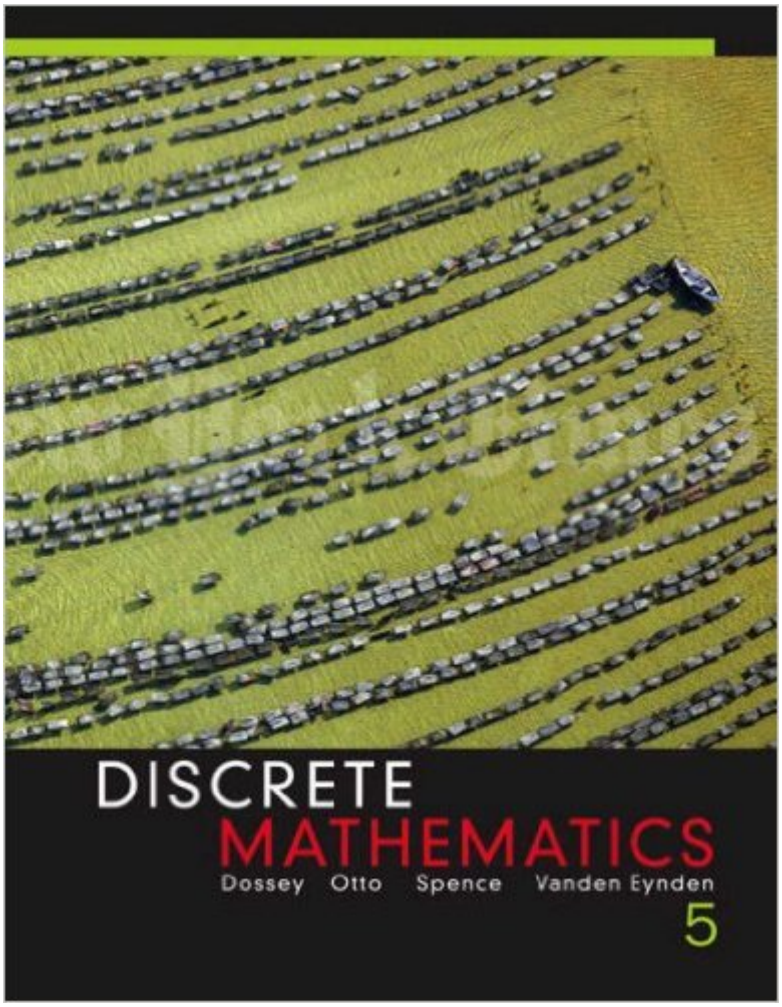
Discrete Mathematics (5th Edition)



Synopsis

The strong algorithmic emphasis of Discrete Mathematics is independent of a specific programming language, allowing students to concentrate on foundational problem-solving and analytical skills. Instructors get the topical breadth and organizational flexibility to tailor the course to the level and interests of their students. Algorithms are presented in English, eliminating the need for knowledge of a particular programming language. Computational and algorithmic exercise sets follow each chapter section and supplementary exercises and computer projects are included in the end-of-chapter material. This Fifth Edition features a new Chapter 3 covering matrix codes, error correcting codes, congruence, Euclidean algorithm and Diophantine equations, and the RSA algorithm. MARKET: Intended for use in a one-semester introductory course in discrete mathematics.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

A good text book should have clear and concise definitions throughout the book or at least a glossary. However, this book has neither. Examples are either vague or contorted. Visual cues would have been helpful.Even though it shows the answers for odd numbered exercises, some of the answers have errors. I also bought the solutions manual, (with only odd numbered solutions), but it also has errors and/or it doesn't match some of the books answers. I expected to find something useful in the solutions manual, as I paid $25 for it, but I didn't. I have found no errata for this book.I had to buy it because it was my course's book, but I definitely do not recommend it. Whoever said that this was a good, easy-to-read book, must have been reading another book. I had

to have a math professor tutoring me for my online course and even he had a hard time reading the book.Wikipedia has much better explanations!

I used this book for a sophomore level Discrete Math class in the CS program at Park university. It was pretty difficult to understand for everybody in the class including myself and I've had math through Calc III. It was apparently not written for that level student.

I feel as though you need a math degree to even get through it. I'm not the best at Math but I'm not an idiot. I'm in programming and I can code fairly well, but this book confuses the hell out of me. It's been making my semester terrible, and unfortunately it's my course required text. FOR ANY TEACHERS OR PROFESSORS READING, PLEASE DON'T DO THIS TO YOUR STUDENTS. It will make them want to change majors, or kill themselves.

I'm a computer science major, and a pretty smart guy. I understand complexity, algorithms, binary, the usual things that computer science geeks study and obtain knowledge of. I would rate this book lower if I could. The best way to sum this book up is it is one of the most arrogantly written books I've ever read. The authors wrote it in such a way that I believe they expected everyone that will be reading it will have a PhD in Mathematics.I found myself re-reading parts of the book and constantly asking myself "...what!?". I had a high-school math teacher of 30+ years, as well as a Statistics and Calculus major review parts of this book with me for clarification to see if I was missing something. Parts made absolutely no sense to them, and also stated that they had difficulties understanding what the book was trying to deliver to the reader. Most of the material of the book could have been worded differently to make more sense to the reader -- it's just written in such an egotistical way. Instead of simply saying (for example) "Follow point A to point B counting the hops to get a total number of boundary", the book might express "Such that point G1(A) follows finitely and congruently to point G2(B), p1, p2, p3, ... p(n) is the determinant point in determining spherical boundary".I would absolutely steer clear of this book, if you can. I didn't have a choice as it was the required text book for a computer science class of mine. The class's learning structure was provided by the book. I found myself getting what I could from the book (the very basic concepts), and relying on different books or outside sources to gain a firm grasp on the material.

I'm sure this would be all you needed if you are already fluent in many math disciplines. If you self-study, forget about it. Examples are not explained well, and there are few of them. There are

few exercises as well, though this is the case with many math texts. Those who are math-fluent will have no problem with the subject matter, but others might want to invest in a book like 2000 Solved Problems in Discrete Mathematics. Hope you get a good instructor if you have to use this text; but then, if you're going to a school without a strictly prescribed curriculum (meaning the professor gets to choose their textbook), I'd be wary of a teacher who makes you buy this fairly useless text.

This book was assigned for my husband's Discrete Mathematics class. I have read most of it because I ended up tutoring him for the semester. This book was very difficult for me to use, and that's coming from someone who slept through her college calculus classes (and other math-heavy classes such as physics and structures), and still was able to ace the material and tutor friends.This book was confusing and had a terrible layout. Examples would start on one page and go onto the next, and I had to constantly flip back and forth to recall what I was supposed to be learning. Even worse, this was for an online class, so there was limited instruction time, meaning no examples were worked out in real-time. There are only a few examples of each type of problem in the exercises, and I frequently had to check the answers to reverse engineer the way to solve the problem. This method left a lot of gaps in my skills, to say the least. The diagrams were limited and made little use of color (perhaps to save money) which made them more difficult to understand. Explanations of theory were very abstract, and the authors rarely explained them with a concrete example.The bottom line: Any instructor who uses this book as their main text is either out of touch with how students learn, wants to punish students for skipping class, or is simply too lazy to find a better text.

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