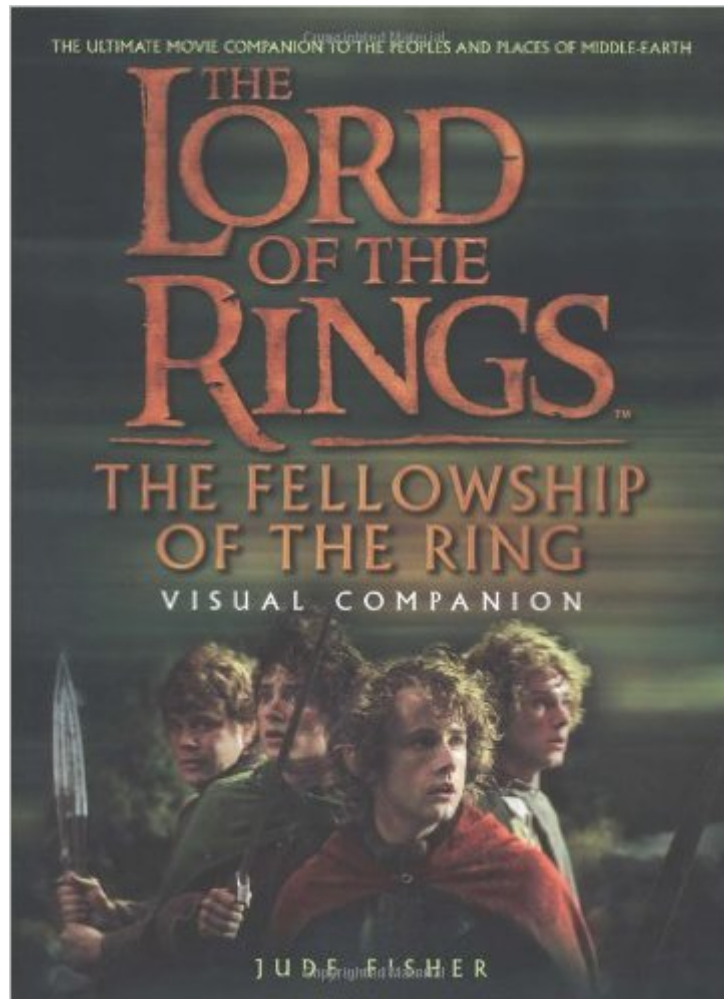


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# The Fellowship Of The Ring Visual Companion (The Lord Of The Rings)



## Synopsis

Houghton Mifflin is proud to present a full-color, large-format, guide to the characters, cultures, and locations of J.R.R. Tolkien's extraordinary creation Middle-earth, as depicted in the movie *The Fellowship of the Ring* - the first of three blockbuster films from New Line Cinema. Filled with stunning imagery and with a thorough, informative narrative text, *The Fellowship of the Ring Visual Companion* will provide the reader with a rich feast of detail and information. Featuring exclusive photos of Frodo, Gandalf, the Ringwraiths, elves, and all the other main characters and creatures of the first film, the book also includes breathtaking pictures of Hobbiton, Rivendell, and Moria. The first of a projected three-book series that no Tolkien fan, from novice to expert, should be without, *The Fellowship of the Ring Visual Companion* contains a special eight-page gatefold of large-format images unique to this book.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The "Lord of the Rings" movie recently was probably the best movie I've seen, and Jude Fisher's accompanying visual companion is a good piece of work. It gives a concise, good summary of people, places and different races in Middle-Earth. It'll tell moviegoers background tidbits not in the movie: why Sam is fascinated by Elves, what happened to Frodo's parents, that Legolas is a prince, what Elrond's ancestry is, and Gandalf's true nature. We are filled in less so on places: Lothlorien itself gets only four paragraphs. Individual species get more space: We hear about the history of the human Men of Middle-Earth, about the habits of the hobbits, and the "leaving these shores"

