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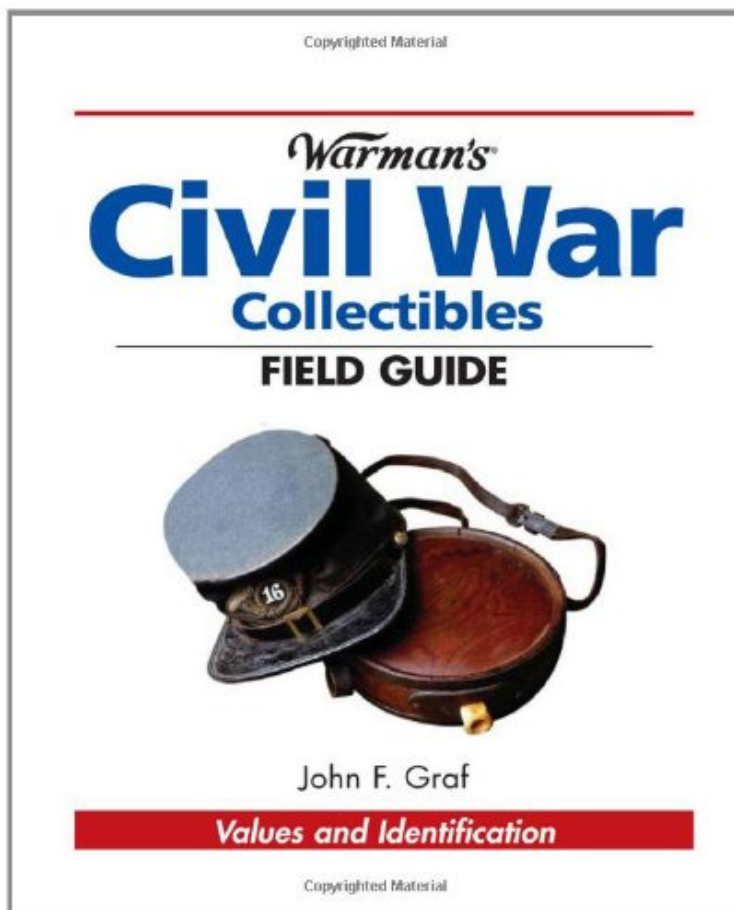
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*John F. Graf*

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(Ebook free) Warman's Civil War Collectibles Field Guide: Values and Identification (Warman's Field Guides)

## Warman's Civil War Collectibles Field Guide: Values and Identification (Warman's Field Guides)

**John F. Graf : Warman's Civil War Collectibles Field Guide: Values and Identification (Warman's Field Guides)** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Warman's Civil War Collectibles Field Guide: Values and Identification (Warman's Field Guides):

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five Stars By James A. Cortengood resource 3 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Caveat Emptor By Dr. Victor S. Alpher This purports to be a handy field guide that one can take to auctions, flea markets, and the like for identification purposes. Descriptions read like those that usually accompany reputable auction house photographs, published in pre-auction catalogues that ordinarily cost 3 times the suggested price of this book. In this case, however, far too many descriptions have no accompanying photograph. Unfortunately, the prices given are somewhat (to be kind) out of date. Furthermore, many of the item classes are specialties in themselves, and provenance (meaning proof of origin in writing) is more reliable than information that can be crammed into a "field book" of this sort. Descriptions of items with no photos of an example

are really useless to the novice and meaningless to the cognoscenti. One of the positive aspects of the book are the occasional diversions regarding what kinds of items are difficult to fake (e.g., flags) but there is no discussion of how to evaluate any purported Confederate item (whether used after pickup on the battlefield, manufactured in the South, or imported. Such issues are critical to anyone willing to put hundreds of dollars into any Civil War item. The Glossary is also good, but too short--the Index a positive, but also brief. If you are going to go into collecting, you're going to need much more than this type of "field guide." An investment of a few hundred dollars in specialized books (e.g. Civil War Rifles, Dance Brothers Revolvers, Civil War Swords come to mind), will save one hundreds of dollars in errant purchases. "Caveat Emptor"--let the buyer beware!!

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