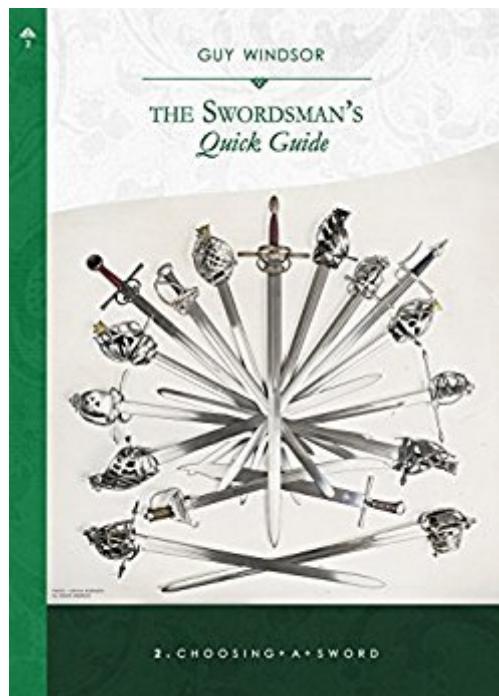


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# Choosing A Sword (The Swordsman's Quick Guide Book 2)



## Synopsis

This book is for beginners who want to practise swordsmanship, and need to know what kind of sword to buy. It covers what to look for in safe training weapons, as well as the ideal range of length, weight and other specifications for each major European sword type, including: Falchion, Arming Sword, Longsword, Sidesword, Rapier, Backsword, and Smallsword. It also covers choosing a supplier. Guy Windsor is a professional researcher and teacher of historical European swordsmanship, and the author of several top-selling books on the subject, including *The Swordsman's Companion* and *The Medieval Longsword*.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

there isn't anything that you couldn't find doing a little research. It is nice that it has been gathered into a single place and organized but there really wasn't any new information I hadn't already uncovered researching previously. I'm not bashing the book in anyway. If you don't know anything and are intending to start practicing WMA this is a good place to find what you need to know before buying a sword. It is a nice little guide for the uninformed. If you have been researching and even started practicing you won't find much new info.

I like having the numbers for weight, length, and balance, but not one of the pictures shows! I'm reading it on an Fire HDX 7" tablet, so there shouldn't be any picture-rendering problems. I even tried a reboot. This is frustrating! Still a good reference even with only the text.

I did not want to give this booklet a too low a rating. It is a good over view and useful. I only wish there had been more information on the types of swords in general.

He also referenced a site that has moved or no longer in business? Hopefully get an addendum. Still good stuff though.

Great product and seller

On this installment: I really wish I'd had this booklet when I started out. I probably would have saved a lot of money. Probably... Even now it will be useful when I get all tingly for a new weapon I'm really not prepared to buy, but just can't control myself. (This happens a lot.) Still, it's really more for new HEMAists, in my opinion. Good, general information. I feel like some really good, important suppliers were left out, but if Guy hasn't bought from them he really can't vouch for them either. Even though I'm not a tournament fighter and don't need that information myself, a section on what weapons are typically used for tournaments probably would have been really useful for those who want to compete. I also would have liked to have seen a section, even if it was small, on non-sword weapons, such as cane, dussack, sickle, dagger, etc. HEMA includes a lot of arts that aren't sword related. One piece of advice about ordering online not included here, is don't be afraid to contact the seller. While my experience has been that every seller worth their salt will not only respond but engage with you about questions, it's also important to understand that they are very busy, so be patient. Unfortunately, buying strictly online is a reality for most of us, so it's good for new practitioners to know that it's okay. My favorite piece of advice here is actually DON'T HAGGLE. These are artists, for crying out loud. Don't be a jerk. On the series: This series of booklets is great for newbies to HEMA. It gives you a great place to start and focus your efforts in the beginning. The concepts are pretty general, but they are intended to be. Make no mistake, there are some valuable tidbits for experienced HEMA practitioners... well worth the cost of the booklet, but don't expect a revelation in your practice.

This review is for *The Swordsman's Quick Guide Series* recently published by the esteemed swordsman, Guy Windsor. I have been an admirer of Guy Windsor's scholarly and practical achievements in Historical European Martial Arts (HEMA) for over a decade. In the early 2000s I was the Study Group Leader for ARMA DC and we used his book *The Swordsman's Companion* as one of our two main study guides to train with the Longsword. His interpretations and advice are first class. Over that decade Guy has continued to study, train, teach, and publish new books. This latest series of short books each cover important aspects of HEMA. 1) The Seven Principles of Mastery 2) Choosing a Sword 3) Preparing for Freeplay There are only a handful of truly practical books on HEMA, Guy Windsor's are among the best. I highly recommend that you add each of these volumes to your HEMA training library.

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