Top 10 Best-selling Books In History
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05. The Lord of the Rings
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INTRODUCTION

Books are historically the most significant and widely used source of information, entertainment and education. Even now, in the era of internet and television, books remain popular with many millions of buyers weekly. The following ranking of top 10 best-selling books is updated in 2020.
1st place

Title: The Bible
Author: Several

Genre – Religious
Year of original release – 1st century AD
Original Language – Hebrew / Aramaic

Sold: 5 billion copies sold
2nd place

Sold: 1.1 billion copies sold

- Genre – Political
- Year of original release – 1964
- Original Language – Chinese

Title: Quotations from Chairman Mao Tse-Tung
Author: Mao Zedong
3rd place

Sold: 800 million copies sold

- Genre – Religious
- Year of original release – 7th century AD
- Original Language – Arabic

Title: The Quran

Author: Several Authors
4th place

Title: The Lord of the Rings
Author: John Tolkien

- **Genre**: Fantasy
- **Year of original release**: 1954
- **Original Language**: English

Sold: 155 million copies sold
5th place

Title: The Little Prince
Author: Antoine de Saint-Exupery

Sold: 140 million copies sold

- Genre – Children’s Novel
- Year of original release – 1943
- Original Language – French
6th place

Sold: 125 million copies sold

- **Genre** – Fantasy
- **Year of original release** – 1997
- **Original Language** – English

**Title:** Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone

**Author:** J.K. Rowling
7th place

Title: Scouting for Boys
Author: Robert Baden-Powell

- Genre – Manual/Instructional
- Year of original release – 1908
- Original Language – English

Sold: 120 million copies sold
8th place

Title: And Then There Were None
Author: Agatha Christie

Genre: Mystery / Crime
Year of original release: 1939
Original Language: English
Sold: 115 million copies sold
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title:</th>
<th>The Hobbit</th>
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<tr>
<td>Author:</td>
<td>John Tolkein</td>
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<tr>
<td>Genre:</td>
<td>Fantasy</td>
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<td>Year of original release:</td>
<td>1937</td>
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<td>Original Language:</td>
<td>English</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sold:</td>
<td>110 million copies sold</td>
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10th place

**Title:** The Dream of the Red Chamber

**Author:** Cao Xueqin

- **Genre:** Novel
- **Year of original release:** 1792
- **Original Language:** Chinese

**Sold:** 105 million copies sold
Conclusion

These top 10 best-selling books of all time are ranked by copies sold. All types of books are included in the list. Popular books oftentimes get published as films, plays, and audiobooks. These versions are not included in this ranking of best-selling books.
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