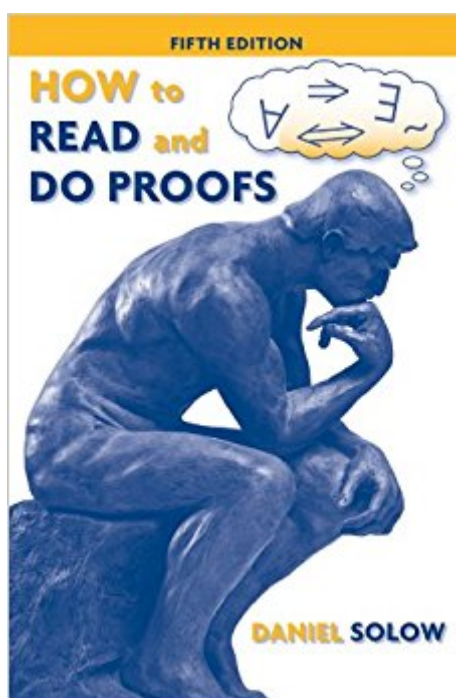




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# How To Read And Do Proofs: An Introduction To Mathematical Thought Processes



## Synopsis

When engineers, computer scientists, and economists need to learn how to read, think about, and create proofs, they turn to Solow. In order to make the material more relevant, the exercises in each chapter have been revised and expanded. New and more complete discussions are included on how to use a previously-proved proposition in both the forward and backward processes. The fifth edition also presents new, self-contained chapters on uniqueness, induction, either/or, and max/min methods. Several final examples of how to read and do proofs are included in the final chapter to reinforce the reader's knowledge of the various proof techniques.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Prior to discovering this book, I have read tons of guides and books on how to do proofs. I am an undergrad just entering my final year. I have YET to fully comprehend how to do proofs properly. Every book, author, or professor speaks about proofs without understanding where the bottle neck in a student's knowledge lies. Daniel Solow is the messiah for me. I was lost but now I am found. He sheds away the fluff and gives you a true distilled approach to the matter. By the first two chapters alone is worth the "price of admission". He gives you a strong foundation in order to build upon. I went back to old proofs that were assigned for homework and I see them with much greater clarity. All I can say is thank you Daniel for showing me the way to become a better mathematician. You don't even need calculus! I wish I read this a lot sooner...

I'm an Electronic and Computer Systems Engineer, but in my spare time I like to do Mathematics, specially Real & Functional Analysis, I didn't go to any formal courses, but thanx to this book I had the possibility to learn these abstract subjects, now the part that I like most is to analyze proofs in any other subject of Mathematics dissecting their steps using what is taught in this book. I have, I thing, all the other books that talk about proofs, but for me this is the best. P.S.: This book works for Mathematicians too. Recommendation: Now you can have a Real Analysis Book that use the Dr. Solow Method of analyzing proofs, its name is: Introduction to Real Analysis by Michael J. Schramm

I am a PhD in EE and I have a lot of exposure to Math and proofs; however, I am trying to pick up pure Math and I needed an overview of what proofs are about. Even though I knew the material of this book, it is very good to know the various types of proofs and this book gives exactly that picture. Exercises are extremely easy. The point is not to learn solving hard problems but to understand the various types of proofs. I would recommend Engel's book on Problem Solving Strategies and Thinking Mathematically by J. Mason et al along with this book. For non-math majors, we do not have a math professor to help us understand what math is about. Books like these are reasonably good substitute for that. My strong belief is that a mentor can make all the difference and we would not need most of these books; however, such mentors especially in pure math are simply not available unless you are a math student trying to earn your PhD under the guidance of a professor.

This book is the first edition of *How to Read and Do Proofs: An Introduction to Mathematical Thought Processes*. The typesetting is less elegant than for the further editions, but all the exercises have solutions at the end of the book instead of just half of the exercises in the other editions. I like that: I firmly believe in solving and checking as many exercises as one can. The book is fun and extremely clear, which is a rarity in mathematics. Most mathematicians are not good at understanding where the students get stuck, so they plow forward and leave you in the dust. This one, you can read like a novel.

Best proof book I have ever read by far. Works great on kindle fire and iPhone.

Daniel takes the reader by the hand and does a stupendous job of teaching difficult material in an easily comprehensible manner

Nice, brief overview of math proof concepts and techniques. Focuses on understanding ideas rather than memorizing rules. Definitely worth triple what I paid for it. One of my college math professors recommended this book as a study guide for a test to place out of a Mathematical Reasoning class (which the university requires for all 300+ level math classes). Two friends and I read through this book, and we all passed.

The typeset is dated, and the language has that ascetic tenor of a great mind lost in the bookshelves of some dark and musty corner of some long ago library tucked away in a desert just waiting for Indiana Jones to barge in and declare "IT BELONGS IN A MUSEUM!" And I love it!

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