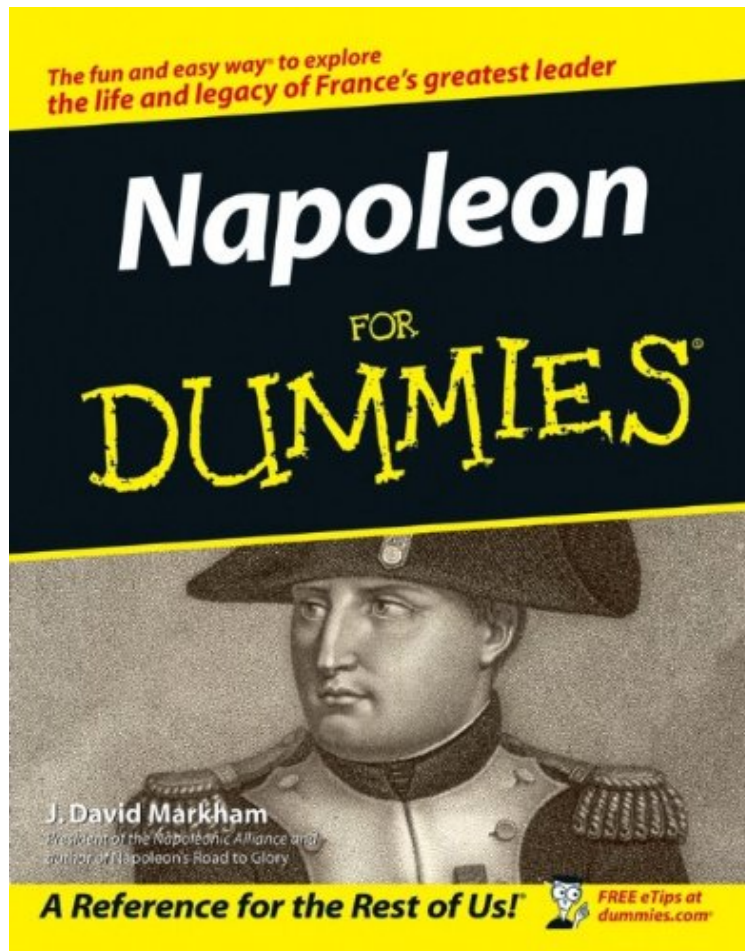


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Napoleon For Dummies

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J. David Markham : Napoleon For Dummies before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Napoleon For Dummies:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Great Beginner's Guide to NapoleonBy AndrewIn the annals of world history, few names stand as tall as that of Napoleon. As the cover of the books says, he was France's greatest leader and his actions during his lifetime left a tremendous impact on the course of world events.Napoleon was born on Corsica of Italian descent. He went to school in France studying military and warfare. He eventually joined the army and quickly moved up the ranks and gained national prominence due to his military skills. He came to prominence during the French Revolution. He won victories during the siege of Toulon and and later invaded Italy and Egypt before ultimately becoming the sole ruler of France. He continued his military victories including his most famous one at the Battle of Austerlitz. It seems during his rule, he was constantly at war. Great Britain was constantly wary of Napoleon's motives. Napoleon would never be able to attack the island nation due to its superior naval force.

Napoleon was only king on land. Great Britain and France made several alliances and coalitions during the period either to try to stop war or to sometimes instigate it. Eventually, however, Napoleon's luck would start to run out. It started with his disastrous invasion of Russia in 1812 and then his defeat in 1814 when the British sent him to the island of Elba. However, he returned to France and seized power once again, if only for a few months. He fought his most famous defeat at the Battle of Waterloo. The British would have no more of him and permanently exiled him to the remote island of St. Helena where he eventually died. But the book does not only cover Napoleon's military successes. It also looks at his more personal life such as his relationship with Josephine, Marie Louise, and other women. It looks at the various reforms Napoleon made not only in France but, through his military action, spread to other areas of Europe. These included spreading the ideals of the French Revolution, bringing the idea of nationalism to a fragmented Italy and Germany (which set the stage for unification later that century), his law reforms in the Code Napoleon, and the idea of religious freedom. Napoleon was not only a great military commander, but an important reformer as well. I found this book to be an interesting and informative look at Napoleon and his times. I would recommend this book to the more novice person interested in learning more about Napoleon or French/European history. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Like any book in the Dummies series that is written ...By K. J. Greene Like any book in the Dummies series that is written regarding history, NFD gives a total overview of the subject and is explained in an easy-to-understand method. This is recommended for anyone who's interest in a particular subject of history is in the beginning stages. Or for someone wanting to get a grasp of something in a short amount of time without reading huge volumes of books on the subject. NFD covers Napoleon's life along with the footprint he left upon history. And Napoleon left a very large one. For those who's perception of Napoleon is a little man with a huge inferiority complex walking around with one hand inside his coat, this book is a definite must-read. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Educating a Dummy By Stew I enjoy reading history and of course ol' Napoleon pops up on occasions, so I thought I'd read his biography. The bad thing is ,I haven't read a whole lot on European history, and there's a lot of books out there on Napoleon. When I saw the Dummies book, I thought what the heck I need all the help I can get, laymans terms. There's likers and disliker authors on Napoleon. Mr. J. David Markham seems to be a liker. Even though most Dummie books are put together for reference and bouncing around Mr. Markham put the book together very nicely so there for it's a cover to cover book that keeps your interest. He answered all the questions that I had about the French Revolution and what Napoleons intentions were.

