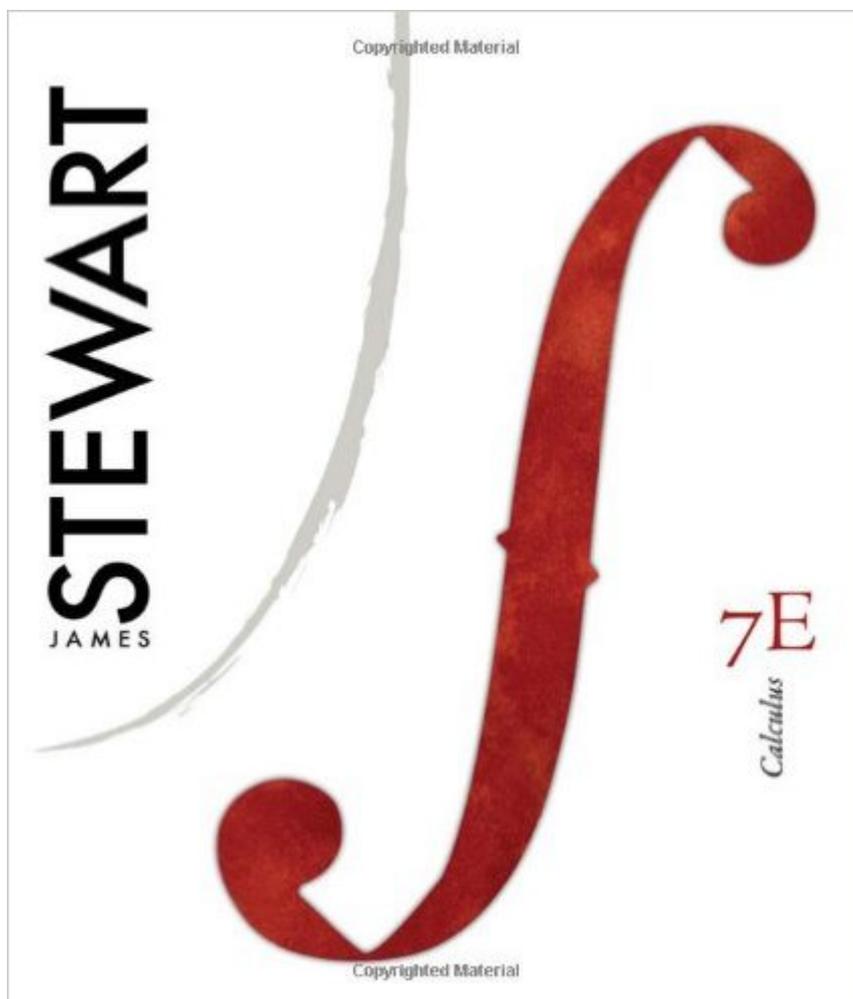


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Calculus, 7th Edition



Synopsis

Success in your calculus course starts here! James Stewart's Calculus texts are worldwide best-sellers for a reason: they are clear, accurate, and filled with relevant, real-world examples. With Calculus (Seventh Edition), Stewart conveys not only the utility of calculus to help you develop technical competence, but also gives you an appreciation for the intrinsic beauty of the subject. His patient examples and built-in learning aids will help you build your mathematical confidence and achieve your goals in the course!

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Customer Reviews

Okay here is my point of view. I am not a student anymore, but my daughter is an Electrical Engineering student. I am a severely disabled vet with a spinal cord injury, so I have a lot of weird nerve and brain issues. So math is sort of a recreation and therapy, I used to be a software engineer but my brain really does not work right anymore. I get my daughter's textbooks when they are done, plus I have a ton of other textbooks I acquire. Looking at Stewart or Larson, they are almost the same. Larson has a bit more flash and is slightly better for me the self study. But honestly there is very little difference in the texts. I have a few Calc textbooks which are not the popular choices for universities, and they are better, but not popular. One issue is that online courses have forced textbook publishers to come up with online content, so all the textbooks now are geared for cashing in on internet content. So in this case the internet is not improving the educational experience for students. As a self study, Stewart is worthless. As one reviewer stated, everything is really

standardized to fit some testing model. So they present the basics. There are a few sample exercises, but none that really instruct the student on how to approach or solve the harder cases. I assume you are supposed to figure that out yourself. Textbook to Textbook they take that approach. As a reference I guess it is okay. But if you really want to understand and learn it, pick up Morris Kline and Adrian Banner. Start there then move onto pure mathematics. It is not an easy way to go, but you will have a better understanding.. Use Stewart as a reference and for some practice exercises.

Stewart's calculus textbook is a relatively standard development of basic calculus. It is readable with many examples and pictures to aid understanding. It is not a "rigorous" development in the strict (i.e. real analysis) sense - you'll need a supplementary textbook if you want to crack that egg. It does, however, provide students with the ability to solve problems using calculus that they will likely encounter in later courses. It is not without drawbacks, however. My primary complaint is that while I worked through the later chapters for the first time I was unsure why I was doing what I was. In particular, the chapters on vectors were rather poorly done - they seemed developed enough just to get students through the problem sets. On the other hand, anybody wishing to seriously learn vector calculus will likely have an entire book devoted to the topic. My only other complaint is the development of differential equations. I understand the purpose of including them in the textbook (they're used in many fields), but you really can't cover much about differential equations in the small chapters devoted to them. Like I said, I understand why the author included the sections, but after learning differential equations properly, I do not feel like those chapters in this textbook served any useful purpose. Due to the widespread usage of this textbook, it is inevitable that some struggling students (and mathematicians!) will dislike it. If you happen to be a struggling student, check out "Calculus: An Intuitive and Physical Approach" by Morris Kline. It is very cheap, thorough, and will undoubtedly make for an excellent study aid.

This textbook was assigned when I took calculus as a freshman in college. Back then, in those ancient days of 2007, we used the fifth edition. I've seen the sixth and seventh editions, and, as far as I can tell, there is no real difference. Some of the problems have been reordered, and maybe a sentence tweaked here or there, some new pictures, but nothing really noteworthy. Seemingly the only reason to release a new edition is to stay abreast of the used book market. If you are a professor, it is incredibly inconsiderate to assign this book. It's not a bad book, really, but there are a ton of cheap and even free alternatives that are, at the very least, just as good. If any instructors are

reading this, you should really take the time to find one of these alternatives that you like and assign it, rather than forcing 200 teenagers to spend \$150.00 on a textbook that's basically a dime a dozen (you might even try an older edition of Stewart. There are currently 668 used copies of the fifth edition available on Amazon, the cheapest being \$1.08. That these things become worthless once a new edition comes out speaks volumes.). Also, the solutions manuals to these books hit the internet approximately three seconds after they are published, and with websites like Cramster around, assigning this thing is asking your less honest pupils to cheat.

If your course requires you to get this book, get it of course. But if you want to learn Calculus from the best Math textbook ever written, get Spivak (Calculus, 4th edition). Also, if you stumble across a copy of Apostol, that's pretty good too (Calculus, Vol. 1: One-Variable Calculus, with an Introduction to Linear Algebra). But Spivak is the best - relevant, well written, engaging, comprehensive.

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