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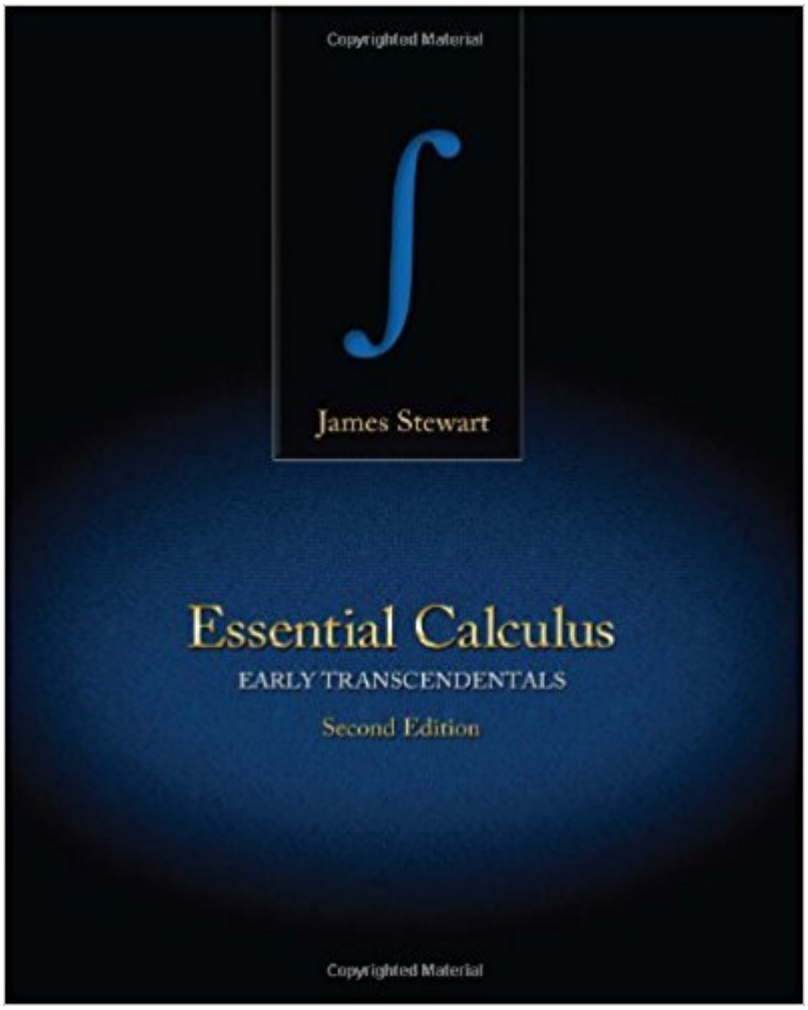
Essential Calculus: Early Transcendentals



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Synopsis

This book is for instructors who think that most calculus textbooks are too long. In writing the book, James Stewart asked himself: What is essential for a three-semester calculus course for scientists and engineers? ESSENTIAL CALCULUS: EARLY TRANSCENDENTALS, Second Edition, offers a concise approach to teaching calculus that focuses on major concepts, and supports those concepts with precise definitions, patient explanations, and carefully graded problems. The book is only 900 pages--two-thirds the size of Stewart's other calculus texts, and yet it contains almost all of the same topics. The author achieved this relative brevity primarily by condensing the exposition and by putting some of the features on the book's website, www.StewartCalculus.com. Despite the more compact size, the book has a modern flavor, covering technology and incorporating material to promote conceptual understanding, though not as prominently as in Stewart's other books. ESSENTIAL CALCULUS: EARLY TRANSCENDENTALS features the same attention to detail, eye for innovation, and meticulous accuracy that have made Stewart's textbooks the best-selling calculus texts in the world.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I debated for quite a while about whether this was a 4 or 5 star book, in reality it's probably about 4.5I used this book for Calculus 1, 2, and 3.THE GOOD:Almost no errata -- This book was amazingly consistent, very high quality here, almost no errors in it.Comprehensive -- This book did a very good job of being thorough about the topics it covered.Concise -- Even though it was thorough,

it wasn’t extremely long, the sections were split small enough that it was fairly easy to get through.No faith required -- Lots of proofs, which is what I need, I’m a skeptic. I thought the proofs really added to the book, whenever they would say something I was skeptical about, I walk through their proofs to see that it was valid. These proofs were very helpful IMO.Questions reflect material -- The questions that were asked were almost always directly related or relevant to the material, it wasn’t very often I got to the questions and felt overwhelmed.THE BAD:Layout -- Minimal use of colours and whitespace, every page looked the same as every other page, which made parsing the material a little bit taxing.Not good for reference -- This book is great for learning, but I had a very hard time going back later to locate tidbits of relevant information. (The appendixes were very good in this regard, though)OVERALL:In Calculus 1, I didn’t use this book correctly, and really struggled. I had gotten in the habit during pre-calculus of just jumping right into the questions, and whenever I got stuck, looking back at the examples. That does not work with this book, you will be lost and overwhelmed, and spend more time in the end.

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