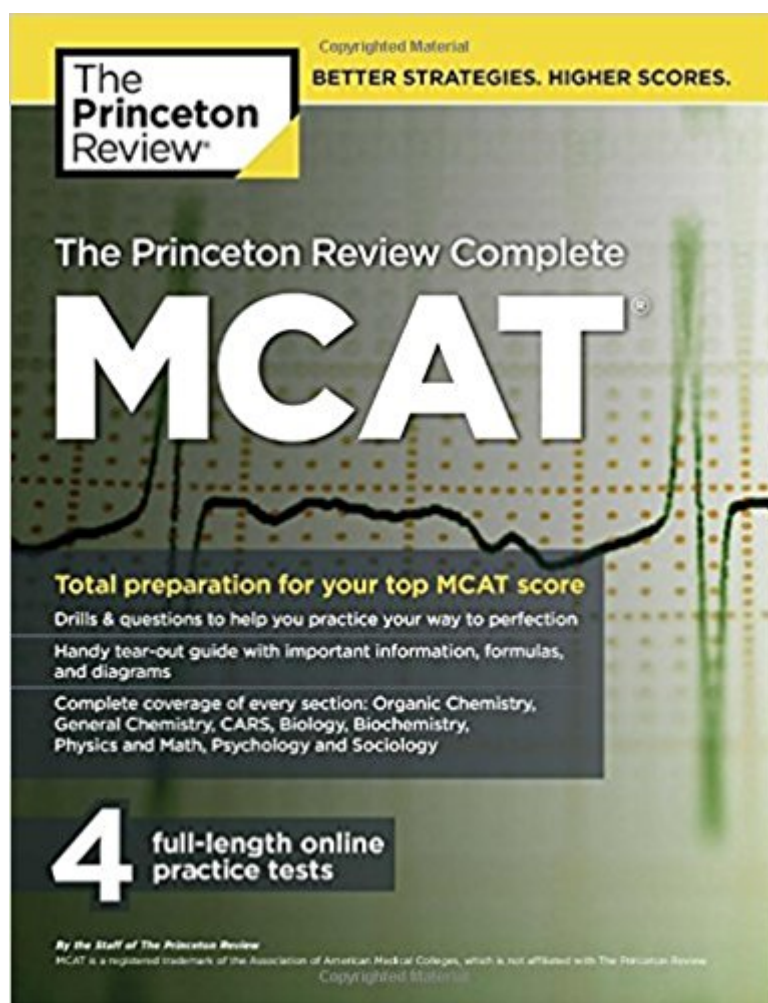


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# The Princeton Review Complete MCAT: New For MCAT 2015 (Graduate School Test Preparation)



## Synopsis

Prepare for the new, tougher MCAT 2015 with The Princeton Review and the most comprehensive prep book on the market. The MCAT is being entirely overhauled in 2015 – and students planning on taking the test after January 2015 need to prepare for an exam that's almost one-and-a-half times longer and a lot tougher. The Princeton Review's Complete MCAT is an all-in-one resource designed specifically for MCAT 2015 test-takers, covering every facet of this challenging and important test.

- Practice Your Way to Perfection
- Access to 4 full-length MCAT practice exams & answer explanations online
- Targeted freestanding practice questions and practice passages at the end of every content review chapter
- Expert content reviews & drills for all MCAT 2015 topics
- Everything You Need to Know for a High Score
- Access to our online Student Tools portal for up-to-the-moment information on late-breaking AAMC changes to the exam
- Detailed coverage of MCAT 2015 basics, as well as Biology, Psychology and Sociology, General Chemistry, Organic Chemistry, Physics, and Critical Analysis and Reasoning Skills
- Specific strategies for tackling every question type
- A full-color, 16-page tear-out reference guide with all the most important formulas, diagrams, information, concepts, and charts for each section of the MCAT
- A comprehensive index

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The experts at The Princeton Review have been helping students, parents, and educators achieve the best results at every stage of the education process since 1981. The Princeton Review has helped millions succeed on standardized tests, and provides expert advice and instruction to help parents, teachers, students, and schools navigate the complexities of school admission. In addition to classroom courses in over 40 states and 20 countries, The Princeton Review also offers online and school-based courses, one-to-one and small-group tutoring as well as online services in both admission counseling and academic homework help.

