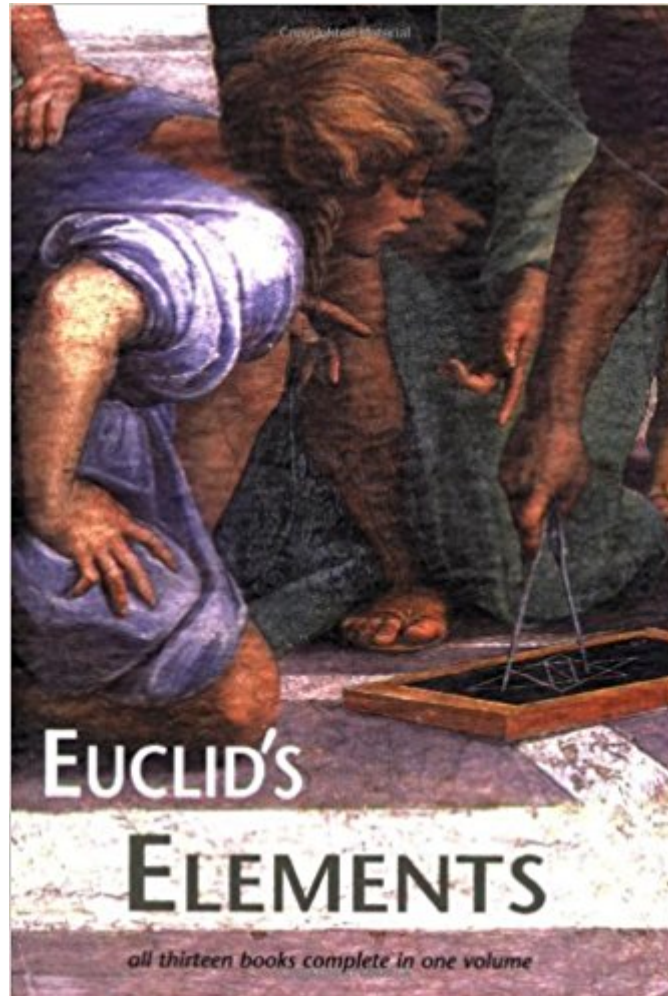




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Euclid's Elements



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Synopsis

The classic Heath translation, in a completely new layout with plenty of space and generous margins. An affordable but sturdy student and teacher sewn softcover edition in one volume, with minimal notes and a new index/glossary.

Book Information

Paperback: 529 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 114 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

I had not imagined that there was anything so delicious in the world. -- Bertrand Russell
If you want your students to really grapple with Euclid, this is the edition to choose. -- Fernando Q. Gouvea, MAA Online, August 2002

Euclid is the most celebrated mathematician of all time. He lived in the third or fourth century B. C. E., after Plato but before Apollonius of Perga. His fame rests preeminently upon the Elements, which he wrote in thirteen books and which is said to have exercised an influence on the human mind greater than that of any other work except the Bible.

What one can say for the most influential book of all times apart holy books...that the presentation is a piece of art facilitating, in one volume, the effort and pleasure of amazing itself...

This is hard. But good for stretching the mind and keeping it working

This is the must-have edition of Euclid's Elements, in English. Green Lion Press (the publishers) have done a fantastic job laying out the text for ease of use, including re-printing diagrams any time a proposition spans multiple pages.

Euclid's Elements is a beautiful classic, and anyone with a serious interest in mathematics should look at it at some point. This is a nice edition: the paper and binding are high quality, and diagrams are repeated if necessary so that you never have to flip pages between a diagram and the argument that is referring to it. There is no commentary except for a brief introduction (some of which consists of quotes from older commentaries). Many readers may find this preferable to the Heath edition, where Euclid is almost drowned out by overwhelming amounts of commentary. If you haven't read Euclid before, you might be surprised to find that the proofs are full of gaps. Many proofs use arguments which are not justified by the axioms (for example the proof of the first proposition takes it for granted that a certain pair of circles intersect), and there are many examples of "proof by special case". These issues don't really detract from the beauty of the work (and one can argue that putting everything on an absolutely rigorous foundation wasn't the original goal anyway), but are probably part of the reason why this book has been so heavily commented over the millennia. For a modern discussion of the mathematical issues in Euclid, and some related subsequent developments, I recommend "Geometry: Euclid and Beyond" by Hartshorne.

My child and I are having fun working through it.

What can you say? It's Euclid's Elements. The edition is very good as well - the diagrams are persistent, on every page on which they are referenced; and the margins are ample for whatever doodling you happen to emit. I would recommend this to anyone who wants to study these things independently of any larger organization.

An excellent edition of one of the greatest books ever written. Carefully edited for clarity and access to the original material, with helpful additions like consistent numbering, redrawn illustrations, and wide margins for notes.

It was a gift for my daughter who thinks 300 level Calculus is fun. She appreciated the tome as she likes to collect functional classics

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