comment about the Elves. I would like to remind some of the other reviewers that many people -- adults and children -- have not read the books and this book is probably for them. So to give away massive spoilers concerning Moria would be very bad news. (Just as this book doesn't let us know what happens to certain characters) So it's inevitable that some parts of the plot, especially those that hinge the plot, will not be revealed. Some clues about events in "Two Towers" are given -- look carefully. The pictures are very good, very well chosen -- the ones of Frodo and Sam in particular. Overall, if you have never read the LOTR trilogy (or "Hobbit") then this is definitely the book to pick up. It won't clue you in on every exquisite detail, but it will get rid of much of your confusion.

I love the Lord of the Rings series and movie - I've read the books many times since I was young, and have seen the movie several times already. This is a fantastic companion book to both. It gives organized information on each of the main characters, describes some of the key plot elements in the story, and has large, full color photos that aren't found anywhere else. The pictures are great - they show just how much incredible work went into the details on the movie. While other movies use blue-screen and just computer-generate everything, with LotR they fabricated thousands and thousands of items by hand. Every race was thought out - what would an elf fork look like? How about a hobbit pipe? The armor was individually made, the mail shirts constructed from thousands of individual links. Even tiny fragments of parchment on the ground in the Mines of Moria had tiny runes on them. You can see that awesome attention to detail in these photos. One of the best features of the book for me was the great fold-out map in its middle. Far better than the small ones you get in the books! On the downside, they bound the book right through its center, instead of offsetting the map so it could be hung, or at least binding in white space. The result is that Gondor turns into Gndor and Rohan into ohan, and a lot of key features like Moria are lost in that binding. Such a simple thing to have done differently! But other than that gripe, this is definitely a must-have for any fan of the series.

This is a beautiful visual companion to The Fellowship of the Ring, the first movie in the Lord of the Rings trilogy. All of the major races and many of the major characters are profiled with gorgeous color photographs...many of which I haven't seen in my 2+ years of collecting these photo's on a daily basis. The first chapter deals with history of the rings and the last alliance of elves and men. Hobbits, Men, Elves, Dwarves, Istari, Orcs, Uruk-Hai, and the Nazgul follow with each profiling major figures and/or locations associated with that particular race. The book is just what it says, a

visual companion. There is very little in the way of textual information...you should buy the Official Movie Guide for that. All in all, well worth purchasing.

This book is highly recommended for almost anyone who plans on seeing the upcoming movie version of "The Fellowship of the Ring." For those previously unfamiliar with the works of J.R.R. Tolkien, it offers a convenient, easy-to-follow reference to the important characters, places and things that will be featured in the movie. For Tolkien fanatics it serves as both a visual and literary preview of the movie, with its gorgeous photographs and brief quotations from the movie's script. It also confirms a few of the rumors about the changes made to the story in the movie (e.g., Rosie Cotton appearing as a barmaid in the Shire sequence or the hobbits getting their swords from Strider rather than from the Barrow-wight, who is omitted from the film) and informs the reader of one or two more changes of which I was previously unaware (such as the Dwarves' Rings being kept safe rather than seized by Sauron or destroyed by dragons as in the book). In short, this book is a wonderful preview of the movie before it comes out and will be an excellent souvenir of the film after you have seen it.

Normally these sorts of books haven't really appealed to me since I was a child, seeing the first two Star Wars movies as they were released. This visual guide, though, is a cut above: It's an abridged (intended as the first of three, naturally) visual encyclopedia of the films' version of Middle-Earth, and explains, in brief, everything that one would need to know about the people, places and things in the first movie. I was surprised by the level of detail: There were facts about wizards that are only known to readers who go beyond the trilogy to the Silmarillion. Pretty impressive! It should be noted that not everyone in the movie is in here: Gollum is notably absent, as his appearance in the film is being kept as a surprise for film-goers. Definitely worth buying for anyone who enjoys the books or the movie.

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