



## How to be a conservative

*By Roger Scruton*



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### How to be a conservative By Roger Scruton

What does it mean to be a conservative in an age so skeptical of conservatism? How can we live in the presence of our 'canonized forefathers' at a time when their cultural, religious and political bequest is so routinely rejected? With soft left-liberalism as the dominant force in Western politics, what can conservatives now contribute to public debate that will not be dismissed as pure nostalgia?

In this highly personal and witty book, renowned philosopher Roger Scruton explains how to live as a conservative in spite of the pressures to exist otherwise. Drawing on his own experience as a counter-cultural presence in public life, Scruton argues that while humanity might survive in the absence of the conservative outlook, it certainly won't flourish.

*How to be a Conservative* is not only a blueprint for modern conservatism. It is a heartfelt appeal on behalf of old fashioned decencies and values, which are the bedrock of our weakened, but still enduring, civilization.



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## How to be a conservative By Roger Scruton Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #88898 in Books
- Brand: imusti
- Published on: 2015-10-06
- Released on: 2015-10-06
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 216.66" h x 15.75" w x 5.29" l, .50 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 208 pages

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### Editorial Review

#### Review

“Elegantly written and thought-provoking . . . I loved this book, especially the way it seems to be aimed as much at the heart as the mind. On both it has a cleansing effect, the equivalent of eating a tart lemon sorbet.”  
*?Country Life*

“Roger Scruton is that rarest of things: a first-rate philosopher who actually has a philosophy . . . one of the few intellectually authoritative voices in modern British conservatism.” *?Spectator*

“Roger Scruton is one of our great men of speculation.” *?Standpoint*

“A persuasive and poignant little book.” *?The Oldie*

#### About the Author

Professor **Roger Scruton** is a graduate of Jesus College, Cambridge, United Kingdom. He has been Professor of Aesthetics at Birkbeck College, London, and University Professor at Boston University. He is currently visiting professor of philosophy at the University of Oxford and Senior Fellow at the Ethics and Public Policy Center, Washington DC. He has published a large number of books, including some works of fiction, and has written and composed two operas. He writes regularly for *The Times*, the *Telegraph*, the *Spectator* and was for many years wine critic for the *New Statesman*.

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