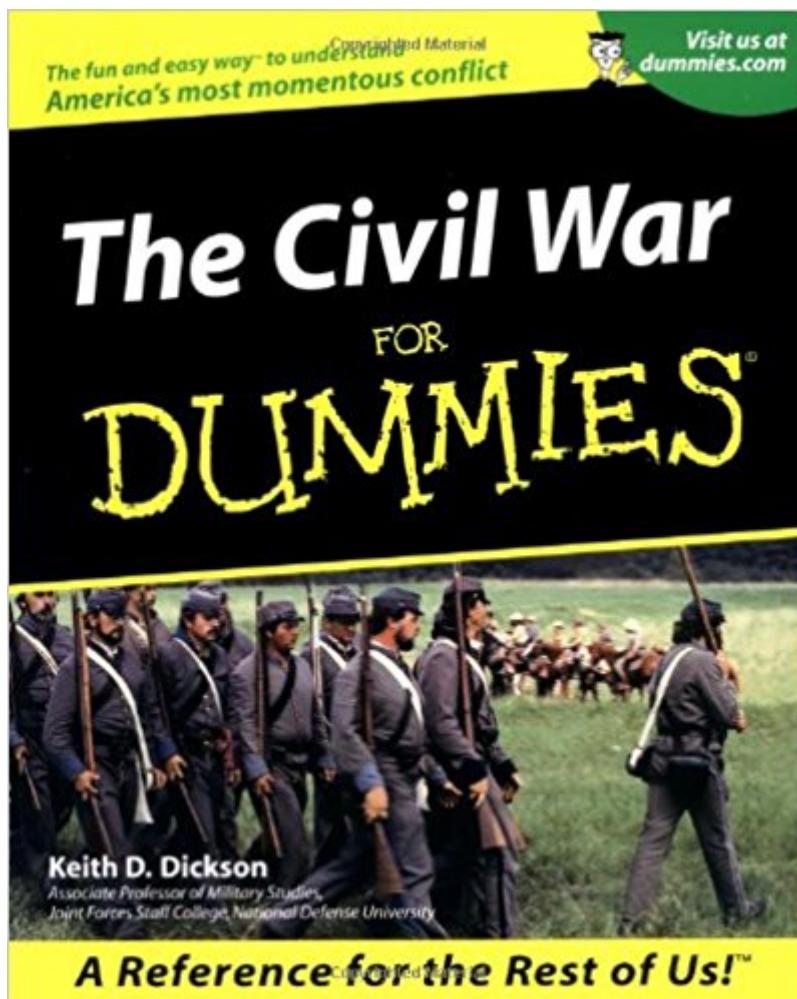


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# The Civil War For Dummies



## Synopsis

The Civil War was America's trial by fire; its battles forged the nation we know today. We're still fascinated with it — the national reckoning with slavery, the legendary generals and leaders, the epic and bloody clashes of armies, the impact on the daily lives of ordinary people. We visit its battlefields — mostly idyllic patches of countryside near small towns and creeks — where more Americans died in combat than in all other wars combined, except for World War Two. And we tell its stories — of last charges, brother fighting brother, imprisonment and emancipation, and tragedy and rebirth. It is our country's epic; the story of how we became who we are, and what price we paid. *The Civil War For Dummies* is your complete introduction to this seminal conflict. Eschewing tedious historical pondering and military micro-analysis, this fun and information-rich guide gives an accurate overview of the event, from the war's causes through the fighting to the aftermath. Inside you'll discover: 1850-1860: what led to war First Bull Run: illusions lost Antietam: the bloodiest day The Emancipation Proclamation Heroes and goats of each major battle Jackson's Valley Campaign Sherman's March to the Sea Surrender at Appomattox And much more Full of sidebars and illustrations, *The Civil War For Dummies* brings history to life with personalities, factoids, battle reports, strategic maps, and "what ifs." In addition to the military and political history, you'll also find out about: The African American experience in the war Women and the Civil War Native Americans and the war The life of the common soldier Banking and finance systems and the war —"Firsts" that make the Civil War history's first modern war Civil War food Civil War tourism: the best battlefields to visit, and how to get the most out of your trip Written in an accessible style so you can start reading at any point in the story, *The Civil War For Dummies* makes a great cornerstone for learning about this violent and compelling chapter of American history.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Includes maps of major battles and photos The leaders, the politics, the battles, the soldiers &#151; all brought vividly to life The Civil War changed everything in America. What really happened? Packed with fascinating anecdotes, fun facts, and top ten lists, this friendly reference clues you in on the issues that caused the war and gives you the scoop on the people, politics, and battles that decided its outcome. Discover how to: Understand the causes of the war Trace the major military campaigns Evaluate the generals and leaders Discover the war's impact on women, African Americans, and American Indians Visit battlefields and see reenactments The Dummies Way&#153; Explanations in plain English "Get in, get out" information Icons and other navigational aids Tear-out cheat sheet Top ten lists A dash of humor and fun Get smart! [www.dummies.com](http://www.dummies.com) Register to win cool prizes Browse exclusive articles and excerpts Get a free Dummies Daily&#153; e-mail newsletter Chat with authors and preview other books Talk to us, ask questions, get answers

Keith D. Dickson is an associate professor of Military Studies at the Joint Forces Staff College, National Defense University. He earned his Ph.D. in American history at the University of Virginia and is a Lieutenant Colonel in the United States Army Special Forces (Green Berets).

As with all of the 'Dummies' books, this is concise and to the point. It's very helpful to get an idea of what was going on during those years, and learning what my ancestors were for and against (some from the North and South). History was probably my least favorite subject in school .... well, there's math.... and since starting the family trees, I'm MUCH more interested. Great reference.

An excellent single-volume history of the Civil War for those that want to fill in the blanks of their education without getting bogged down in detail....its causes, its weapons, its battles, with information at the back aimed at travelers who wish to visit the battlefields they've read about and how to do it. Even a few tops tens at the end including The Ten Worst Civil War Generals. Maps, sidebars with interesting facts, index. Recommended reading.

This book explains everything from what led up to the war, how it ended and everything in between. It's full of information and interesting facts. The author has an impressive background and an easy writing style. I particularly enjoyed Chapter 29, where he gives descriptions of some of the generals. One of the best Civil War books I've ever read.

I haven't read the book. I've just received it and was about to sit down to read it but can't because it smells of mold. I'm allergic to mold, so have to throw it away and buy a new copy :( .

I had read this book before, then gave it away to aid a friend in school history studies. However, I missed the book, so I purchased it again. It's a great book to read quick facts when one doesn't have time to read a larger, more detailed book on particular portions of the Civil War.

great review and history book he has an intimate knowledge of the subject and current warfare and provides a thorough analysis of actions and strategy

Exactly what I was hunting!

Great price! I use it to try and stump my know-everything-about-the-Civil War-friend, He has no idea I have this book! I sure sound smart though!

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