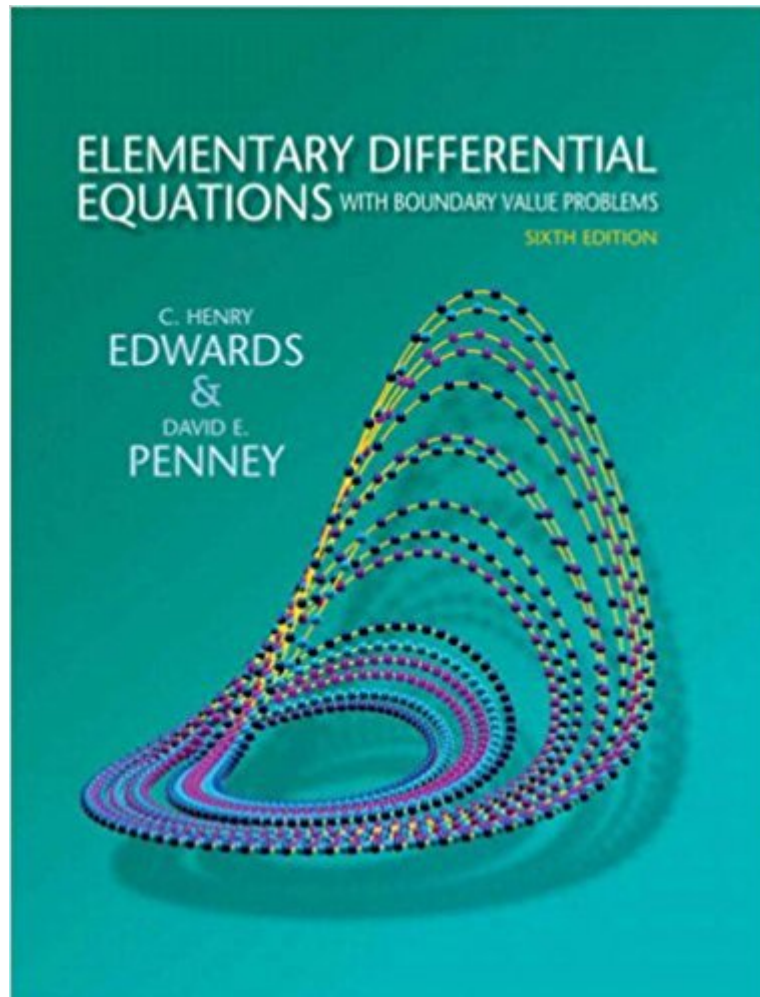


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Elementary Differential Equations With Boundary Value Problems (6th Edition)



Synopsis

For briefer traditional courses in elementary differential equations that science, engineering, and mathematics students take following calculus. The Sixth Edition of this widely adopted book remains the same classic differential equations text it's always been, but has been polished and sharpened to serve both instructors and students even more effectively. Edwards and Penney teach students to first solve those differential equations that have the most frequent and interesting applications. Precise and clear-cut statements of fundamental existence and uniqueness theorems allow understanding of their role in this subject. A strong numerical approach emphasizes that the effective and reliable use of numerical methods often requires preliminary analysis using standard elementary techniques.

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Customer Reviews

This book will tell you everything you need to learn on differential equations. It covers thoroughly the methods for solving first and second order differential equations. The book also extends into Fourier transforms. I used this book at MIT for the differential equations class and found it very useful.

Within its contents, matlab exercises are present and some simple projects which lets the student apply its knowledge. The only problem with the book is that it can be hard to read at certain points. Also the author assumes a strong background in calculus.

I've used this book during my differential class over the last semester. The problems in the book are

carried out well and the back of the book has even and odd answers to help your understanding. For math majors, this book is great because it really wants you to "experience" the world of diff EQ, but for engineers or others taking it as a side class, it doesn't offer good examples for getting the job done. A good instructor can correct this though. As a book, 3 stars.

I bought this book after finishing "Calculus Early Transcendentals" by the same authors. This is another book that is so well-written that it doesn't require a teacher. There are 9 chapters in all: 1) First-Order Differential Equations 2) Linear Equations of Higher Order 3) Power Series Methods 4) Laplace Transform Methods 5) Linear Systems of Differential Equations 6) Numerical Methods 7) Nonlinear Systems and Phenomena 8) Fourier Series Methods 9) Eigenvalues and Boundary Value Problems. The most important part of studying any maths book is doing the exercises. In each exercise, make sure that you solve one problem of each type. (Don't do much more than this or you'll get overworked; don't do much less than this or you won't get enough practice.) This way you'll end up solving roughly 10 problems from each exercise. Make sure you use MATLAB (or any similar software) whenever a problem requires it. Remember that this book requires a solid background of high-school calculus, and be prepared to work hard. Good luck with it.

I bought the 5th edition of this book for my Differential Equations course and I am extremely satisfied with it. This book is clearly a great source for anyone interested in the subject. It has plenty of great examples in each chapter and it also includes many problems at the end of each section. Just make sure that you buy the book WITH "Boundary Value Problems" which includes two extra chapters: "Fourier Series Methods" and "Eigenvalues and Boundary Value Problems".

This isn't the best differential equations book. The explanations are satisfactory, but the overall quality is definitely not the best you could find. It does not mention complex methods as a way of solving trigonometric inputs, which makes the equations much easier to solve. This book was required for a class I'm taking at MIT. If I could do it over, I would probably just get the pdf for problems and buy a better differential equations book for a reference. It's not bad, but it's not the best.

This book clearly presents a university-level approach to differential equations in a well-organized and easy-to-understand format. The topics are clearly laid out and are listed sequentially so that everything flows and ties together from previous sections. What I specifically liked about this book is

that the theoretical aspects were kept to a minimum, but the applications were heavily emphasized. I believe this helps make the material more presentable to those learning differential equations for the first time. At the same time, I don't see that the lack of theory is a drawback by any means. So, I think that if you want a gentle, yet thorough introduction to the methods of differential equations, then this is a book definitely worth checking out.

This book, in the sixth edition, is very popular, used at many colleges and universities. I got it to brush-up on ODE's so I can help students at the learning center where I work. They are taking this course using the sixth edition, and I'm auditing the class with them. I learned a while back that I can save a lot of money by getting earlier editions of textbooks. The text doesn't change much, if at all; one need only be careful with assignments as the numberings may differ. (For example, problem #7 in one edition may be problem #8 in another.) So if problems are required for turn-in, a work-around for this is to check with a classmate or the teacher and get copies of the exercises in the current edition. If turn-ins aren't required, I generally just do a selection of problems of each type, to get good all-around practice. Speaking of practice, most people know by the time they get to this level -- though it bears repeating -- that practice is necessary. Very few of us can learn merely by reading or watching, and even those fortunate few do better with practice. Some people complain that this book assumes a good background in calculus, but I think that's in the nature of the subject. One of my professors said, "you learn algebra when you study calculus, and you learn calculus when you study ODE's." Calculus is a pre-requisite to ODE's, and if some of the formulas etc have slipped one's mind, it's good to get a laminated study guide such as the Barcharts "Quick Study" series. In addition to the text, I recommend the solutions manual that goes with this book, and a supplementary workbook such as Schaum's Outline series. The solutions manual give hints that may not occur naturally to most learners, and supplementary workbooks generally have more detailed explanations written with the student in mind.

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