Batman's Arsenal: An Unauthorized Encyclopedic Chronicle
For the first time, the entire scope and history of the Bat arsenal, from the famous cowl, the awesome Batmobile, the catacomb-like Batcave to the tank-like Tumbler is documented in this encyclopedic chronicle by Matt MacNabb. It is really Batman’s equipment and the unique gizmos he employs to keep Gotham safe that not only defines him but transforms him into a superhero. After all, he’s one of the very few superheroes who as human as the rest of us. Survey the many iterations of the Batman legend since its debut in Detective Comics #27 in May 1939: the original ferocious and bitter avenger, the campy crusader of the ’60s TV series, the dark brooding antihero of the graphic novels and the recent Chris Nolan Dark Knight films. What’s the one thing that remains consistent about this most mysterious of superheroes through the decades? His gear, his arsenal. When the Bat signal hits the night sky all the world knows who’s been called. If you really want to get to know Batman, and his 75-year legend, you must know his material. You think you know Batman? You don’t know the tenth of it. Matt MacNabb unravels the how and why of each significant piece of the Batman toolbox, along with intimate behind the scenes stories and knowledgeable commentary by the people who designed them. To really know Batman, you must know this army of dedicated, talented artists, writers and technicians who are the ones who have really brought the Caped Crusader to life over the decades. They are Batman’s secret pit crew, swapping the Bat tires and equipping the Bat utility belt. Most of them grew up as super fans of the comics and the books and the TV shows and the movies the same way everyone else did, but they got the lucky break to contribute to the legend. This Batman book includes: * Entire history of the Batman legend, in all media * In-depth interviews with the people behind the Bat cosmos * Expert analysis of the Bat legend by the author and other Bat-gurus * Exhaustive, intimate catalog of Batman’s incredible crime-fighting tools * Comparison of the various Bat incarnations, from comic book to film and beyond * The Bat foes from the Joker to Bane expert analysis and commentary
I wasn't sure what to expect when I ordered this book. I was a little leery about the unauthorized part of it, but all that worry quickly disappeared when I began delving in. I've been a Batman fan for many years and I own a lot of the various encyclopedias and guides that get released, so it takes a lot to impress me.Batman's Arsenal covers all of Batman's vehicles from the Batmobile, Batboat, Batwing, etc. down to the oddities like the Whirly-Bat...and when I say covers, I mean it gives you a complete history from Batman's 1930s comic book origins all the way through the cartoons and movies. It also goes over the history of the batarang, batsuit, utility belt, batsignal and more. The author is a well known authority in Batman and it shows. The level of detail, not to mention the interviews with Batman celebrities and the insight that the author gives made this a fantastic read.If you're looking for a definitive Batman guide, this book is it, I'd even say its essential for any Batman fan!

I enjoyed this author's Ghostbusters book, so I decided to check this one out too. I'm blown away by the amount of detail in this one. I was expecting brief overviews of Batman's weapons and vehicles and instead I got over 400 pages of intense detail. The interior design is nice and the info is really well organized. I can't recommend this one enough.

I can't express how much I've enjoyed "Batman's Arsenal", by legendary "Legions of Gotham" founder Matt MacNabb. This is THE most thoroughly researched book on Batman's gadgets, weapons, and vehicles to date; an exhaustive reference book that spans the Golden Age to the Arkhamverse. This amazing tome belongs in every Bat fans library; an essential part of the Batman mythos. 5 out of 5 stars!

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