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Beginning Logic

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E. J. Lemmon

P	Q	R	$(P \& -Q) \vee R$	$\rightarrow$	$(R \& -Q \rightarrow -P)$
T	T	T	T	T	T
T	T	F	F	F	F
T	F	T	T	T	T
T	F	F	F	F	F
F	T	T	T	T	T
F	T	F	F	F	F
F	F	T	T	T	T
F	F	F	F	F	F



Synopsis

"One of the most careful and intensive among the introductory texts that can be used with a wide range of students. It builds remarkably sophisticated technical skills, a good sense of the nature of a formal system, and a solid and extensive background for more advanced work in logic. . . . The emphasis throughout is on natural deduction derivations, and the text's deductive systems are its greatest strength. Lemmon's unusual procedure of presenting derivations before truth tables is very effective." --Sarah Stebbins, The Journal of Symbolic Logic

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Customer Reviews

I ordered this book as it was recommended as a textbook for my Logic course at university. From what I have read so far this book has greatly helped me to better understand what my lecturer explains in class and gives a more in depth explanation of all the rules etc. needed in logic. It is also great having some exercises to do along the way throughout the text. I would recommend this to anyone taking a class in Logic who needs a bit more help or just to be sure that they understand what they're learning.

Lemmon certainly knows logic, and moreover has a fairly accessible writing style. This is not to say you won't be re-reading sections several times, but hey, if logic came easy we'd teach it in kindergarten. Lots of exercise problems offered at the end of every section (no answer key in back, though, you just get to take your best shot at them and see if you get your assumption sets down to

what they should be). This is the course text for my Symbolic Logic course, and it's seeing a lot of use.

Great introduction to logic. Clear and concise explanations. This was my text for an intro logic class a while back, it did a great job of explaining whatever I missed out on in class, and the exercises do a great job at solidifying the topic.

I have got to admit, this is a very difficult book to follow. It is higher order logic--very difficult material for most people to grasp--hard for me and I tutored it. This book may have been impossible for me to learn from on my own--I bought it for use in a class, and used it with assistance from a logician. There are a few out there who will be able to learn it on their own with this book--but not many. For most, this will be torture! But if you love logic and get it, then this book will be great for you!

This is an older book, so it is a little wordy. The wording of explanations for rules is a bit strange, but its okay because Lemmon follows all explanations with examples.

Classic symbolic-logic text, albeit using antiquated symbols.

Okay. This book is cheap which is nice. BUT it is NOT HELPFUL. Even for someone with a background in logic this book is worthless, but especially for a beginner. There are hardly any practice problems, the explanations are terrible, and for the few problems in the book there are not any answers. So, it is very difficult to use this book and know what (if anything) you are doing right or doing wrong.

I obtained this book for a college course I am taking, Introduction to Logic. The book is well written and I think it does what it's meant to do, but it does have its flaws. On the one hand, I believe that the book does a great job of introducing the basic of Logic and all of its symbols and syntax. It makes a great complement to my class. However, it often becomes very heady and can be hard to understand unless you are fully committed and make sure you have a grasp of one topic completely before moving on to the next. One of my largest complaints about the book is that it provides practice problems with no answers. This means that the problems are basically worthless to me in the sense that even if I feel that I know how to do all the problems in the chapter I have no way of knowing if I truly understand the more complicated subject matter through private study. I would still

recommend this book to anyone who is genuinely interested in the subject AND has a competent mentor/teacher to guide them. If you're going it alone though, it may be a little rough.

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