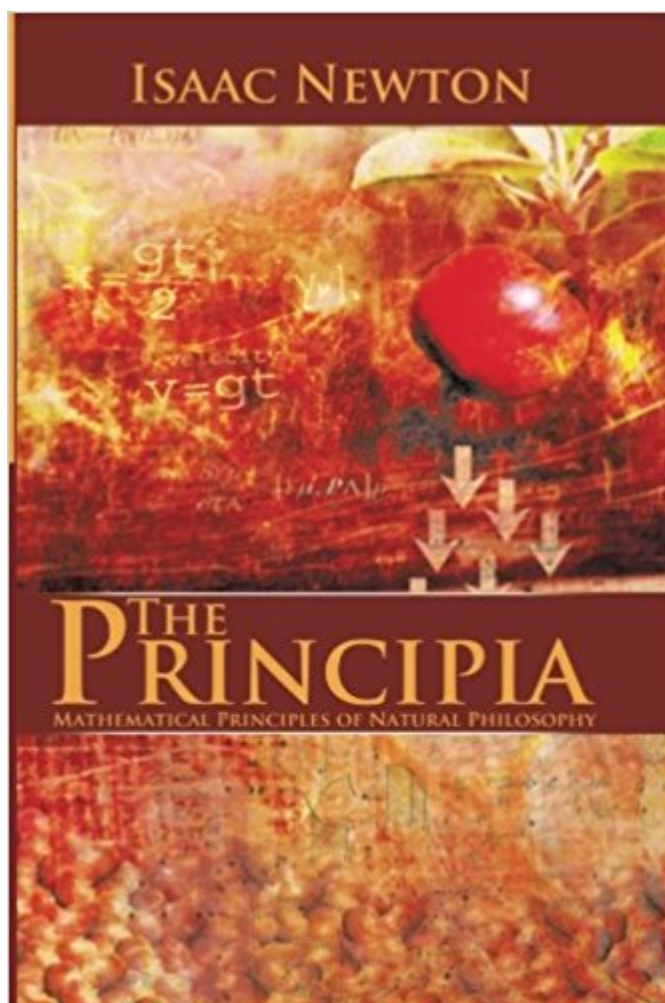


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The Principia : Mathematical Principles Of Natural Philosophy



Synopsis

Newton's Principia by Sir Isaac Newton is presented here in a high quality paperback edition. This publication was produced from a professional scan of an original edition of the book, which can include imperfections from the original book or through the scanning process, and has been created from an edition which we consider to be of the best possible quality available. This popular classic work by Sir Isaac Newton is in the English language. Newton's Principia is highly recommended for those who enjoy the works of Sir Isaac Newton, and for those discovering the works of Sir Isaac Newton for the first time.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Sir Isaac Newton, (1642 - 1726) was an English physicist and mathematician, or natural philosopher, who is generally regarded as one of the most influential scientists of all time and a primary figure in the scientific revolution. His work the Mathematical Principles of Natural Philosophy, (also known just as the Principia) first published in 1687, built the ground for classical mechanics. Newton made contributions to the field of optics, and gets credit for the development of calculus, alongside, Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

This is the work which, for better and for worse, changed how we humans live forever, uniting the heavens and earth under a satisfying physical theory for the first time. The English translation is smooth enough that it feels like Newton wrote the work 'yesterday'. The introductory sections by Cohen give a detailed overview of the work itself and the broader context in which it was written,

which helps in recognising some mathematical presentation and concepts we no longer use or are unfamiliar with. The overall methods used in the Principia have found their use throughout modern physics practice--mathematical modelling, idealisations, theory-mediated measurements, etc. Even with the advent of General Relativity and Quantum Field Theory, we still do physics (in a broad fashion) in a way which is present in this book. No wonder, as a physicist-in-training, I found this work to be an exemplar, despite the less-than-satisfying results in some sections, as Newton himself admitted, of how natural science is to be done (notwithstanding its limitations, as unfortunately we learned the hard way).

This book is a facsimile version, which appeals to my sense of history; although it has a drawback: in places bits of letters have gone missing and it can impede reading ease and comprehension. Kind of like both sides of a coin I guess, so I present this as a fact, not a criticism. The real challenge is that it isn't helping me learn maths, I see no evidence of it being like a tutorial or textbook. It reads much more like a reference for people who have a very good understanding of the maths in it already. I'm very interested in understanding what it says, and it's going to take additional help. All up, I think it's a treasure in the historical sense as a time capsule of science, it's an economical price and looks as though it's made to last as a book.

The explanatory material, publishers's notes, and most of the reviews above all refer to the Bernard Cohen translation and commentary (UC Berkeley Press, blue cover) - but they are attached to the listing for the Snowball Publishing edition (brownish cover), which is not the same thing at all!! The entry for the Snowball edition - listed on discount for about \$13 - clearly states that it is the Cohen translation with his commentaries. In fact, it is merely a cheap reproduction of some earlier edition of the standard Motte translation, with modernized spelling. It is the complete text of the (translated) Third Edition of the Principia, but with no other associated works by Newton and nothing by Cohen. Snowball does not even give the translator's name, either on the cover or in the front matter! The lithographic reproduction is readable but poor quality - with many broken characters and even edges of pages slightly cut off. This is a usable cheap edition of the well-known 1729 translation, but it is NOT the modern translation, as the listing explicitly states. (In fact, 's "Search Inside This Book" feature, from the Snowball edition page, takes you to the search pages for the Cohen edition - a completely different, and much more expensive, book!) I'm sure this was a good-faith error on 's part, but it is completely misleading. Buyers should know what they are getting. If you are reading this on the page listing for the Snowball Publishing edition of the Principia, you aren't getting what

they say you are. Be forewarned.

I wanted to get an idea of why Newton discovered/created the calculus framework. I was more interested in the problems he was trying to solve than the explicit descriptions of the math problems. The dated English is hard to decipher at times but its worth reading through at least once. Its a bit dry and a bit slow but it does something most present math books don't do; this book explains why.

Love Sir Newton. Good book but difficult read.

A masterpiece but very difficult

EXCELLENT..

Excellent!

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