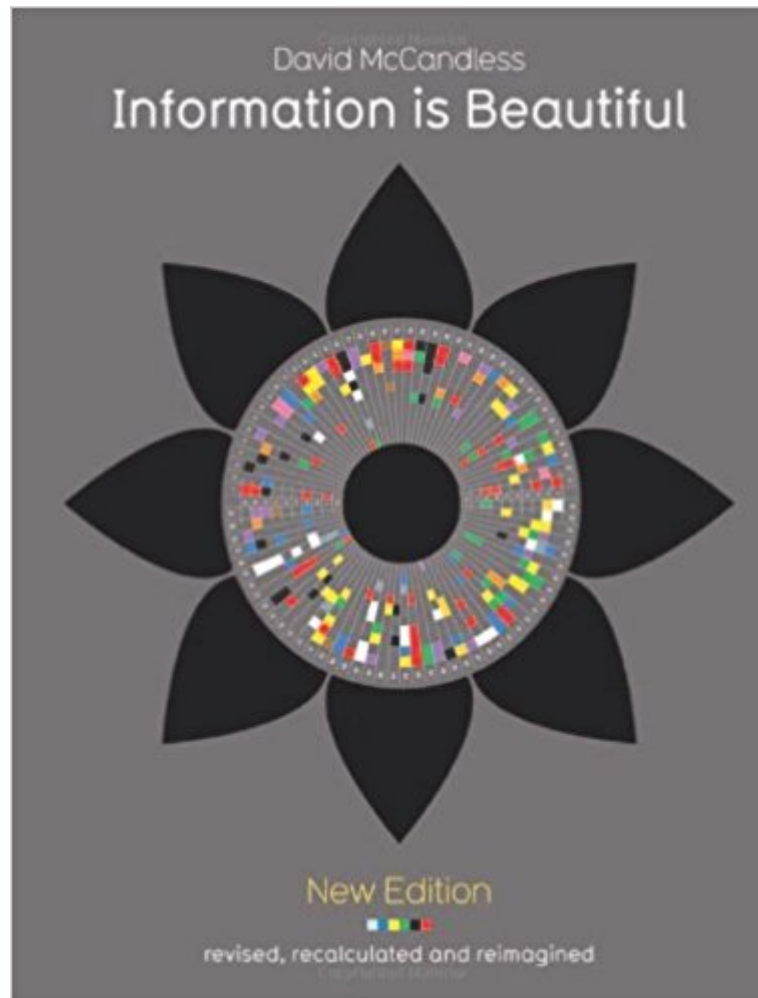




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# Information Is Beautiful (New Edition)



## Synopsis

Facts, statistics, issues, theories, relationships, numbers, words - there is just too much information in the world. We need a brand new way to take it all in. 'Information is Beautiful' transforms the ideas surrounding and swamping us into graphs and maps that anyone can follow at a single glance.

## Book Information

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Subject Guides

## Customer Reviews

'Unbelievably brilliant' - Vogue '(a) terrific compendium of visual information' - Shortlist

'thought-provoking, lovingly crafted and informative; a handsome book that anyone would be

grateful to receive' - The Independent on Sunday 'In this intriguing book, David McCandless

presents a cavalcade of compelling and colourful graphics, each one innovative in its attempt to

offer a new perspective on some of our most pervasive twenty-first century obsessions' - Time Out

'Stunning' - The Sunday Times 'thought-provoking, lovingly-crafted and informative; a handsome

book that anyone would be grateful to receive' Picked as one of the best science books of the year

in Arts & Books, Independent on Sunday 'What David McCandless has done is genius... dry data is

transformed into small pieces of pop art that engage so much you end up learning more, without

realising it. The ideal encyclopaedia for the information age.' Red Handed

David McCandless is an award-winning writer and journalist. His work has appeared in over 30 magazines in the UK and the US and all over the web. He currently works as creative consultant for Orange and the BBC and writes about the Internet, underground culture and 'anything interesting'

for Wired and The Guardian.

I'm fortunate to have attended Edward Tufte's great lecture on the visual presentation of statistical information, and so I approach any chart as a skeptic. First off, this IS the same book as *The Visual Miscellaneum: A Colorful Guide to the World's Most Consequential Trivia* - you don't need to buy both. The positive: Elegantly designed, beautifully presented graphics, satisfies Tufte's first rule: "have a compelling story to tell with your data" (bad paraphrase, I'm sure). My book has NONE of the defects other reviewers describe (ink splats in EU version, no labels on some charts in US version). The negative: any reader who spends a little time with a ruler and a calculator analyzing the "Billion Dollar-o-gram" (p. 10) will wonder how many of the other charts in the book are fabrications. Seriously. \$300 Billion isn't anything like  $4.5 \times \$97$  Billion, yet that's what the comparative areas in this chart suggest. What kills me is that the chart would've been just as interesting and MORE compelling if it was accurate. There's off-the-shelf treemap software that will generate such a diagram automatically AND accurately. I had my questions about the validity of some of the charts my first time through, but other reviewers' questioning of their accuracy in *The Visual Miscellaneum: A Colorful Guide to the World's Most Consequential Trivia* made me look for myself. I have no way to check some of the other charts (which occasionally lapse into what Tufte calls "chart-junk") - as they're irregular figures, and difficult to compare by area. Suffice it to say that the accuracy problems with the billion-dollar-o-gram place the rest of the charts in the book under a cloud of suspicion as well. When you present data, you're putting your own reputation on the line. You MUST present data accurately, if you're going to present your data as truth.

Amazing and very informational book. Filled with high quality diagrams and images and beautiful drawings. Would recommend for adults and older children though as there is some adult content. Great book for someone who is curious and fascinated with the living world around them.

This is a great book for those who want to attain a general idea on data visualization. For those of you who are skeptical between this book and the Visual Miscellaneum I would definitely suggest you to buy this one. It almost covers all the Visual Miscellaneum drawings and also has a lot more pictures.

Feels like a textbook, not a coffee table book (which is what I was hoping for). The content is cool but the pages feel cheap.

Got this in my Reading Room. Great, great book. Full of fun, thought-provoking graphics. Some of my favorites: p.100 - Moral Matrix - I choose to be "Modern - New Age" p.242 - Making a Book - This seems very similar to my company's software development programs p.156 - Types of Coffee - Why can't Starbucks make me a Granita con Panna ? p.151 - Body By - HaHaHa!! p.134 - Dangers of Death - I'm still trying to map this onto my activities list Buy\_This\_Book\_

Pretty imagery that works fairly well as visual design, however they don't work that well as data/information visualizations.

Great read! The data reflected in this book has been very useful in conversations and in my work. I highly recommend this to anyone who is interested in big data, current global interests, and elegant infographics.

It can give good inspiration in way of sharing information or how we interpret it. I really recommend not only looking at it, but also understand the example given and even better try to imagine one of your own. Money well spent.

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