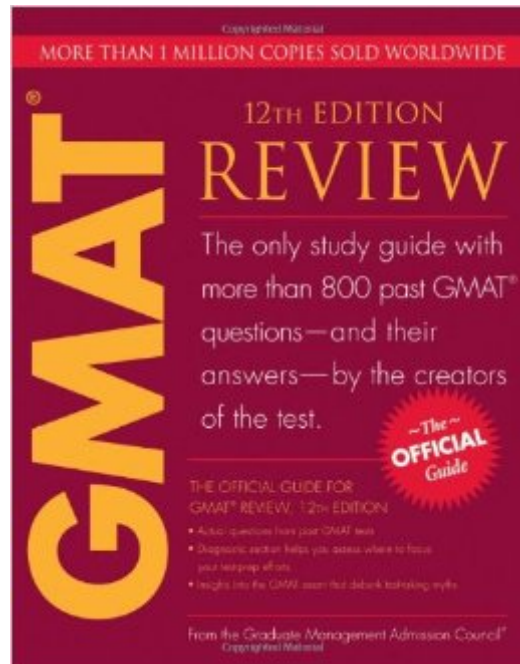


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# The Official Guide For GMAT Review, 12th Edition



## Synopsis

The Official Guide for GMAT Review, 12th Edition is the only book on the market written by the creators of the GMAT exam. Inside you'll find more than 800 actual GMAT questions from previous tests with answers and detailed explanations. There's also a grammar review, math review, actual essay topics, sample responses, and scoring information insights into the GMAT exam that debunk test-taking myths. Plus, use the diagnostic section to pinpoint your skill level and focus on the areas where you need the most help.

## Book Information

Paperback: 840 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (169 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #86,095 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #34 in [Books > Business & Money > Education & Reference > GMAT Test](#) #166 in [Books > Education & Teaching > Higher & Continuing Education > Test Preparation > Graduate School](#) #645 in [Books > Business & Money > Job Hunting & Careers](#)

## Customer Reviews

I started GMAT Club - online MBA community; my GMAT score is 750 (49, 42), and here are my thoughts about this book:

Strengths:

1. 907 real GMAT questions retired from past tests
2. Practice questions are organized by level of difficulty
3. Practice questions follow actual GMAT test patterns (it's great to have one's ear trained, esp. in verbal)
4. Contains a 100-question diagnostic test

Weaknesses:

1. Does not include any test-taking strategies
2. Though it has a few short review sections for each area, they are weak and very unfriendly
3. Questions are predominantly low to medium in difficulty which is often not representative of questions one encounters on the test
4. There is a 66% overlap with the previous version (11th edition)

Contents (number of questions per section):

1. Diagnostic Test - 100 questions
2. Problem Solving - 230 questions
3. Data Sufficiency - 174 questions
4. Reading Comprehension - 139 questions
5. Critical Reasoning - 124 questions
6. Sentence Correction - 140 questions

\* Why is this book valuable/must-have? The Official Guide is

published by the creators of the GMAT and therefore it is the only source of actual GMAT questions representative of what you will see on the test.\* Why is the book not sufficient by itself? This Guide contains only questions and lacks insightful information about the test, a math/verbal concept review section, or any test-taking strategies. To get up to speed, you will need to get a study guide such as Kaplan Premier Program or Princeton Review's Cracking the GMAT Cat.\* How should this book be used? This book should NOT be used as a study-guide.

After going through all the GMAT books, here is my comparison about some of the most popular GMAT books:

**Official Guides:** Pros - Excellent source of GMAT questions. Very well organized with real test like questions. Cons - No review of any math content or test-taking strategies. Not very good explanations of practice questions. Overall, the Official Guide is a must have for all test-takers. It will give you a good idea about the type of questions to expect on the GMAT; however, if you need more than just a bank of questions, you need to look at some other source.

**Kaplan:** Pros - It covers every section of the test as much as possible by a single book. Also a good source for additional practice questions. Cons - Review of math content is not thorough but just the very basics. Not enough explanation of test taking strategies. Full of guessing techniques with no real mathematical solutions. Not good enough explanations of practice questions. Unrealistic questions.

**Princeton:** Pros - Good for learning how to make educated guess and process of elimination. Focuses more on test taking techniques. Cons - Review of math content is not thorough but just the very basics. Not enough explanation of test taking strategies. Full of guessing techniques with no real mathematical solutions. Not good enough explanations of practice questions. Weird sense of humor of Joe Blogs.

**Dummies:** Pros - Good book if you are looking for test taking strategies and brief overview as it covers every section. It's definitely worth the price. Cons - Not a regular standalone type of a book. You'll certainly need additional help.

**Barrons:** Pros - Intensive math review. Big list of questions. Good test taking strategies.

**The best approach for using the GMAT Official Guide:** The GMAT OG is a "must have" for everyone who intend to take the GMAT, but only if you use it the right way.

-First:--Go through this book at the very beginning when you first start preparing for the GMAT.--This will give you a good understanding of what you should expect to see when you take the actual test.

-Next:--If you feel you are 100% comfortable with all the concepts involved - go ahead and crack every question in this book and you'll be good to go.--If you feel you lack some if not all of the concepts involved - keep this book aside, go through some of the other study guides, and then at the end come back to this

book and answer every question.-Next:--Buy the recommended books listed below.--Take the official practice GMAT.-Finally:--If you feel, you still need more practice, consider browsing the internet to find any free questions you can lay your hands on.--Once again take the free official practice test before your real test.Positives:-Indisputably, one of the best GMAT books - if you want to know what types of questions can potentially pop up on the GMAT.-Excellent source for practicing real test questions for all difficulty levels.Negatives:-No conceptual knowledge of any concept whatsoever.-Answer explanations are fine, but not that methodical.GMAT Books: If you are serious about getting a high score, I'd recommend doing the following:-Buy the latest edition of OG.-Buy Barron's book as this is one of the best all-in-one review book (except the CD).-For Verbal Practice - consider Kaplan/PR Workbooks, and Dummies book.

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