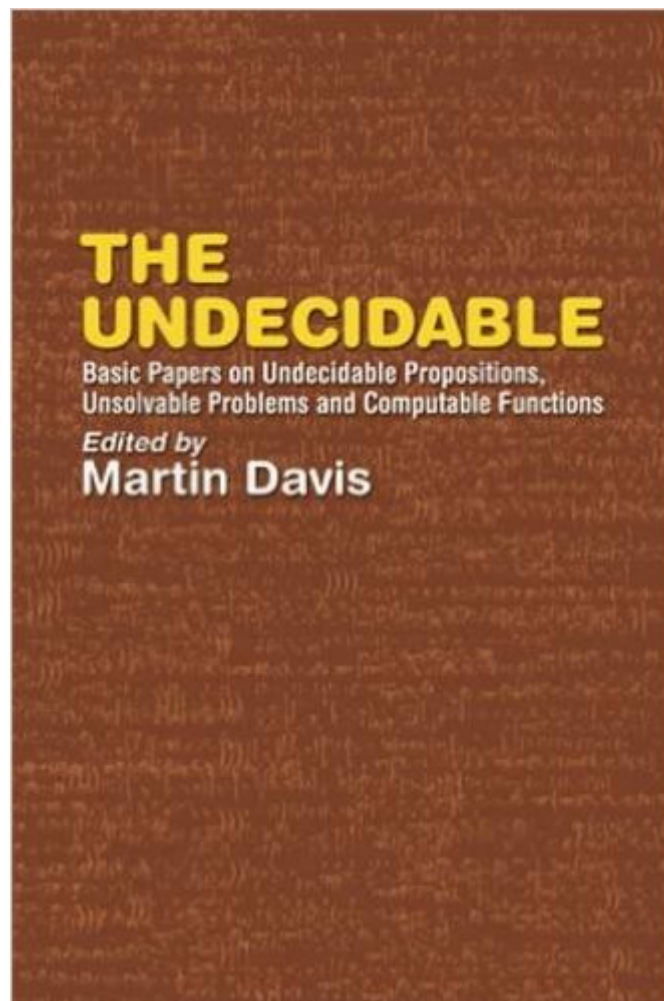# The Undecidable: Basic Papers On Undecidable Propositions, Unsolvable Problems And Computable Functions (Dover Books On Mathematics)

Synopsis

"A valuable collection both for original source material as well as historical formulations of current problems." â ” The Review of Metaphysics"Much more than a mere collection of papers. A valuable addition to the literature." â ” Mathematics of ComputationAn anthology of fundamental papers on undecidability and unsolvability by major figures in the field , this classic reference is ideally suited as a text for graduate and undergraduate courses in logic, philosophy, and foundations of mathematics. It is also appropriate for self-study.The text opens with Godel's landmark 1931 paper demonstrating that systems of logic cannot admit proofs of all true assertions of arithmetic. Subsequent papers by Godel, Church, Turing, and Post single out the class of recursive functions as computable by finite algorithms. Additional papers by Church, Turing, and Post cover unsolvable problems from the theory of abstract computing machines, mathematical logic, and algebra, and material by Kleene and Post includes initiation of the classification theory of unsolvable problems.Supplementary items include corrections, emendations, and added commentaries by Godel, Church, and Kleene for this volume's original publication, along with a helpful commentary by the editor.

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Customer Reviews

This is a great collection of seminal papers by Goedel, Church, Turing, Rosser, Kleene, and Post on the topic of undecidability. It is an extremely handy reference.Just to note: this is certainly not a tutorial or guide to this topic for the beginner. Davis provides some prefatory comments, but these

are concise and mostly set the context for the papers, rather than explaining the content of the papers. This book is more for someone interested in going back to first sources.

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