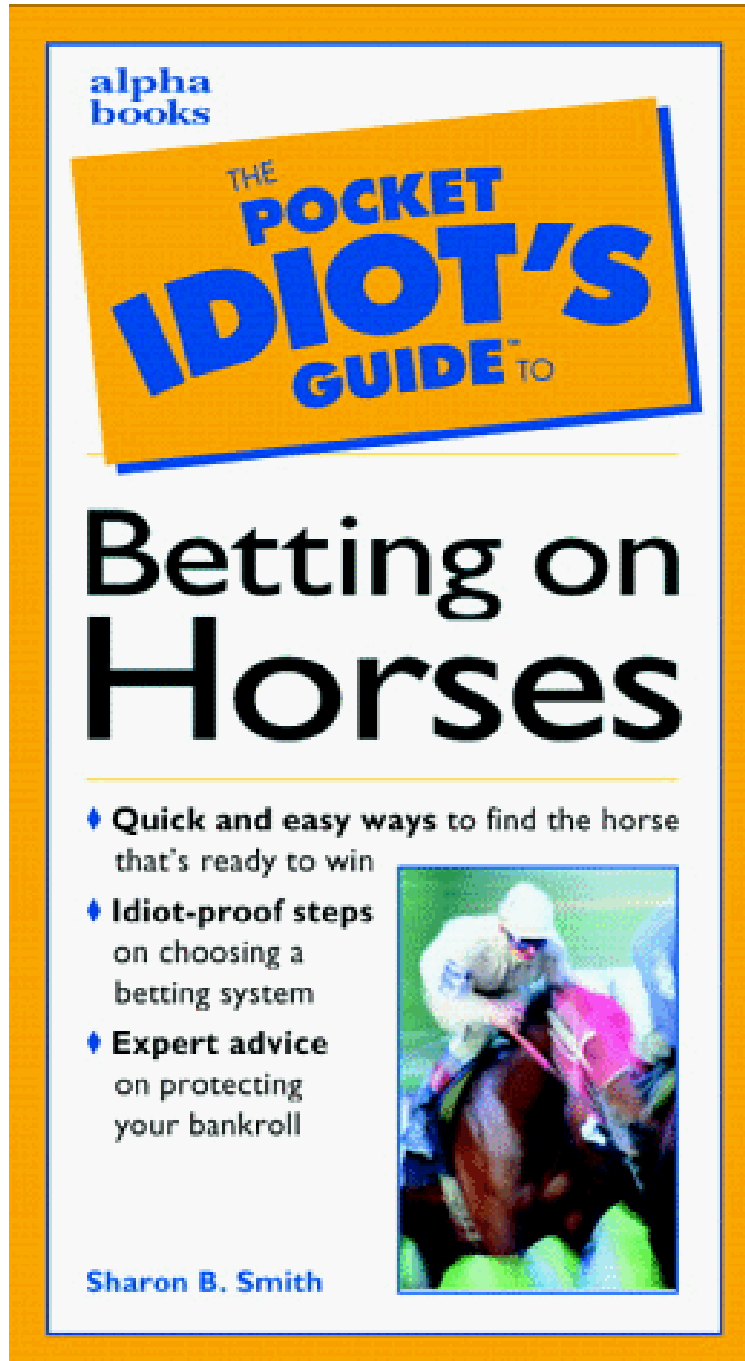


# The Pocket Idiot's Guide to Betting on Horses

Smith

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**Smith : The Pocket Idiot's Guide to Betting on Horses** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Pocket Idiot's Guide to Betting on Horses:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The Information Junkie's Guide to HorseracingBy Bernard M. PattenI always wondered if these idiot books are really intended for idiots or for someone else. Now I know that, if the series can be judged from this one small part, the title is meant ironically and facetiously. But an even better title would be Information Junkie's Introduction to Horseracing, which, incidentally, describes this little tome exactly. Packed with facts and authoritative guidance to betting on the nags, this work summarizes in a compressed modern pellet that large gaseous cloud of legend and fokelore that surrounds the sport of kings. So if you don't know the difference between a thoroughbred and a quarter horse, if you can't tell exactly how an exacta differs from a quinella, if you think eight furlongs is longer than a mile, then this is the book for you. Betting systems are adequately described and the novice should come away with an idea or two on how to work their own box or wheel, or progress the bets, or even go dutch. The only section I had trouble with was about reading the racing form. Whole books could be done on that subject, but even the small amount presented here was unclear and occasionally misleading. Some benign editor who didn't know much probably corrected some of the author's post positions to past positions especially when we are told past position is important and usually coming out close to the rail is an advantage. Also not quite up to the high quality of the rest of the book is the section on drugs. The author might profit by reading about the pharmacology of Lasix. And cocaine is not found in horse urine. If it is found in a post race urine, it simply means that the groom or the stableboy assigned to get the sample became impatient and peed in the cup himself. Such samples usually also have lots of nicotine and caffeine and always have a sky high chloride content that identifies with silver nitrate testing that the urine in question is of human and not horse origin. In the world of horses the big worry about what's stuffed up the nose is not cocaine: It's a sponge to block the favorite's breathing.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. a real helpBy Customerthis book has helped me to really understand betting on the races...i am really glad i decided to purchase it0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Pocket Idiot's Guide to Betting on HorsesBy A CustomerYou will no longer fall under the "idiot" category once you read this book. It is for those who do not know much about betting on horses or horse racing. It is handy, simple, and informative, as well as fun to read.

You're no idiot, of course, but when it comes to betting on the ponies, every-thing seems to be in the hands of Lady Luck. Not so! The Pocket Idiot's Guide to Betting on Horses takes the mystery out of going to the track. You'll build the skills you need to feel confident about examining the horses, studying their past performance and placing your bets. Inside you'll find: