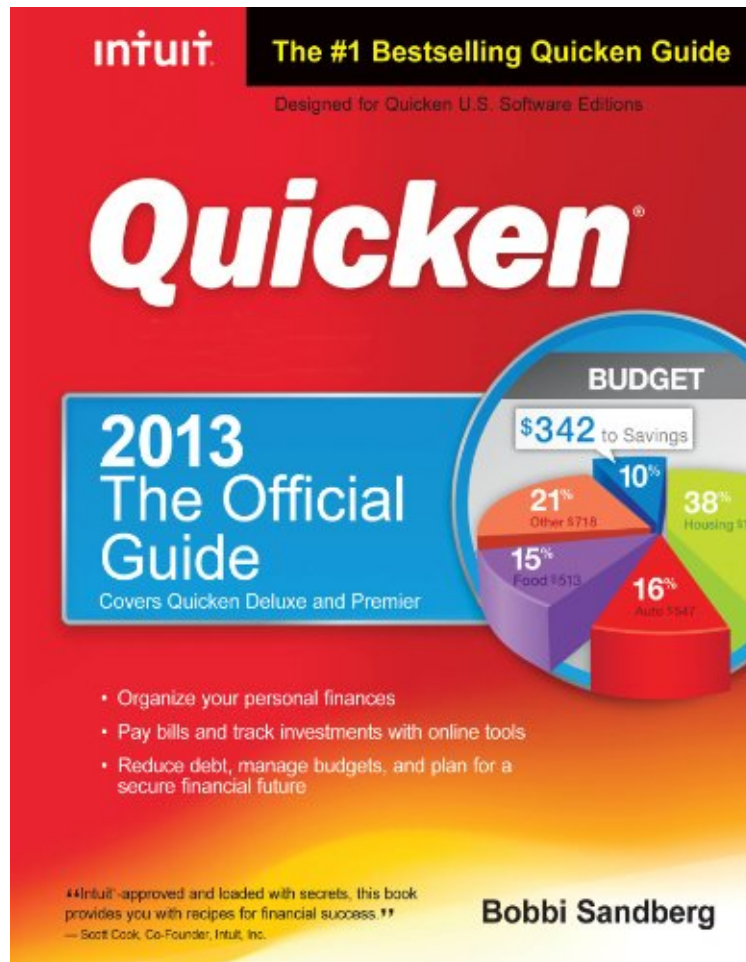


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Bobbi Sandberg

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Bobbi Sandberg : Quicken 2013 The Official Guide (Quicken Press) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Quicken 2013 The Official Guide (Quicken Press):

79 of 81 people found the following review helpful. Thorough Guide To Quicken Features By AdmiralU I've been a Quicken user for a long time and one thing I always do is obtain the official guide to see what the new Quicken edition offers and whether it is actually worth upgrading. I've put off updating since prior years didn't seem to offer that many changes (2009 edition). I am upgrading for the new edition thanks to the excellent information in this book. Bobbi Sandberg has taken over from Maria Langer as the author for the last several years. As a computer geek, I have read some of Bobbi's books before. She is a very thorough author who explains things in plain English and offers many tips, tricks and suggestions for how you can adapt the software to your needs. I have often seen many complaints about software from people who don't take the time to learn how to use it. I know people are in a time crunch and a book like this may seem overwhelming. This book is over 600 pages, don't let this put you off or scare you away. It is organized into easy to read sections that start with the basics and gradually move to more advanced topics. You can simply read

what interests you and skip what doesn't. There is excellent information for everyone from beginners to advanced users. A lot of problems some may have with the software could be avoided with a quick reference from this book. While Ms. Langer used a bit more formality on the sidebars, Ms. Sandberg uses the excellent "In My Experience" to share her insight (she has used and taught Quicken since the beginning) the tips are worth the time taken to read them. What can you expect to learn? The difference between a Data File and an account (a common mistake for some Quicken users), the difference between an automatic backup and a manual one (besides the obvious, if you have saved attachments in Data file they ARE NOT SAVED in an automatic backup!), complete coverage of preferences, toolbars, menus, options and how to customize to your liking and customize to earlier editions, exploration of the new Quicken Mobile app, and solid advice for taking control of your finances. This book covers the Deluxe and Premiere editions of Quicken. Part One covers Learning Quicken Basics (installing the software, setting up your first accounts and getting up and running including Quicken Mobile) Part Two covers Banking (recording bank and credit card transactions, using online banking features, automating tasks, reconciling accounts) Part Three covers Managing your Investment Accounts (including stocks, bonds, 401k, research tools, etc) Part Four covers Tracking Your Financial Position (monitoring assets, loans and tracking net worth) Part Five covers Forecasting Your Financial Future (financial calculators, reducing debt and saving money and planning for tax time) Part Six covers the Appendixes (managing the Quicken files and customizing Quicken) Ms Sandberg is a welcome change bringing her vast experience and knowledge to Quicken users. Everything is explained in plain English and there are many screen shots of graphs, charts and program shots. You will not go wrong taking some time to familiarize yourself with the program, new features and changes. While Quicken does have an extensive Help system, I still prefer a good computer book by a great author that really helps me not just use the program, but make it really work for me. 18 of 18 people found the following review helpful. Information Too Scattered By dtfl am new to Quicken so felt I needed some guidance to help me get it properly set up. This is a book of over 660 pages, possibly containing everything you might ever want to know about Quicken. The challenge is finding what you want without having to wade through multiple sections, each containing snippets of information on the topic you are researching. So many times a topic would be covered in some detail followed by a comment that it would be covered in more detail in a later chapter. Very frustrating and annoying. A number of topics were never covered in the detail I needed to make it work for me. It seemed that the author was assuming that the user already had some knowledge of Quicken or was able to bridge a knowledge gap in some other way. If you are a beginner, I would suggest you look for a more concise and condensed resource. 36 of 38 people found the following review helpful. A bit superficial By James WI have used Quicken for years, typically upgrading every two years, not for new features as much as to stay current with support, especially online banking, etc. Frankly, each upgrade offered little extra in the feature department, but with each new version came a bit of a learning curve, looking for 'buttons' that had been moved, etc. When Q2013 was announced, I was fascinated with the idea that I could use my tablet to access Quicken data, but realistically, this idea was more of a conceptual one than a real need. But after reading initial reviews telling of the problems, I held back a bit. Finally I read of releases and fixes that gave me enough assurance that it would not corrupt my data, that I bought the new version. Even then, I was reluctant to install it, waiting a month or so, and then installing it only after careful backup of my Quicken data. Ironically, I STILL have not attempted to install the software to my tablet... The new features (tablet access and big changes to budgeting) were a bit intimidating, so I went looking for a book, finally buying this one. Keep in mind that I have owned Quicken, and used it extensively for years, using online updates for bank accounts, credit cards, investment accounts, and the lifetime planner, so although there were some changes, for the most part, I could figure it out with little difficulty. The book seems to cover Quicken 2013 pretty well, but lacked in depth coverage in the areas of my primary interest (budgeting and tablet access), leaving me to discover the intricacies of the budget module 'on my own', and as earlier mentioned, still have dared not try the tablet access. Maybe some day... This is probably a decent book for someone relatively new to Quicken, but if you are looking for in depth coverage of things like budgeting, you'll likely be disappointed.

The Only Official Guide to the #1 Personal Finance Software Filled with insider tips and expert techniques, Quicken 2013: The Official Guide shows you how to manage your finances and assets with confidence. Discover the most efficient and effective methods for tracking your income, expenses, savings, transactions, investments, and so much more. Fully endorsed by Intuit, makers of Quicken, this official guide saves you time and money by revealing how to maximize all of the software's powerful capabilities—including new features and hidden gems. You'll get professional advice along with information about online resources to assist you in reducing debt, making sound financial decisions, and planning for a secure future. Customize Quicken for your preferences Track income, expenses, and cash flow Set up Online Account Services Automate transactions and tasks Analyze banking activity with snapshots, reports, and graphs Reconcile checking, savings, and credit card accounts Take advantage of the budgeting and debt reduction tools Track investments and optimize your portfolio Monitor assets and loans Manage household records Save money and plan for retirement Simplify tax preparation and maximize deductions

About the Author Bobbi Sandberg is a consulting accountant and retired CPA who has been a trainer, instructor, and teacher of all things computer in the Pacific Northwest for more than 40 years. Specializing in making 'numbers your friend', Bobbi has helped everyone from high-school students trying to figure out a way to pay for both college AND the prom to senior citizens trying to use 20th century dollars in the 21st century. She teaches at community colleges and senior centers where she is known for the handouts she provides. Some students say she provides a text book in specialized handouts for each class she teaches. Recognized by Intuit as a Certified Professional Advisor, she has been a user, advocate, and trainer of Quicken since its first DOS version in the 1980s.