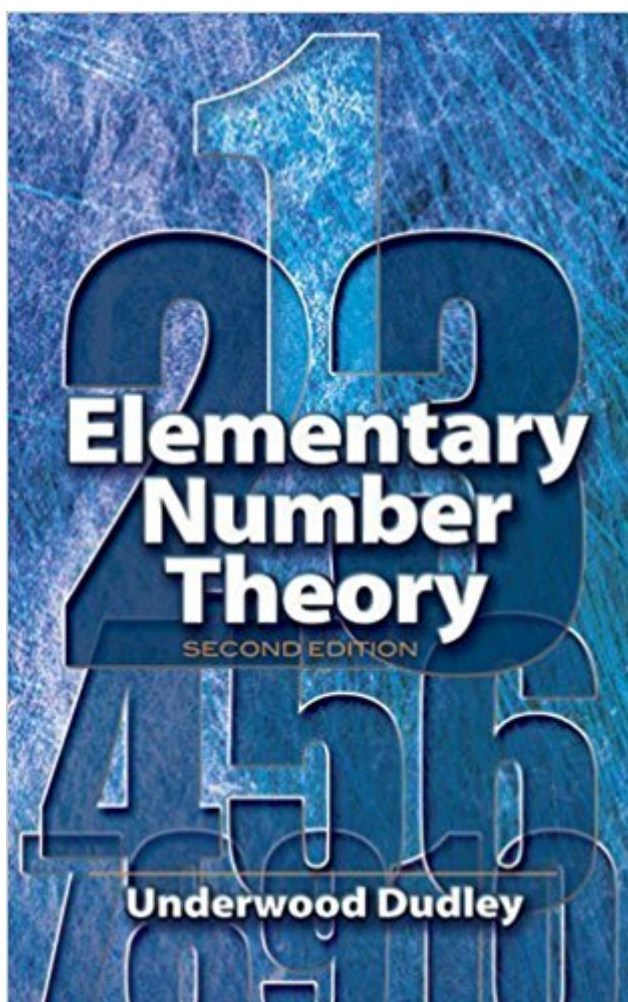


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Elementary Number Theory: Second Edition (Dover Books On Mathematics) 2nd (second) Edition By Underwood Dudley Published By Dover Publications (2008)





Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 39 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

Simply excellent. For someone such as myself who is mathematically-inclined but never had exposure to a number theory course, this book offers a perfect balance of accessibility and depth. The organization of the material has clearly been carefully thought-out so as to inflict minimal pain on newcomers like me. The practice problems are numerous, varied, interesting, and span a fairly broad range of difficulty, meaning you can push yourself to *really* absorb the material if you like. Perhaps, above all else, what this book offers -- or at least what I have found myself experiencing as each chapter unfolds -- is a glimpse at the beauty of number theory. The book has turned something that I once thought to be an abstract, toy-problem-ish area of mathematics into a genuine joy as I come to understand more and more this strange, oft-baffling, occasionally outright-magical branch of math. It is, dare I say, quite a fun read :)

If you have a math background this book is too elementary to get you started. It also has too many display and typo problems to be followed in detail unless you like finding typos. Dover is very uneven in the quality of their digital math books. Some are fine some are not. I got the book because it was recommended as a starting point on number theory in another review but found too elementary. As a calibration, I spent 20 years doing statistical pattern recognition and still know that math.

Spend a fruitful afternoon perusing this slim text and most assuredly the reader's outlook on elementary number theory will be enhanced. The book can be tackled in a brief sojourn, with many exercises reinforcing the reader's confidence and building mathematical acuity. An acquaintance with Algebra is presumed, but all else is clearly enunciated within the confines of the exposition. The clarity of writing and breadth of topics treated (at a truly introductory level) provides the student of Number Theory a wonderful opportunity to learn something of this most demanding of mathematical disciplines. As the author remarks, Number Theory arms the student with a mathematical style of

thinking: "Problem, Deduction, Solution." A worthwhile addition to the literature of elementary expositions on the subject and time well spent.

It is brief and not concise, if you really want to learn about Number Theory you may want to try a bigger book. I am currently preparing for the CSET exam for math and I really don't find it to be too helpful. I had to go use books at my old school library for reference.

This book was amazing! It was informative, clever, and even had some humor and wit! This was a required textbook for my Number Theory class however I enjoyed it so much I also bought it for my dad who also loves math. Highly recommended from me to fellow math lovers like you.

A very clear and smart introduction to number theory. I have a BA in Theoretical Mathematics and this book is perfect for understanding much of the foundations of Mathematics without requiring higher math. It has many great exercises and the second edition corrects mistakes made in the first. Perfect !

I got this book for the class Theory of Numbers. It has all of the theorems and lemmas needed to theoretically learn all of the subject matter, and all of the problems are very good practice. But to get a really good grasp of the material and its practical applications this book needs to be supplemented in some way (lectures, another book, examples from the internet, etc.).

I picked up this book after taking a course in set theory/math logic. It was my first experience with proof based math and I found it very challenging and rewarding. I decided over the summer I would teach myself number theory as well. So far I am about 3 or 4 weeks into the summer and I've chopped down sections 1-6. Keep in mind I am also doing undergrad physics research and a directed study astrophysics course as well, you could easily progress further. I really have enjoyed this book thus far. I often get so caught up in it that I am up until morning toying with problems. The author did a fantastic job of finding the fine line between too difficult and elementary. It seems just short of a graduate text but a little above a common undergraduate text. Thanks to this text I am becoming much more confident in my ability to set up and execute proofs. I don't want to spoil the methods- but it seems MOSTLY up until this point all proofs are found in the same manner. I have not been able to execute a variety of proof methods (e.g. deduction, mathematical induction, contrapositive, and contradiction.) I would have liked to be able to switch it up some. However, I am

no expert and this may be my own doing. If that is the best "CON" I can come up with for this book, that says a lot. I HIGHLY recommend ANY student who enjoys thinking to pick up this book and complete it in its entirety. I feel deprived that I wasn't given this opportunity sooner. I am a 3rd year math+physics major. This book changed me from physics and chemistry to math and physics student and possibly from a physics grad student to a math grad.

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