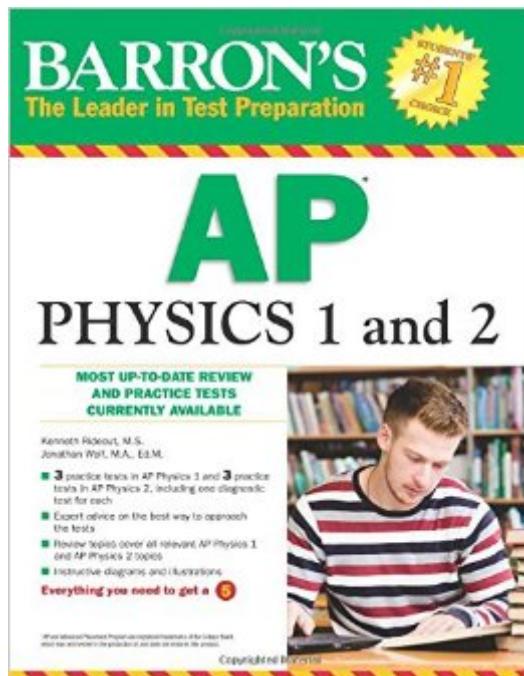


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# Barron's AP Physics 1 And 2 (Barron's Ap Physics B)



## Synopsis

This brand new book provides in-depth review for the new Physics 1 and Physics 2 exams. Taken over a two year period, these courses replace the old Physics B course. Course content revolves about the 7 "Big Ideas" of physics, which encompass core scientific principles, theories, and processes of discipline. Barron's AP Physics 1 and 2 offers in-depth review for both exams and includes:

- Four practice tests reflecting the new AP Physics 1 and AP Physics 2 exams
- Diagnostic tests that help students to target areas where they need more study
- Practice questions and review that cover all test areas

The book can be purchased alone or with an optional CD-ROM that presents two additional full-length practice tests with automatic scoring and fully explained answers.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I haven't gone through the entire portion for AP Physics 1 yet, but this book has SEVERAL mistakes in its answers and sample problems. For example: Use the work found in Sample Problem 2 (-12J) to find the Power in 4s. It did a process of  $2 \text{ J} / 4\text{s} = 0.5 \text{ Watts}$ . the displacement was 2m, and it used the displacement value for the work value...? It's very difficult to study efficiently when I'm constantly getting confused with the process the book gives me for a problem.

I bought this book just for the AP physics 1 test, and quickly reviewed all of the essential chapters. When comparing to my friends "5 steps to 5" book, this 'Study Book' completely skipped over essentials and provided almost no information for certain subjects, such as rotational Inertia,

Angular trajectory, Voltmeters and Anemometers, and standing waves. It mentioned what these topics were, but did not help me understand any of them and expected me to already know this information. To top it off, many examples and questions in the Practice test were filled with miscalculations or straight out wrong, completely throwing out all the physics formulas learned while not explaining how they did it (One example is question 24 Pretest 1 AP 1). I strongly recommend that you don't purchase this book, and go for 5 steps to 5 or another decent brand. If you don't believe me, fine, but that'll be your loss of money when you realize how bad this book really is.

AP PHYSICS STUDENTS! Do NOT purchase this book. The book appears to be written by people who do not understand physics. At all. Many of the solutions are conspicuously incorrect, and the answers aren't even consistent with the questions. For example, in one question, the velocity given is 5 m/s, and in the answer, the velocity is 2.5 m/s. Such mistakes are repeated throughout the book. Some of the questions are based on impossible scenarios as well. For example, in one situation, the book asks for the acceleration of the block up the incline when applied force is much less than the parallel force, so the block is moving down the incline. In another situation, the work done by an object is negative when there is no direction change or reason for the work to be negative. The authors clearly just tried to pull out random numbers and plug them into equations, not understanding that physics is a subject related to applying math to real world scenarios. This is key, for the book fails to provide real world problems that are physically possible. If you are dismissing this review under the assumption that Barron's surely knows better than this questionable student who may not have mastery of the material, don't. I'm at the top of my AP Physics class and received a 98% on our cumulative midterm that covers Physics 1 and Physics 2 topics. My teacher also had an approximately 90% pass rate last year on the AP Physics B exam. I am a credible source.

This book is actually not bad but the letter answers given for the practice tests are often incorrect. The answer description is correct but it doesn't match up with the letter selected. If you understand physics it is easy to see the wrong letter is given, but for those trying to make sure they understand it is highly confusing. I'll be reluctant to buy ANY Barron's book again as they do not seem to have any sort of errata out correcting the problems.

From a glance, it looks like the problems reflect what AP will be producing for both Physics exams this year. I will update this review later reflecting the actual aid this book has provided me.

HOWEVER, while looking over the preface and study tips in the book with my instructor, it is lacking the importance of UNCERTAINTY AND THE "PARAGRAPH-LONG RESPONSE"; hence my reason for only 3 stars. Unlike previous exams, uncertainty will be a VERY important part of both of the exams. For more information about the two components, go on the AP website of Physics 1. AP has produced two documents explaining what these two new components are and their significance.

I've taught physics and math at the AP level for a decade, and I've never seen a book with more mistakes. Not typos, but fundamental mistakes in the physics. The Physics 2 practice test has a thermodynamics problem (a PV diagram) that was really wrong. I mean really wrong. Completely misses the point of a PV diagram (i.e., that the internal energy of the gas is determined by the product of  $P \cdot V$ ). Just because you draw a curvy path through two points on a PV diagram doesn't make the path an isotherm. The starting point and the ending point have to have the same energy! And just because you draw a "steep hyperbola" through two points doesn't make it an adiabatic expansion. This is just one example of unforgivable errors that pop up in the book frequently. This book needs editors - people to check the physics, not just the typos.

I try to find a reason for which readers would give more than one star because Zero is N/A. Probably they used it as guideline, solved the problems correctly, ignored the fundamental errors, got a high score on the exam and, consequently, prized the book because the goal was accomplished. I picked the book at the library to kill time while waiting for a friend. I opened randomly, here and there. All those random pages had fundamental errors both scientifically and editing. If one is in love with lady Physics, using the book is emotionally painful. Technically, it's like reading a book where only the first and the last letter of the word are in the right place, as the bare condition for the brain to figure the word out as a whole. If I had made some of those errors as a student, I would have gotten grade "F". If my students had done the same "F" errors, I would have resigned as a physics teacher or, most likely, been asked to resign.

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