Explains his influence on the military, law, politics, and religion Get the real story of Napoleon Bonaparte Not sure what's true about Napoleon? This easy-to-follow guide gets past the stereotypes and introduces you to this extraordinary man's beginnings, accomplishments, and famous romances. It traces Napoleon's rise from Corsican military cadet to Emperor of the French, chronicles his military campaigns, explains the mistakes that led to his removal from power, and explores his lasting impact on Europe and the world. Discover * How Napoleon built -- and lost -- an empire * The forces that influenced him * Why he created the Napoleonic Code * The inside story on Josephine * How he helped shape modern-day Europe

From School Library Journal Adult/High School-This book is divided into 10 parts, each consisting of 3 to 4 short chapters that focus on a general theme, such as how Napoleon built his empire, how he lost it, why some of his reforms and ideas were so revolutionary, and the impact he had on Europe. Markham also addresses such issues as Napoleon's height, why he was portrayed with his hand in his vest, and whether he really divorced his 47-year-old wife to marry an 18-year-old princess. The author writes as if he were engaged in a conversation with readers rather than as a noted scholar. He keeps the sections in each chapter long enough to convey important information, but short enough to hold casual readers' attention. The text is interspersed with dry humor that takes on a rhythm of its own that, combined with the numerous cartoons that place Napoleon in humorous or absurd situations, will keep readers amused. Numerous high-quality photographs are appropriately placed throughout the text. A useful general reference.- Robert Burnham, Robert E. Lee High School, Springfield, VA Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From the Back Cover Explains his influence on the military, law, politics, and religion Get the real story of Napoleon Bonaparte Not sure what's true about Napoleon? This easy-to-follow guide gets past the stereotypes and introduces you to this extraordinary man's beginnings, accomplishments, and famous romances. It traces Napoleon's rise from Corsican military cadet to Emperor of the French, chronicles his military campaigns, explains the mistakes that led to his removal from power, and explores his lasting impact on Europe and the world. Discover How Napoleon built — and lost — an empire The forces that influenced him Why he created the Napoleonic Code The inside story on Josephine How he helped shape modern-day Europe About the Author J. David Markham is an internationally acclaimed historian and Napoleonic scholar. His major books include Napoleon's Road to Glory: Triumphs, Defeats and Immortality (winner of the 2004 Napoleonic Society of America Literary Award); Imperial Glory: The Bulletins of Napoleon's Grande Armée (winner of the International Napoleonic Society's 2003 President's Choice Award); and Napoleon and Dr. Verling on St. Helena. He has been featured on the History Channel International's Global View program on Napoleon, the History Channel's Conquerors program (Napoleon's Greatest

Victory; Caesar in Gaul) and Napoleon: The Man Who Would Conquer Europe, as well as in programs on the Learning and Discovery channels. He has served as historical consultant to History Channel and National Geographic Society programs. Markham has contributed to four important reference encyclopedias (Leadership; World History; American Revolution; French Revolution and Napoleon). He has presented numerous academic papers to conferences in the United States, the UK, France, Italy, Israel, Georgia, and Russia. He is President of the Napoleonic Alliance and Executive Vice-President and Editor-in-Chief of the International Napoleonic Society. David has organized International Napoleonic Congresses in Italy, Israel, the Republic of Georgia, and France. He was the first American scholar to present a paper at the Borodino Conference in Russia. His awards include the Legion of Merit from the International Napoleonic Society, the President's Medal from the Napoleonic Alliance, and the Marengo Medal from the province of Alessandria, Italy.