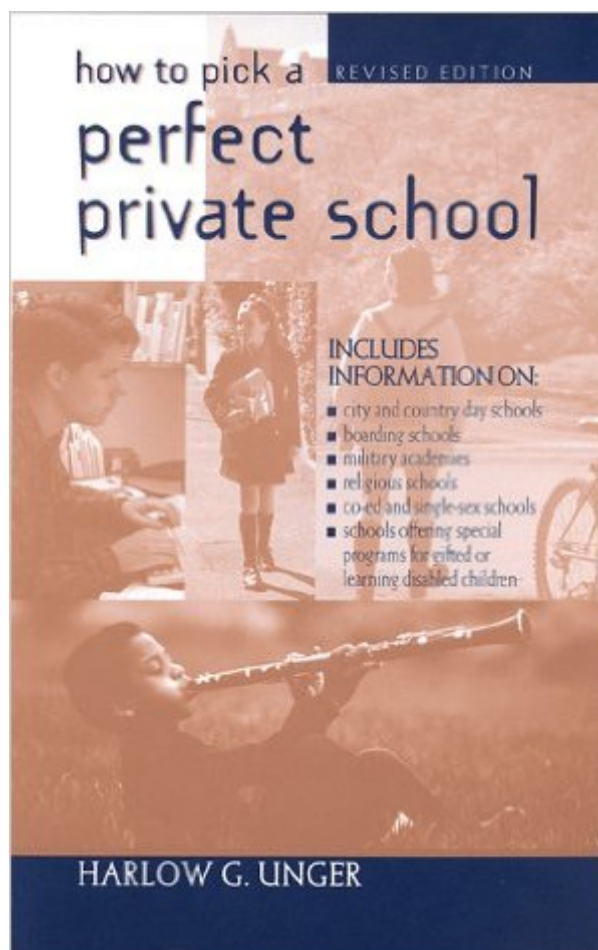


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How To Pick A Perfect Private School



Synopsis

How to Pick a Perfect Private School offers parents a complete guide to every aspect of private schools. Coverage includes how to choose the type of private school best suited for the child, the special needs of gifted children and children with learning disabilities, and financial aid.

Book Information

Hardcover: 230 pages

Publisher: Facts on File; Rev Sub edition (December 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0816037922

ISBN-13: 978-0816037926

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 6.2 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.5 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #11,341,173 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #69 inÂ Books > Education & Teaching > Test Preparation > College & High School > Prep School #29649 inÂ Books > Textbooks > Test Prep & Study Guides #54555 inÂ Books > Education & Teaching > Studying & Workbooks

Customer Reviews

Despite a virulent anti-public school bias, Unger's guide to picking a private school has some helpful information and tips on choosing a private school. Frankly, however, anyone who needs this type of hand-holding to get through the private school application process, is probably not private school material. Unger's best tip is to buy the Peterson's guide to secondary schools.

If you are the kind of parent who believes your children can be wonderful hood ornaments on the vehicle of your personal success, this is the book for you. The author abhors public schools because, as he says, they have to accept EVERYBODY (ugh!). He favors and supports boarding school education for children as young as first grade (only about five years old) so that they can live in a warm, morally consistent (but unloving) environment all year long, and because he feels that the child and his parents will then share only happy memories of carefree summers and holidays, with none of that messy and mutually irritating go-clean-up-your-room-and-do-your-homework fuss and muss. In other words, he seems to believe that children are better raised by goal-oriented institutions, who see their students as a product being readied for the marketplace, than by their

parents rearing their own offspring as a gesture of love and tenderness. As a teacher, and as a parent of private-school kids, I found the author's attitude completely offensive, and I have to say that this is the kind of material that gives private-school families a bad name. I would have given it a "1" rating -- especially because the author supports his point of view with speciously derived and manipulated statistics -- but undoubtedly there are parents who do subscribe to his point of view, and will benefit from this book.

The perfect manual for any parent considering sending their child to a private school. The book will be especially useful to families with older children who are considering going to boarding school. The book covers issues concerning the application process, questions parents should ask, visiting the school, and different types of schools including military school, schools for the gifted, and schools for the learning disabled. There's also a short listing of schools in the back listed by state grade, whether or not their coeducational, boarding schools, schools for the disabled, military schools, etc. However, you'll need a private school directory such as Peterson's in order to find out any info. about the schools.

While I would agree with others that there is a definite (especially in the introduction) bias towards private schools, that is to be expected - the book's title says how to pick the BEST private school; not whether private or public schools are better. Some great topics covered by this book: 1) What time is the best to enroll in private school (if the child is already in school and will be transferring)? 2) Is it better to pay for private K-12 or a college education if funds are limited? 3) What accreditation is important in selecting a private school? (And not to confuse accreditation with certification!) 4) Which is better academically, parochial or independent schools?

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