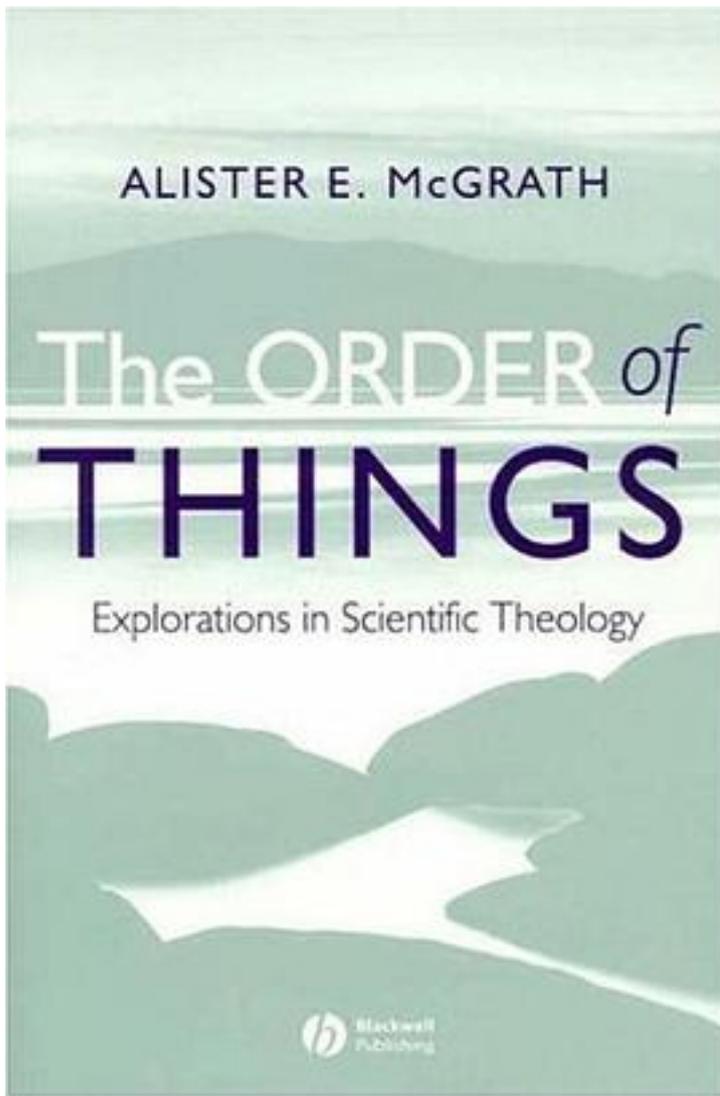


The Order of Things



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著者:Barbara Ann Kipfer

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Barbara Ann Kipfer has outdone herself with the taxonomy of the world's everything. Organized by subject (such as "Life Sciences," "Technology," "Religion," "General Knowledge," and "The Arts"), life's schema and constructs spell out the various ways man orders his existence. Take "Domestic Life," for example. It lists anniversary gifts (paper for the 1st, tin for the 10th), birthday stones, and zodiac qualities, clothing sizes (coats, shirts, shoes, socks, and such for men, women, and children, by U.S., U.K., and European systems), luggage sizes (steamer trunk to cosmetic case), and kitchen tools by type of use. Gem cuts are illustrated, bed sizes are charted (with dimensions) from crib to California king, and steel wool grades are defined, from super fine to extra coarse. The only notable omission from *The Order of Things: How Everything in the World is Organized into Hierarchies, Structures, and Pecking Orders* is *The Order of Things* itself, which belongs foremost among the world's great reference books.
--Stephanie Gold --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Prolific reference author Kipfer (Roget's 21st Century Thesaurus, LJ 9/1/92) here presents a collection of hierarchies and lists of information (rather than definitions or explanations) covering a wide range of topics, from animal classification to the Mafia to silverware. The book is arranged in 13 broad categories, with the lists within those categories arranged alphabetically. Kipfer asserts that she has included the "essential and interesting orders" in each subject area, but, inevitably, information has been left out. For instance, one will find poker hands but not the ranking of the suits in bridge and Norway's rulers but not Sweden's. Generally, no sources are cited, even for cancer survival rates. While the contents partially overlap with many reference books, this title is unique in its emphasis on hierarchies. It will be handy for ready reference, but the uneven coverage and lack of citations make it less than essential. [BOMC alternate, Writer's Digest Book Club, and Newbridge Book Club.]?Debra Moore, Loyola Marymount Univ. Lib., Los Angeles.

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"A browser's delight and a definite reference 'must'."

--Ralph Hollenbeck, King Features Syndicate

"Start with Kipfer, who understands the unbearable frustration of unanswered questions."

--The Dallas Morning News --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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