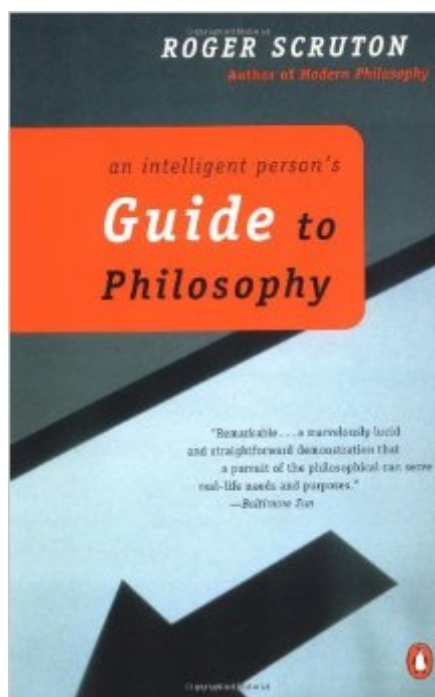


The book was found

# An Intelligent Person's Guide To Philosophy



## Synopsis

"Philosophy's the 'love of wisdom', can be approached in two ways: by doing it, or by studying how it has been done," so writes the eminent philosopher Roger Scruton. In this user-friendly book, he chooses to introduce philosophy by doing it. Taking the discipline beyond theory and "intellectualism," he presents it in an empirical, accessible, and practical light. The result is not a history of the field but a vivid, energetic, and personal account to guide the reader making his or her own venture into philosophy. Addressing a range of subjects from freedom, God, reality, and morality, to sex, music, and history, Scruton argues philosophy's relevance not just to intellectual questions, but to contemporary life.

## Book Information

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: Penguin Books (February 1, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0140275169

ISBN-13: 978-0140275162

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.5 x 7.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (21 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #831,038 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #307 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Reference](#) #1701 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > History & Surveys](#) #8798 in [Books > Self-Help > Motivational](#)

## Customer Reviews

Roger Scruton's "An Intelligent Guide to Philosophy" is a fantastic book with a tremendous amount of interesting things to say but which at times is very hard to understand. The first chapter "Why?" delves into that word which gives rise to philosophy. We can answer that question by giving a cause, a reason (which might also be a cause) or something that makes an action intelligible, according to Scruton. Science gives causes of the first kind while philosophy, in the way the world currently is, "attempts to justify the other kinds of 'Why?' - the 'Why?' which looks for a reason, and the 'Why?' which looks for a meaning" (pg 25). This plays into a constant theme of Scruton's, "If this book has a message, it is that scientific truth has human illusion as its regular by-product, and that philosophy is our surest weapon in the attempt to rescue truth from this predicament" (pg 8). The next three chapters "Truth", "The Demon" and "Subject and Object" deal with truth, language and

skepticism about the external world (and maybe some other subjects as well). This addresses Descartes's evil demon and the skepticism about the external world that has plagued modern philosophy since Descartes's "Meditations on First Philosophy" (1630). After dealing with these metaphysical/epistemological subjects, Scruton turns to questions of human nature and ethics in chapters 5 through 10. He has some very interesting things to say about what distinguishes humans from animals (language is important) and about the crucial need that religion has addressed for human beings. I can't resist: "... the rational being lives in a condition of metaphysical loneliness" (pg 89).

[Download to continue reading...](#)

An Intelligent Person's Guide to Philosophy Cool Colleges: For the Hyper-Intelligent, Self-Directed, Late Blooming, and Just Plain Different (Cool Colleges: For the Hyper-Intelligent, Self-Directed, Late Blooming, & Just Plain Different) Between Person and Person: Toward a Dialogical Psychotherapy Person to Person: The Problem of Being Human, A New Trend in Psychology The End of Comparative Philosophy and the Task of Comparative Thinking: Heidegger, Derrida, and Daoism (SUNY Series in Chinese Philosophy and Culture) ... Chinese Philosophy and Culture (Paperback)) Windows 10: From Beginner To Expert: A Complete User Guide to Microsoft's Intelligent New Operating System (Now With Bonus Chapter) (Windows - General ... General Guide, Windows - General Mastery,) Windows 10: (A Beginner to Expert Manual) A Complete User Guide to Microsoft's Intelligent New Operating System How to Read a Book: The Classic Guide to Intelligent Reading The Intelligent Woman's Guide Facebook and Philosophy: What's on Your Mind? (Popular Culture and Philosophy) The Wrong of Injustice: Dehumanization and its Role in Feminist Philosophy (Studies in Feminist Philosophy) The Philosophy of Psychiatry: A Companion (International Perspectives in Philosophy and Psychiatry) Philosophy Of Law: An Introduction To Jurisprudence (Dimensions of Philosophy Series) Information, Freedom and Property: The Philosophy of Law Meets the Philosophy of Technology The Philosophy of Neo-Noir (Philosophy Of Popular Culture) The Economy of the Earth: Philosophy, Law, and the Environment (Cambridge Studies in Philosophy and Public Policy) Star Trek and Philosophy: The Wrath of Kant (Popular Culture and Philosophy) The Princess Bride and Philosophy: Inconceivable! (Popular Culture and Philosophy) Stephen King and Philosophy (Great Authors and Philosophy) Adventure Time and Philosophy (Popular Culture and Philosophy)

[Dmca](#)