I don't typically take the time to write a product review. However, this book needs to be reviewed. I purchased this, like many others to refresh on the basics for the 2015 MCAT. Many reviewers have already mentioned that it is not great for content, but the value comes from the four included practice exams. I will review the material and the questions separately. First, the book you are purchasing is not the complete material that is offered from TPR, you must download supplemental information from their website. This includes practice passages for each chapter of the book, a skin section, and a math refresher section. Since I purchased a book, it could be assumed that I prefer to have the hard copy of my study materials, instead of using it on screen. So, that required me to use a considerable amount of tone and paper to print all of the supplemental material "included" with the book. The structure of material is atrocious at best. It is ordered in such a manner that it will present questions on information that is two-to-three chapters ahead. Even if you don't utilize the questions, the layout still isn't in any order that would allow someone who needed a detail review on the material to easily understand. Some of the explanations or in chapter review questions will reference a previous page's example, which doesn't exist. For instance, an in chapter example for the physics section, chapter 38, is trying to reference a idea or previous pages example problem. It will usually say something along the lines of "using problem 7.2", Chapter 7 is Biochemistry, this is consistent with the lack of formatting a proofreading that was done on this book. It appears that they have made a patchwork review manual, just to have something to print to capitalize on the new MCAT prep material. I can understand that a book this large will have a few errors in it, they even have a list of errata on their website which is about 2-3 pages long. However, it could easily be 20+ pages. This book has a proportionally high number of errors. I can understand some spelling errors that were missed, but they have material that is important for your success that is just wrong. They will give an explanation for a practice problem only to have the explanation reversed for why it was correct. The conflicting information between the correct answer and the explanation is exhausting. You are essentially paying TPR to be their editor if you purchase this book. I have already eluded to

this, but let me dive into more detail on the practice problems. I have used Kaplan and EK in conjunction with this book. All of which have errors in their practice problems. However, the TPR again wins the award for the highest number per publication. The simplest way to explain the level of proofreading is SLOPPY. The problems are all presented with their "worked" answers. They provide a "solution" to each problem contained in the book. However, if you do it their way, you will have a bad test day. They list the correct answer (most of the time), but the steps to get there, are wrong. For instance, they often are careless with their formulas, forgetting to show they squared a value, or converted to different units, changing the variables randomly for an unknown, etc. There are a few problems that I still don't know how they got the answer, using their "work". Because Kaplan and EK have such a large volume, their problems are much easier to search online to find the correct solution, if you can't work it out on your own, usually not the case with this book. I would recommend you don't purchase this book. You are paying for errors and incorrect solutions if you do.

I just took the MCAT a few days ago, and I used this book to prepare (among other resources). Quite a mixed bag.

**THE GOOD**-This book provides a pretty good review of general chemistry, organic chemistry, and physics. It covers all the topics (and some extra ones) and actually provides some useful strategies to remember certain concepts (electrochemistry conventions, physics formulas, etc.)-There are freestanding questions at the end of each chapter to test your basic knowledge of all the core concepts

**THE BAD**-The psychology/sociology section is not sufficient preparation for the real MCAT. It doesn't cover many topics sufficiently in depth, omits other topics altogether, and provides only definitional information. The real MCAT makes you apply concepts to data and real world situations, so definitional ("flashcard") knowledge definitely isn't enough. Do not rely on this section exclusively for your preparation.-There are some mistakes in this book that are frankly unacceptable. For example, it provides an inaccurate description of the deviations from ideality in the van der Waals equation for gases. These are mistakes that should have been caught by proper proofreading. It reeks of laziness.-The practice tests included online are not great. The real MCAT has a lot of experiment interpretation in the 3 science sections; the practice tests from Princeton Review are far too focused on testing memorized information. The CARS section does provide a better representation of what you'll find on the actual test, but the other science sections do not. There is also little information on how it assigns scores to your practice exams.-The advice for the CARS section, in my opinion, is not very good. There is not enough time on the real MCAT to view all the passages and assign difficulty before attempting questions. The categorization for

question types is also fairly confusing (the AAMC provides streamlined categories that make more sense).-The quicksheets at the back are not the best. They don't contain enough information to be useful study aids (even for quicksheets). There are some nice tables, but other parts are quite lazily put together (particularly the psych/soc section).OVERALLEven though I have listed more negatives than positives, I have given this book 3 stars because honestly there aren't a ton of options out there for the new MCAT. This book certainly isn't a horrible choice, but it isn't a one-stop shop for your MCAT needs either (as the title misleadingly suggests).

I appreciate the 4 practice tests; however, it seems as though the book was never updated. The physical sciences section was about 30% physics and 30% orgo...not a very accurate representation.

I consider this book content to be a good representation of the material need it. Basically the pros for this book are the four diagnostic exams provided online, with tools for evaluating your weaknesses. Its true what other said that you need to download a few .pdf with corrections, but well this is a first edition book. I have used material from kaplan, and examcrackers too and all including this book at the moment are lacking in some way in the material required.

When I bought this book I was happy that it has a lot of practice material and it is going to be a good review of topics. But this book is missing topics! Many important ochem topics and sociology topics are missing. I had taken Princeton review course for the old MCAT, and the science sections of this book were a completely same, at some points they even forgot to change the number of questions on the new test (I guess they were in a hurry to copy paste). If you get this book you will need the AAMC guide as well to double check the topics and use Khan Academy to cover those.

I didn't like the physics section. It keeps mentioning the Big five #1,2,3,4,5, but nowhere in the book can I find these equations in an organized manner. The biology section was very good though.

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