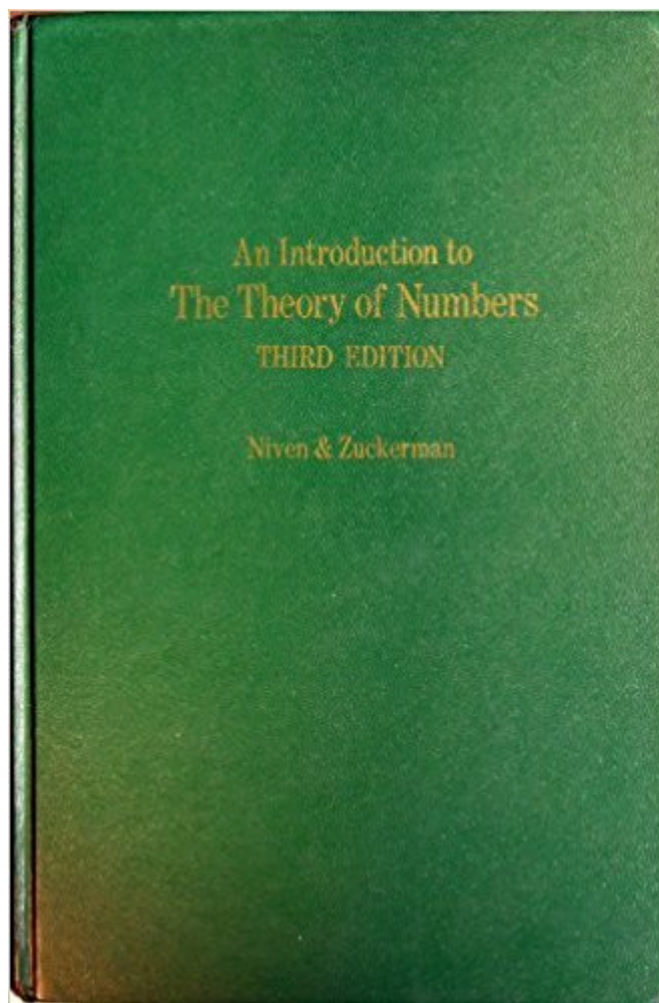


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Introduction To The Theory Of Numbers



Synopsis

The Fifth Edition of one of the standard works on number theory, written by internationally-recognized mathematicians. Chapters are relatively self-contained for greater flexibility. New features include expanded treatment of the binomial theorem, techniques of numerical calculation and a section on public key cryptography. Contains an outstanding set of problems. --This text refers to an alternate Hardcover edition.

Book Information

Hardcover: 302 pages

Publisher: John Wiley & Sons Inc; 3rd edition (April 12, 1972)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0471641545

ISBN-13: 978-0471641544

Package Dimensions: 9 x 5.9 x 1 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 stars 25 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #683,181 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #222 in [Books > Science & Math > Mathematics > Pure Mathematics > Number Theory](#)

Customer Reviews

This is an unusual number theory book in that it covers topics of interest to the authors which are not often found in the "standard" introductory treatment. My only mild complaints are: no subject index and some ambiguous and unusual notation here and there. I agree that this book should be in the library of anyone serious about the topic, however, if you are beginning your study of number theory from scratch there are other books that may provide a better start. I would recommend Joe Roberts "Elementary Number Theory: A Problem Oriented Approach" and/or "An Introduction to the Theory of Numbers" by Niven, Zuckerman, and Montgomery. Roberts offers a wide spectrum of problems, with detailed solutions, written along the lines of Polya & Szego's "Problems and Theorems in Analysis I & II". Niven's book is a solid traditional introduction. It is fun to read Hardy and Wright though, it exhibits a style that is sadly missing today. I have to say in closing that it would be good to ignore some of the previous reviews, specifically ones making reference to "idiots". They're unproductive, miss the point of reviewing, and exhibit a level of ignorance which Mark Twain identified years ago: "It is better to keep your mouth shut and appear stupid than to open it and remove all doubt."

Really good topic, it's interesting throughout the book.

Old school number theory, not an introductory text, really.

This is an excellent book on the theory of numbers appropriate for a beginning graduate student who completed undergraduate introductory courses in number theory, advanced calculus, and linear algebra. In order to comprehend the material in this book, the student must possess mathematical maturity, as they will be required to prove a good number of theorems throughout each chapter. I had the opportunity to use this book when I did my graduate level coursework in Number Theory. I especially like the chapters on Diophantine equations and continued fractions.

Faster delivery

In many typical introductory texts, myriad example problems are given to instruct the reader. However, this text offers virtually no examples, but rather presents theorems and proofs in rapid succession. Good as a reference book, but poor for instruction, which surely is the purpose of an introductory book.

This would be a good book if you're just reading about mathematical theories and concepts for fun, but I did not find it useful in actually teaching the concepts. It was very confusing with very little explanation.

This is THE work about Number Theory, and has been for a number of years. There are later works, which are either extremely dense and difficult or mere pieces of fluff. Hardy and Wright really know their topic and present a number of important theorems in a way that is possible to grasp, though not without work. Gauss once said "Number theory is the queen of mathematics", and this book helps to show why. First published in 1938, it has been kept up over the years. If you are interested in number theory, this book is a MUST. If you are very gifted and love prime numbers, I also recommend Prime Numbers by Carl Pomerance and Richard Crandall. Pomerance is one of the country's most talented prime number theorists. It is incredibly dense, but very deep.

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