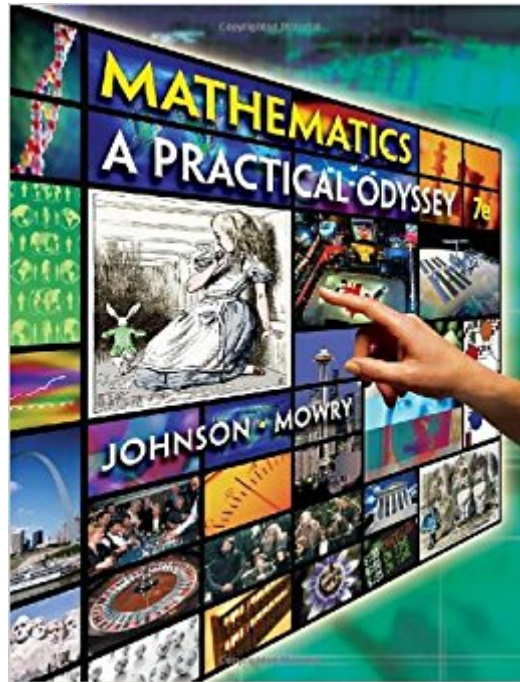




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# Mathematics: A Practical Odyssey



## Synopsis

Users discover the many ways in which mathematics is relevant to their lives with MATHEMATICS: A PRACTICAL ODYSSEY, 7E and its accompanying online resources. They master problem-solving skills in such areas as calculating interest and understanding voting systems and come to recognize the relevance of mathematics and to appreciate its human aspect.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

David Johnson earned a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics and a Bachelor's degree in Psychology (with an emphasis on Learning Theory), from the University of California at Santa Cruz, and a Master's degree in Mathematics from the University of California at Berkeley. After several years working as an academic counselor at Berkeley, he became a Professor of Mathematics at Diablo Valley College (DVC). He has taught DVC's liberal arts math course regularly for about 25 years, using Mathematics a Practical Odyssey. Other favorite courses include Intermediate Algebra, all three semesters of Calculus, and Differential Equations. Thomas Mowry earned a Bachelor's degree and a Master's degree in Mathematics from Michigan Technological University, in Houghton, Michigan. He began his college teaching career at City College of San Francisco and then went on to teach at San Francisco State University, Golden Gate University, and Cogswell College. He has been a professor of mathematics at Diablo Valley College, Pleasant Hill, California since 1985, where he has taught the complete gamut of courses from arithmetic to differential equations. He has served as department chair at DVC for the last seven years. Along with co-author, David Johnson, he created a college-level, transferable mathematics course (at DVC ) designed for students in the

liberal arts. As no appropriate textbooks were available for this course, he and David created *Mathematics: A Practical Odyssey*, which was first published in 1992.

Hate this class, but the book was cheap and pretty easy to follow.

Didn't pass my class yet but im able to do the assignments on my own

This was just the book We needed and it came super fast.... any books I need for school, this is the first place I will look Thank you so saving me a ton of money!!!!

If you are in a liberal arts program, and your college offers a course using this book, then RUN, don't walk, away from it! Generally, the schools are offering a survey course that liberal arts students can take that gives them a basic introduction to a variety of mathematical topics. In this case, the course is designed to introduce some logic, set theory, probability, statistics, and finance. Keep in mind that the target audience is students that are either poor in math, can't stand the topic, or lack solid foundations from previous courses. Given that audience, then, the book has to be more than a 'simple' version of a regular math book. The students in these courses aren't going to eagerly read ahead, look for other problems to solve, and won't do much in the way of independent research to find answers to challenging problems. Since they typically have poor preparation in foundation courses, then they also lack confidence in math. The biggest failure of this book is that instead of being a steady and reliable guide to many interesting topics in math, it's more like an irritating older sibling. The book rolls into a topic, introduces a simple example, then moves on ... and in the problem sets, provides challenging problems that aren't even closely covered in the explanatory text or in the example problems. In a math course designed for engineering, scientific, or math majors, that's the perfect approach - students in those fields are GOOD at math, and enjoy the challenge of being abandoned by the book, and looking for the answers through their own methods. However, a book that purports to lead you and guide you through unfamiliar territory needs to do just that - and this book falls way short of that goal. The book is loaded with chapters and topics that students will encounter only if there is a second course in the series. Rather than covering more topics with less depth, the book would have been much better if the authors had cut the number of topics and added essential tutoring and guidance for the more essential chapters. I had high hopes for this book, but it left me disappointed.

Fastest dellivery ever!! AAA+++ Book in excellent shape!!! Wound buy again from this selle! Thank you!

Waaaaaayyy overpriced. Not even that great of a textbook.

Condition was good and it is serving its purpose.

I was impressed with the quality and the shape the book was in. It met all of my expectations and surpassed them.

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