reign vs. rein (I see that used wrong all the time). I admit, this book has been living in my bathroom for a long time, so I can flesh out my vocabulary while flushing... Anyway, great word choices, great examples that help me to remember... Every writer and blogger and Tweeter should buy this book.

I discovered Ms. Fogarty during a Google for help and like her approach to the answers she gives. You actually stand some chance of remembering the rule because of how she explains it. This is a handy reference too. Surprising how many are misused or confused and if you have extra time, see how many errors you can catch during a news broadcast. ;)

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