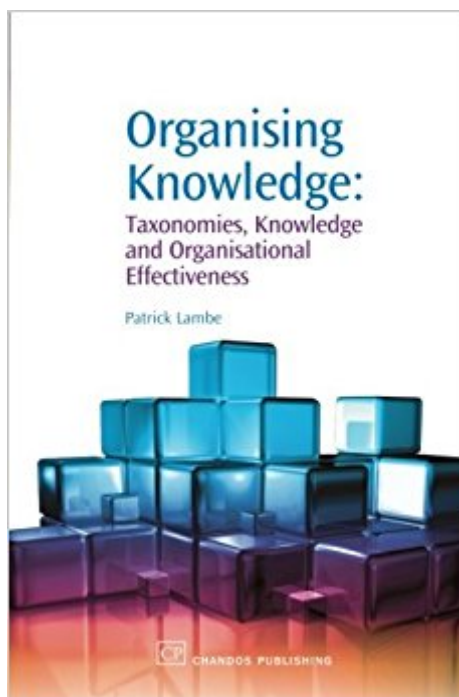




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# Organising Knowledge: Taxonomies, Knowledge And Organisational Effectiveness (Chandos Knowledge Management)



## Synopsis

Taxonomies are often thought to play a niche role within content-oriented knowledge management projects. They are thought to be a "nice to have" but not essential. In this ground-breaking book, Patrick Lambe shows how they play an integral role in helping organizations coordinate and communicate effectively. Through a series of case studies, he demonstrates the range of ways in which taxonomies can help organizations to leverage and articulate their knowledge. A step-by-step guide in the book to running a taxonomy project is full of practical advice for knowledge managers and business owners alike. Written in a clear, accessible style, demystifying the jargon surrounding taxonomies. Case studies give real world examples of taxonomies in use. Step-by-step guides take the reader through the key stages in a taxonomy project.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Full of insights and useful tips. You really must read it., Inside Knowledgeâthis book would be undoubtedly a very useful asset. âintroduces some interesting new perspectives on the importance of taxonomies within organisations., The Electronic Libraryâwell-illustrated and supported by a rich collection of relevant case studies., The Electronic Library

Patrick Lambe is a widely respected knowledge management consultant based in Singapore. His Master's degree from University College London is in Information Studies and Librarianship, and he has worked as a professional librarian, as a trainer and instructional designer, and as a business

manager in operational and strategic roles. He has been active in the field of knowledge management and e-learning since 1998, and in 2002 founded his own consulting and research firm, Straits Knowledge, with a partner. He is former President of the Information and Knowledge Society, and is Adjunct Professor at Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Patrick speaks and writes internationally on knowledge management, and has conducted a number of taxonomy projects, usually as an integral part of larger knowledge management initiatives. He is the author of *The Blind Tour Guide: Surviving and Prospering in the New Economy* (Times, 2002). His knowledge management writings are posted at [www.greenchameleon.com](http://www.greenchameleon.com).

Patrick Lambe provides excellent insights and tips for anyone facing a project to design and implement an enterprise content management system. Through many thought-provoking examples, he makes it clear that a collection of unstructured data is only as good as the effort that went into its organization, and he demonstrates the critical need for collaborating with the content providers and consumers to understand their thought processes and expectations. Some of the examples include some very uncomfortable lessons about the dangers of badly conceived taxonomies. He also makes the subject very interesting by placing the art of taxonomy in its historical context, showing us how various dynamic individuals developed classification systems that are now widely deployed and have an impact on everyday life. This book is highly recommended to anyone interested in the implications of the enormous amount of digital information accumulating at an ever-increasing rate.

My two co-reviewers appear to have a vastly greater experience in this field, and I was pretty much flying blind when I plunked down \$60+ USD for a paperback. The other reviewers have a pretty good opinion of this book, and many of the alternative books suggested did not get great reviews. However, the other reviewers sound like experts and I wasn't sure the book would be useful to me, a beginner trying to get a maximum amount of understanding of taxonomy for a minimum investment of time and money. They were right about the value of *Organising Knowledge*. I don't want "Taxonomy for Dummies" and O. K. is not that book, but it CAN serve the same need. If you are new to the field, or even if you have been doing this work in your company for several years and want to know more of what your company's taxonomy-Jedi Knights are talking about, start here. (If you are an expert, read the other reviews and make your decision.) It is becoming my business to set up wikis for people. Reading *Organising Knowledge* is helping me to think about how to create the basic structures, rather than starting with randomly-selected keywords and hoping everyone will think of the same descriptors. This isn't light reading. However, it's only difficult in that the material is

new to me. The writing is clear and I'm not having any trouble following, if my brain would only not go off on so many side trail along the lines of "Oh, I could do THAT for this client..." or "NOW I see what those other clients were talking about..."So: from the newbie seats--good book.

Does a good job of presenting theoretical and "big picture" information without staying chained to it--case studies and a somewhat informal tone balance these out with practical insights and advice. Good for most any stage of a taxonomy or knowledge/content/document management project.Also, +1 for talking about spimes. ;)

This is a must read for anyone preparing to create a taxonomy. Very well written with many case studies to support the points and recommendations presented. This book has become the most flagged, dog-eared, underlined book in my library. Thank you Mr. Lambe for this excellent contribution to a challenging topic.

One year earlier, I was appointed to a taxonomy development work, and we hired a consultant company to help us to it.But 6 months later, when I purchased this book, (at that time, no comments are available on the ), I knew what we've get from the thousands dollars consulting is much less what I get from this book.How I wish someone had published a comment before my project.

This book is a must read for anyone that needs to organize documents and knowledge. It gives a complete view on what most of us do intuitively (not to well) when organizing and classifying. You finish the book with clear ideas to make your classifying work easier.

An outstanding book on developing taxonomies for repositories, companies, and websites. Packed with useful information and well worth the time.

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