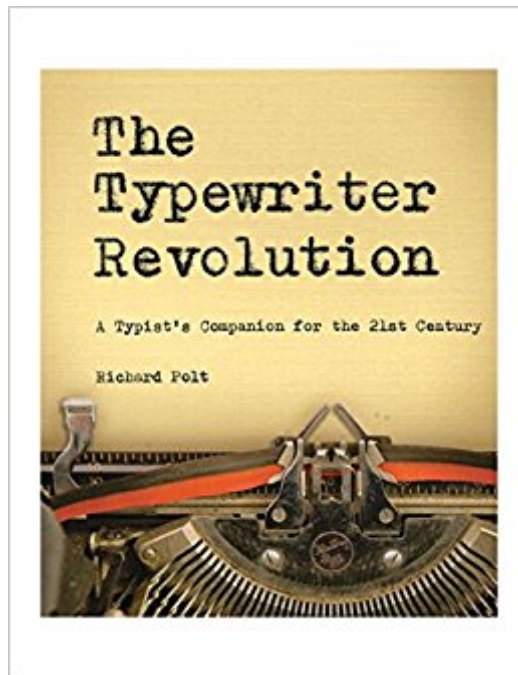




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# **The Typewriter Revolution: A Typist's Companion For The 21st Century**



## Synopsis

The connoisseur's guide to the typewriter, entertaining and practical What do thousands of kids, makers, poets, artists, steampunks, hipsters, activists, and musicians have in common? They love typewriters—the magical, mechanical contraptions that are enjoying a surprising second life in the 21st century, striking a blow for self-reliance, privacy, and coherence against dependency, surveillance, and disintegration. The Typewriter Revolution documents the movement and provides practical advice on how to choose a typewriter, how to care for it, and what to do with it—from National Novel Writing Month to letter-writing socials, from type-ins to typewritten blogs, from custom-painted typewriters to typewriter tattoos. It celebrates the unique quality of everything typewriter, fully-illustrated with vintage photographs, postcards, manuals, and more. 50 color photographs

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Richard Polt is the creator and webmaster of The Classic Typewriter Page and the blog Typewriter Revolution. For over twenty years he has been pursuing his love of the typewriter as a collector, webmaster, blogger, magazine editor, repairman and frequent typist. Polt teaches philosophy at Xavier University in Cincinnati, Ohio.

What a great book! I was inspired to invest in a manual typewriter a year ago and wish this book had been available then. It literally answered all my questions and made me feel less weird knowing

there are other people out there who share my love for things less digital. I especially liked the bookmark typewriter ribbon, nice touch by the author. Would highly recommend as a companion to anyone who enjoys using typewriters in the modern age.

This is a lovely, gorgeous, thoroughly researched resource for any typewriter lover. And yet, I'm reading it like a story because it's written lovingly and engagingly. Polt knows his stuff, and it shows from the very first page. His affection for these marvelous machines is evident on every page, and yet he's no Luddite and admits it right up front. As a gadget geek myself (with more electronic junk in my home office than a Best Buy store), I can appreciate the dual love for computers AND typewriters. Polt rightly recognizes that they're different machines doing different tasks. I currently own five typewriters (an IBM Selectric, plus four manuals of varying ages), and if typewriters were smaller, I admit I'd own more of them. This book acknowledges that each brand, each model has its own personality and quirks. Polt's book is an amazing reference book for all sorts of typewriters, without the dry, dull tone that one imagines when hearing "reference book." The quality of the book is also wonderful. Even the ribboned bookmark is fun: It's half black, half red like a typical two-tone typewriter ribbon. The flex-bound cover makes it easy to hold open and read, and the full color photos throughout are the icing on the cake. I'd highly recommend this book to anyone who has a soft spot or a bit of curiosity about typewriters of any kind. You'll be hooked right from the beginning.

~ ~ Typewriters have not become antiquated, they have evolved and now you can find out just what amazing things you can do with these beautiful machines! As a novice collector who actually uses a typewriter to type letters, poems, etc. this was very helpful to me. It shows me all the possibilities my machine has to offer. It also talks about how to fix your machine, what to look for when buying a machine and gives you tips and tricks to use whether you're a novice or expert. The author gives us information in very useful ways and in a way that keeps us entertained as well as informed. I recommend the book to anyone with an interest or love of typewriters.

Excellent, well-written book on typewriters and their present state of use and interest. Typing and typewriters have seen a resurgence in the past decade or so and Dr. Polt's book gives a detailed over view of the renewed or refound interest in something that is not digital, does not distract, does not need new software every few months, and does bring enjoyment to those who like to type and/or restore and repair old typewriters. The thing about typewriters they were made to use and to last. Computers were never made to last, and most software was made to kind-of work. Manual

typewriters need no external energy source either. They only need the force of one's fingers to work. This book is not only meant for those who like to type or like typewriters though. Those who may only be curious as to what a typewriter is or why some one uses one when there are computers to do the work for you -- like spell check the wrong word correctly spelled used incorrectly -- can find some of their answers in the chapters about authors and poets who still use typewriters in their work. I'm not all that good at finding the right words to say. I do hope I spurred your interest in the book. I have enjoyed reading it several times already. The day it arrived I read through it completely. Then I decided to read it more slowly. Then last week end I read it again. I do that with books sometimes if I like the book.

If you have any interest whatsoever in manual typewriters then this book is must have. The author takes you on a fun journey through the history of typewriters and explains everything you need to know to join people around the world who have declared their love for this old-fashioned technology. The Typewriter Revolution is richly illustrated with informative descriptions of different brands and models along with helpful shopping tips and advice on keeping your typewriter in good working condition. Polt's words flow on the pages and it is hard to put this book down. Even though it is over 375 pages I found myself wanting to read it in one sitting. Who would have thought a book about typewriters would be a real page turner. Not only does Polt provide interesting descriptions of typewriters, he also identifies famous people who used a particular brand and model. For example, did you know Ernest Hemingway used a Royal portable and that George Orwell preferred a Remington semi-portable? I learned that my favorite science fiction writer, Issac Asimov, used an IBM Selectric and that in all likelihood a note he sent me back in 1977 was typed on a Selectric (see photo). This is all fun stuff. In closing, I suggest you use Amazon's "Look inside" feature and scroll through the pages. When you are done I believe you will buy the book.

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