



How We Know: Epistemology on an Objectivist Foundation

By Harry Binswanger



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What is knowledge? How is it acquired? How are claims to knowledge to be validated? Can man achieve rational certainty, or is he doomed to perpetual doubt?

How We Know presents an integrated set of answers to these and related questions, based on Ayn Rand's Objectivist philosophy, including her unique theory of concepts.

Rejecting the false alternative of mysticism vs. skepticism, Harry Binswanger provides an uncompromising defense of reason, logic, and objectivity. Using vivid examples, he traces the hierarchical development of knowledge, from its base in sensory perception, to concept-formation, to logical inference, to its culmination in the principles of science and philosophy.

How We Know explains how following methods of cognition based on the facts of reality and on the nature of our cognitive equipment makes it possible to achieve rational certainty, no matter how abstract the issue.

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How We Know: Epistemology on an Objectivist Foundation By Harry Binswanger Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #136686 in Books
- Published on: 2015-05-23
- Original language: English
- Dimensions: 9.21" h x .94" w x 6.14" l,
- Binding: Paperback
- 414 pages



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Editorial Review

About the Author

Harry Binswanger earned his Ph.D. in philosophy from Columbia University in 1973. He has taught philosophy at several universities, most recently at the University of Texas, Austin. An associate of Ayn Rand's in her final years, he has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Ayn Rand Institute since 1986. He is the author of *The Biological Basis of Teleological Concepts* and the editor of *The Ayn Rand Lexicon* and the expanded second edition of Ayn Rand's *Introduction to Objectivist Epistemology*. Formerly a political columnist at Forbes Online, Dr. Binswanger is now a Senior Contributor at RealClearMarkets. His blog, "Value for Value," is at www.HBLetter.com.

Users Review

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Rachel Robertson:

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Mollie Walker:

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Harry Anderson:

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Ron Matthies:

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