Here is a selection of printed books which, at the time of compilation, are available from one or more of the listed vendors. Entries preceded by a bullet are works which I own or have had the opportunity to review. Those preceded by an asterisk are works which I have not seen.

Grammars:


  **Comments:** This is a complete beginner’s course which will take you from learning the serto alphabet to reading sizable selections of Biblical and patristic literature in a relatively nontechnical format. The only caveat is there are no answers to the exercises. Handwritten serto script


  **Comments:** If the other grammars in this bibliography are too fast paced or too technical for you, try this one. This book takes an accessible “reader” approach, and is suitable for anyone from high school on up. The only two warnings are that the book doesn’t go far enough for you to read lengthy passages of Syriac literature, and that, in the first edition, the vowel symbols collide with the ascending letters, making things very confusing for the beginner. Serto script


**Comments:** This book is a good reference volume, but presumes some knowledge of Latin, Greek, and Hebrew. It is best used by those who have already learned the basics of Syriac grammar. Serto script.


**Comments:** This book is also a complete introduction which will enable you to read significant portions of Syriac literature. While it uses a bit more technical jargon than Healey’s, and its’ pace is faster, it is also more complete. My only caveat is that, once again, there are no answer keys to the exercises beyond the alphabet section. Voweless Estrangela script with voweled English transliteration.

**Dictionaries and Lexical Tools:**


• Jennings, William. *Lexicon to the Syriac New Testament (Peshitta); with copious
references, dictions, names of persons and places, and some various readings found in the Curetonian, Sinaitic palimpsest, Pholoxenian & other MSS. / Rev. by Ulric Gantillon. Oxford, Clarendon Press, 1926. Pages: 243

**Comments:** This is a concise reference which, as the title implies, is limited to the vocabulary of the Syriac New Testament. It offers helpful explanations for the beginner, and is useful to anyone who can parse the Syriac noun and verb inflections back to their lexeme and root forms. Serto script.


**Comments:** This is the defacto standard, and largest, of the Syriac - English dictionaries. It is not quite as beginner friendly as the Jenning’s Lexicon, but deserves a place on every Aramaic enthusiast’s bookshelf. Serto script.

**Peshittä Texts:**


**Comments:** This eastern Peshitta text is reprinted by the Assyrian Church of the East, 7201 North Ashland, Chicago, IL 60626. Note that this is a 27 book New Testament that follows the western readings in the disputed verses of Acts 20:28 and Hebrews 2:9. In the copy I have, someone wrote the C.O.E. variant in the margin of Acts 20:28. The typeface is Swadaya, printed on thin “Bible” paper with a fair amount of ink bleeding.


**Comments:** This is a critical edition of the four Gospels of the Peshitta New Testament based on the readings of forty-one manuscripts from the fifth century
onwards, both “Nestorian” and “Jacobite.” It also includes the Eusebian canon tables, notes from the Qarkafta (the Syriac equivalent of the Hebrew Massora) and a translation of the Gospels into Latin. While all the notes are in Latin, the non-Latin reader with some knowledge of Syriac can still make use of this book. The typeface is Serto, and the original 1901 edition I reviewed had clean printing on heavy paper.


**Comments:** This book contains the New Testament text of the eastern Peshitta, including the five disputed books drawn from the Philoxene version. The Syriac text is on the right page with a Hebrew translation on the left facing page. It is printed in a Hebrew square typeface on thin “Bible” paper, but there is little bleeding, and the text is quite readable. It should be noted that the editors take a few liberties with the reading and change a few Greek loan words into their Syriac cognates.


**Comments:** This is the complete Bible of the western Peshito text printed in a Serto typeface on thin “Bible” paper with a fair amount of bleeding and smudging of ink.

**Booksellers:**

Most of the above books are available from one or more of the major book vendors: Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, Borders Books, etc. For the hard to find books try the following specialty vendors:

**Eisenbrauns** at: http://www.eisenbrauns.com/ carries many books on Syriac-Aramaic and the ancient near east.

**Gorgias Press** at: http://www.gorgiaspress.com/ reprints many books on Syriac-Aramaic from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. It also carries a few new books on this subject.