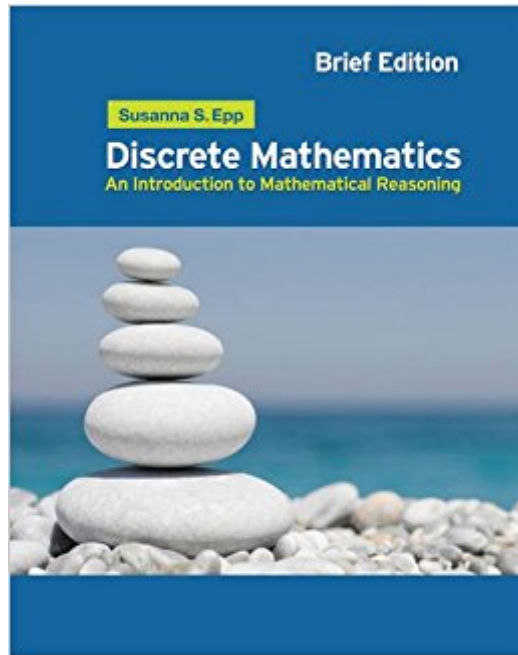




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Discrete Mathematics: Introduction To Mathematical Reasoning



Synopsis

Susanna Epp's **DISCRETE MATHEMATICS: AN INTRODUCTION TO MATHEMATICAL REASONING** provides a clear introduction to discrete mathematics and mathematical reasoning in a compact form that focuses on core topics. Renowned for her lucid, accessible prose, Epp explains complex, abstract concepts with clarity and precision, helping students develop the ability to think abstractly as they study each topic. In doing so, the book provides students with a strong foundation both for computer science and for other upper-level mathematics courses.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Susanna S. Epp received her Ph.D. in 1968 from the University of Chicago, taught briefly at Boston University and the University of Illinois at Chicago, and is currently Vincent DePaul Professor of Mathematical Sciences at DePaul University. After initial research in commutative algebra, she became interested in cognitive issues associated with teaching analytical thinking and proof and has published a number of articles and given many talks related to this topic. She has also spoken widely on discrete mathematics and has organized sessions at national meetings on discrete mathematics instruction. In addition to *Discrete Mathematics with Applications* and *Discrete Mathematics: An Introduction to Mathematical Reasoning*, she is co-author of *Precalculus and Discrete Mathematics*, which was developed as part of the University of Chicago School Mathematics Project. Epp co-organized an international symposium on teaching logical reasoning, sponsored by the Institute for Discrete Mathematics and Theoretical Computer Science (DIMACS), and she was an associate editor of *Mathematics Magazine* from 1991 to 2001. Long active in the

Mathematical Association of America (MAA), she is a co-author of the curricular guidelines for undergraduate mathematics programs: CUPM Curriculum Guide 2004.

To start, I'm a sophomore engineering student who is in the middle of a discrete mathematics class using this book. To me, a textbook must be readable but at the same time be written on a level that ensures that the content is communicated effectively. For me, this book has accomplished that. Susan Epp's Discrete Mathematics is very readable and straightforward with its presentation of the material, giving the reader a good view into the topics being presented. There are also a decent number of fully worked through and relevant examples along with a plethora of exercises in each section. Selected exercises do have answers in the back of the book, so you can check your work and ensure that you are doing things correctly. There are even fully written out answers for a good number of the many exercises involving proofs. That is another thing, discrete mathematics involves less computations and more logical, written proofs, something that I had no prior experience with before taking this class. Since starting though, I have been able to pick things up without any undue difficulty (not saying its easy!), but this book has really helped me take the concepts being taught in lecture and simultaneously expand on and cement them outside the classroom. This is a textbook that you can actually read and really gain some value from, so I would highly recommend it (or if your professor is using it for your class, know that you are using a superb book).

This is indeed a brief edition compared to the 4th edition. Some things are cut out from the 4th edition to quickly get the main point across to the reader. This book was very useful in getting ideas past to the reader. As a person with no real interest or experience with proofs before using this book, this book has taught me much about proof writing. The example proofs in the book are written in a way so that every step is clearly written out so that the reader should not have any room to insert doubts. An excellent version for students trying to quickly understand number theory, sets, and logic as well as proof writing.

Books are always pricey but you need to buy them for school anyway. My complaint about this book isn't the price but the lack of content in each chapter. Sometimes the explanations are a bit unclear and the questions spike in difficulty. This makes self-studying a bit more harder. Be sure to study well for this book will not allow you to study at the last minute.

It's poorly written with typos, and the explanations/examples in the book are not easy to understand.

The author assume too much.

Exact book I needed. Even though it says brief edition it was still the correct book. My professor said that there are no difference between the brief and normal edition.

I didn't think it did a good job of explaining. Some of the exercises you don't know unless you look at how the answers in the back of the book.

Well written and clear with logical steps to solving problems, even the harder problems have a logic to them and the text will help you figure them out .

This is probably one of my favorite textbooks. The material goes well into detail and there are many examples.

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