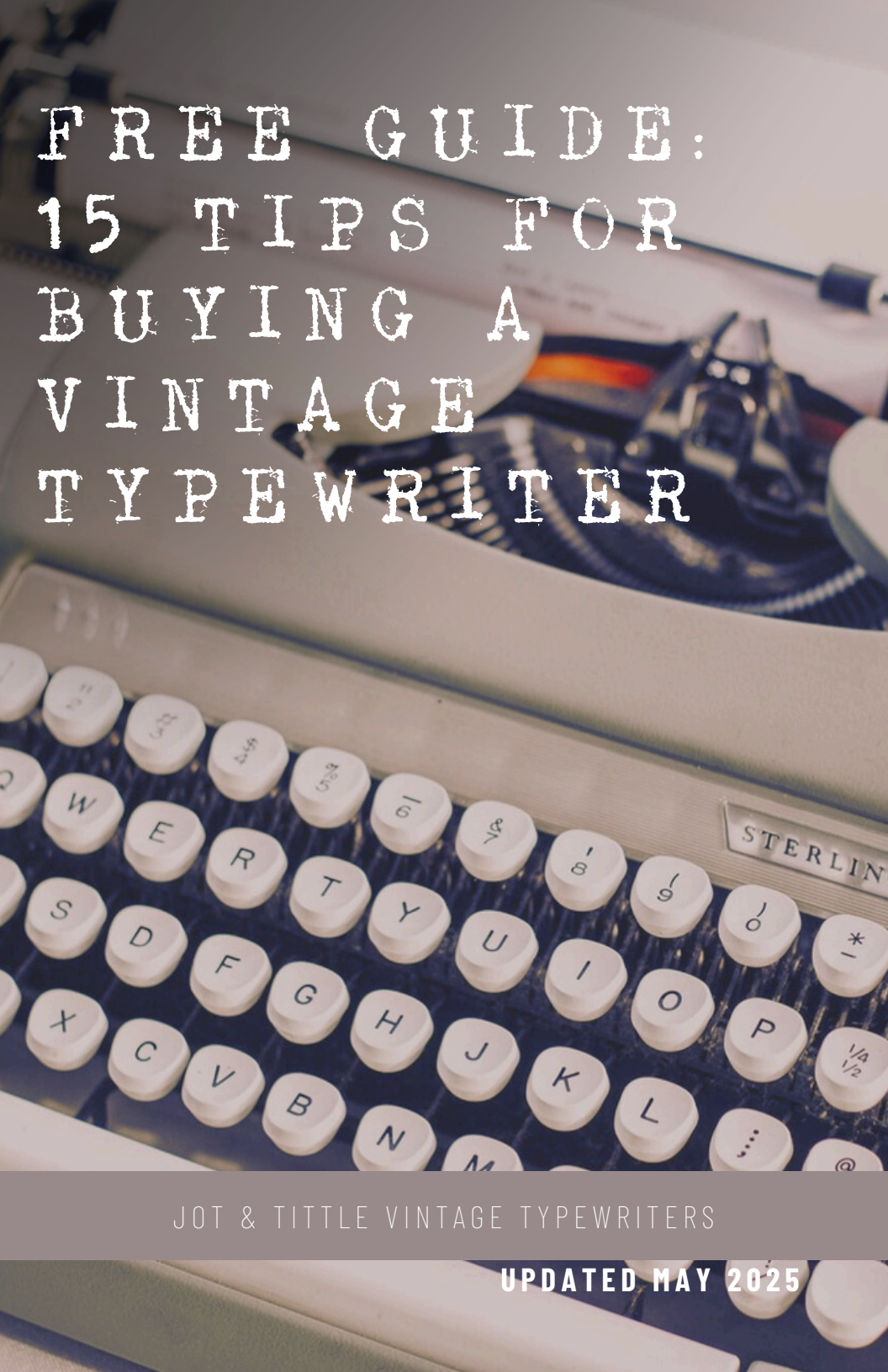

FREE GUIDE:
15 TIPS FOR
BUYING A
VINTAGE
TYPEWRITER
STERLIN
JOT & TITTLE VINTAGE TYPEWRITERS
UPDATED MAY 2025

15 TIPS FOR BUYING
A VINTAGE TYPEWRITER

- Always find out how much repair or service work has gone into it. Has it been tested? Do they have a video demonstrating the operation of the typewriter? Keep in mind, the more work, the higher the price.
- Check reviews. Make sure it is with a shop that is focused on vintage typewriters. If you purchase from a thrift seller / antique seller, you will almost certainly receive a typewriter that is in less than desirable condition and should be priced accordingly.
- Does it come with or without a case? What is the condition of the case?
- Do you like the typeface of the typewriter?
- Typewriters with a certain typeface, cursive or large type, or a specialty color/finish will have a premium price.
- The most popular time to shop for typewriters is in the fall. However, prices tend to go up during the holidays and availability becomes even more limited.
- Does the price include shipping?
- Is there any warranty?
- Manage your expectations with a vintage purchase. Unless it is refurbished or restored, it most likely will have some sort of cosmetic imperfection. This is part of being VINTAGE.
- Some sellers repaint typewriters. This may or may not be important to you. And it may or may not impact the overall value.



The biggest tip is to be very aware of the level of repair/service and whether it is a reputable seller. Make sure it is a seller that does their own repairs and cleaning (i.e. they know typewriters).

READ IT>> Serviced, Refurbished, Restored: What's the Difference?

- Compare prices with what else is out there. If you find a particular model you like, shop around and see what similar ones are going for and how they look/perform in comparison. What is the level of service and repair on those typewriters?
- Instagram is a good place to find proper vintage typewriter sellers. Some shops use ETSY as a platform and/or have a website (we use both). In my personal opinion, I would be extra cautious ordering from Ebay. (I actually wouldn't. That's just me.).
- If you purchase a "serviced" typewriter, there's a chance there are minor issues associated with the typewriter such as a tab or margin release not working. This will not impede the ability to use the typewriter. However, if the backspace isn't working, the space bar is stiff, or the keys are sticky, it's not going to be enjoyable to use.
- Consider the typing flow. While it's hard to tell without touching it in person, a good typewriter has an easy flow to the keystroke rather than a hesitant one.
- Consider hand size. Some manual typewriters are difficult to use for petite hands.

More info

Thank you for downloading this free guide! I hope you found it helpful. Full the full buying guide plus everything you need to know about finding the right typewriter, how to care for it, and so much more, we have a **70-page Ebook, Vintage Typewriters 101, for only $12.** It's loaded with images and active links for resources.
Purchase here: jotandtittletypewriters.com/101ebook

To take it to the next level, get the full package by joining our **Vintage Typewriters 101 online workshop**. Over 20 video lessons, includes our 70-page ebook, plus access to a private Facebook group where you can ask us questions and interact with other typewriter users. Learn more at: vintagetypewriters101.com



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If you are ever in the market for a vintage typewriter or accessories, I hope you will think of Jot & Tittle Vintage Typewriters. In the meantime, let's connect!

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BLESSINGS AND HAPPY TYPING!