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A Transition To Advanced Mathematics

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Synopsis
A TRANSITION TO ADVANCED MATHEMATICS helps students to bridge the gap between calculus and advanced math courses. The most successful text of its kind, the 8th edition continues to provide a firm foundation in major concepts needed for continued study and guides students to think and express themselves mathematically--to analyze a situation, extract pertinent facts, and draw appropriate conclusions. The authors present introductions to modern algebra and analysis and place continuous emphasis throughout on improving students’ ability to read and write proofs, and on developing their critical awareness for spotting common errors in proofs. Concepts are clearly explained and supported with detailed examples, while abundant and diverse exercises provide thorough practice on both routine and more challenging problems. Students will come away with a solid intuition for the types of mathematical reasoning they’ll need to apply in later courses and a better understanding of how mathematicians of all kinds approach and solve problems.

Book Information
Hardcover: 448 pages
Publisher: Cengage Learning; 8 edition (August 6, 2014)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 1285463269
Product Dimensions: 7.4 x 1 x 9.2 inches
Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 3.4 out of 5 stars Â· See all reviews Â· (10 customer reviews)

Customer Reviews
I love this textbook. It is basic, but it is supposed to be. I used it when i learned proofs and now, as a professor of mathematics, i would love to use it in my courses. However, the cost is prohibitive. I cannot ask my students to pay more than 200 dollars for a one semester course book. I work in a rural area at a small university. Our students can barely afford school. So i teach from lesser books which cost 60 dollars instead of over 200. And I am looking into even less expensive versions. If this book is ever published at a reasonable cost, i will adopt it in a heartbeat.
I rented this book for my MATH 251 Discrete course at UNLV. This book wasn't an easy read as it was very formal, but I got the hang of it after a while. I wish the authors would have provided more details (even if trivial) in the proofs and provided more of them. The book strove toward compactness. Fortunately I've seen proofs before, so I was able to "muscle" through the text. This book is titled "A Transition to Advanced Mathematics" but it doesn't make the transition easy.

This edition is just the 7th edition with some stuff shifted around so you can't use the previous version to do homework. It is extremely overpriced. $60 for a book I have to return in 2 months and over $200 new. It came filled with writing and highlighting everywhere that I don't want to see.

While the book tends to do a good job in explaining the content of each section, it fails in the most crucial way possible by not providing adequate answers in the back of the book. For example, chapter 3.2 contains 46 different questions with a total of 8 answers in the back of the book. Another example, chapter 3.5 has 67 questions and 10 answers. That is approaching an average of 16.1% answers per section! How is a student to know if they are understanding the topic correctly without being able to check if their work is correct? This is the most egregious mistake made in a textbook I have ever seen. As such, I have to give this book a one star rating because, while the sections are well put together, the book fails miserably in functionality as a teaching/learning aide.

solid introductory textbook on abstract mathematics. this textbook succinctly explains the topics and concepts, providing an altogether comprehensive foundation for any higher mathematics student.

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