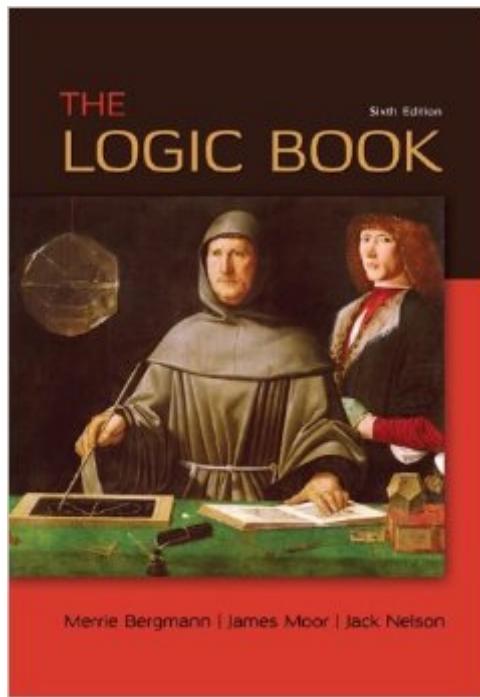


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The Logic Book



Synopsis

The Logic Book is a leading text for symbolic logic courses that presents all concepts and techniques with clear, comprehensive explanations. There is a wealth of carefully constructed examples throughout the text, and its flexible organization places materials within largely self-contained chapters that allow instructors the freedom to cover the topics they want, in the order they choose.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I must first give a huge thanks to the authors of this textbook (The Logic Book 5e) for writing such an elite introductory logic book. Now, there are two groups of persons whom will read this book. The first group consists of those who are required by their respective college through college coursework. The second group consists of those who are not required but nevertheless are interested in the subject. I belong in the second group. After declaring my major to be in mathematics, my degree plan required me to take an introductory proof course were the required textbook was "Mathematical proof: A transition to advanced mathematics" by Chartrand. The book just mentioned covers sentential and predicate logic in a mere 20 pages and somehow expected its audience to be expert proofers. I immediately ran to the library to seek for additional help in logic and ended up with the following textbooks at hand, "Introduction to logic" by Suppes, "Introduction to logic" by Copi, "Introduction to logic" Gensler, "Logic and Philosophy: A modern introduction" by Hausman, and "The Logic Book" by Bergmann. Out of the bunch, this textbook (The Logic Book 5e) drew my attention the most because its definitions were the most clear and every chapter had an

outline summary. It also drew my attention because it covers metalogic, a topic not covered by the others. It took me about twelve hours to complete each of the chapter's exercises at a rate of 4 hours per day for a total of $(12*11) = 132$ hours of study time in $132/4 = 33$ Days. Thus it took me 33 days to complete the entire book (11 Chapters). This book (the Logic Book) taught me how to convert an English argument into symbolic predicate form and from predicate form back to English. But the most important thing that the textbook taught me was to become an expert prover in sentential and predicate logic, a skill required in mathematics (ZFC Axiomatic Set theory to be more explicit). I highly recommend this textbook to anyone interested in learning how to prove arguments from a given set of assumptions. There is now no excuse for a person not to know logic, especially when this textbook exists. Consider buying a used 5th edition to save money. Good luck on your Journey! RE EDITED ON 8/30/2014 I Bought a 4th edition copy of this same text for my sister and cost me less than \$5.00 including S&H (See The Logic Book (4th Edition)). Furthermore, the 4th edition is 99.99% identical to the 5th and 6th editions and yet 99.99% cheaper. Now, it doesn't take a person to know much math nor much logic to know that the 4th edition is a heck of a better deal. The same table of contents of The Logic Book (4th Edition) applies to both the 5th and 6th editions. You're welcome!

I would give it five stars, but there are a lot of typos which is surprising since it's the 6th edition. This book covers propositional logic and predicate logic, and it does so very thoroughly. What's also great is that there are many examples.

It is unfortunate that Mr. Morris had such difficulty with his logic course, especially since he is both a philosophy student and has been able to maintain a respectable GPA. As any student of philosophy knows, however, any one of a number of things could have brought about the 'D' on the midterm for the unfortunate fifty percent of his fellow students. My experience with this text and (perhaps, therefore) with my undergraduate logic class in general was considerably more enjoyable than Mr. Morris's experience. Certainly my professor was very good at presenting the material, but presumably he was not making up for a poorly written book. For, when I needed to consult the text, I found it actually to be quite clear and helpful. Turning to the book itself, since I am not a fan of truth trees, when I have the opportunity to teach my own logic course, I will utilize proofs. I have viewed many undergraduate logic texts, and the proof method presented in this text seems the clearest. Furthermore, as my logic professor told me and his professor told him: Logic is not in the head; it's in the fingers. Therefore, I think that the considerable amount of exercises contained in

this text is greatly beneficial. Third, definitions of terms and important points are presented clearly in text boxes throughout the book. Students will benefit greatly by committing these terms and points to memory. Finally, although the price is prohibitive (hence, four stars), Bergmann, Moor, and Nelson's text has withstood the test of time. (In fact, the 4th edition is supposed to be out this summer.) Such evidence is not conclusive, but it suggests that perhaps lying behind Mr. Morrise's frustration is a cause more complex than merely this classic text.

I used this for my sophomore level logic course, as the previous reviewer. I do agree that trees get large, but I think tree is the right method for showing some statements are consistent, equivalent etc. This book spends too many words (and examples) on the trivial issues and it is sometimes difficult to find the key points. I am very quick to get bored with trivial examples and tend to stop reading before I get all important points. This book poorly utilizes graphics. I wish the book summarized key points using simple tables or lists. Perhaps you like to make your own graphic summary as you read (I did). I give four stars because the coverage is good but not five because of the reasons I said above.

This has always been a very good logic book--clear presentation, rigorous, but not too technical for a first course. However, this edition is inexcusably riddled with mistakes and typos. Previous editions have had their share of such problems, but at this price, the mistakes are unacceptable. There are also major changes to the presentation of material, which are on balance neither good nor bad, but one wonders why they were made at all, except perhaps to mark yet another edition so as to make a pile of money.

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