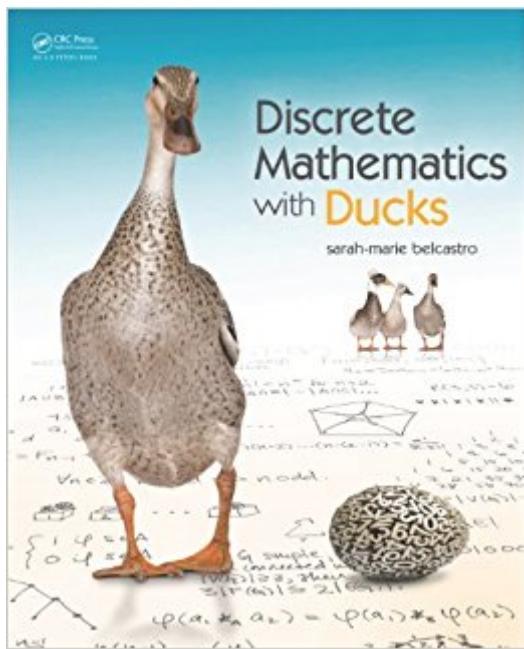


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# Discrete Mathematics With Ducks



## Synopsis

Containing exercises and materials that engage students at all levels, *Discrete Mathematics with Ducks* presents a gentle introduction for students who find the proofs and abstractions of mathematics challenging. This classroom-tested text uses discrete mathematics as the context for introducing proofwriting. Facilitating effective and active learning, each chapter contains a mixture of discovery activities, expository text, in-class exercises, and homework problems. Elementary exercises at the end of each expository section prompt students to review the material. Try This! sections encourage students to construct fundamental components of the concepts, theorems, and proofs discussed. Sets of discovery problems and illustrative examples reinforce learning. Bonus sections can be used for take-home exams, projects, or further study. Instructor Notes sections offer suggestions on how to use the material in each chapter. *Discrete Mathematics with Ducks* offers students a diverse introduction to the field and a solid foundation for further study in discrete mathematics and complies with SIGCSE guidelines. The book shows how combinatorics and graph theory are used in both computer science and mathematics.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The least useful textbook I've used as a math major by a mile. The non-stop, annoying "playfulness" and lack of explanation of several (if not most) theorems and formulas makes it nearly impossible to read. The book gives the simplest possible examples with little explanation, then several much more complex "Try This!" (not the homework section) problems with no provided answers or explanation. Avoid at all costs.

Awful book, the author clearly has a very good grasp of Discrete Mathematics, but she simply doesn't know how to convey that information to her readers. She does a terrible job at explaining most of the topics.

This book puts its major focus on the reader teaching himself through extensive amounts of problems. There is very little actual teaching substance. The vast majority of the book contains extensive amounts of problems that you have to do before learning the material.

I've seen a lot of bad math books, but this one takes the cake. Most of the explanations make no sense, and it is absolutely not helpful at all. Reading it is a waste of time, it will not help you in your course at all.

This was required text for my Discrete Mathematics course and it is awful. The book does not explain concepts well, and the overuse of analogies end up confusing me more. I do not recommend this book to anyone who truly wishes to learn Discrete Mathematics. I have invested in additional texts for my own course, and read the other texts instead of listening. Overall, this book does a terrible job at teaching Discrete Mathematics.

I have never encountered such a vague, wordy, and overall terrible textbook such as this. The examples, (if you can even call them that) are unclear, poorly worded and the explanations are lacking in explanation, clarity, and diagrams. Instead of writing out a math problem, the author decides to "explain" it using words instead of showing the reader how to do it and how she solved it. The math is mixed in with the wordy explanations which make it difficult to read and follow. The answers to the examples are poorly explained. The only redeeming quality of this book is that the author included corny jokes that occasionally make one chuckle. If your professor is using this book DROP THE COURSE NOW. You will NOT adequately learn from this book.

Its a really great book. It makes learning discrete a bit more entertaining and does a good job in explaining somethings like I'm 5 so I actually understand. There are some more difficult sections that do require you to reread, but if you do the problems for each section and just think about it some you'll understand it.

The breezy, conversational style is wonderful- and it's well written all the way through. Tough subjects are broken down into simple explanations that actually make sense, which is sort of rare in mathematics books. However, this book is not meant for self-study, as there aren't many typical problem sets with solutions. I wish that it had more questions with answers for those of us without an instructor to ask. Maybe a new edition could have a workbook with answers to address this? It's still a wonderful book, but removing one star for lack of solutions manual. The best way to get better at understanding is through practice, and what's the point of practicing doing something incorrectly? Solutions are important.

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