



How to Ace Calculus: The Streetwise Guide

By Colin Adams, Abigail Thompson, Joel Hass

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Written by three gifted and funny teachers, *How to Ace Calculus* provides humorous and readable explanations of the key topics of calculus without the technical details and fine print that would be found in a more formal text. Capturing the tone of students exchanging ideas among themselves, this unique guide also explains how calculus is taught, how to get the best teachers, what to study, and what is likely to be on exams—all the tricks of the trade that will make learning the material of first-semester calculus a piece of cake. Funny, irreverent, and flexible, *How to Ace Calculus* shows why learning calculus can be not only a mind-expanding experience but also fantastic fun.

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Editorial Review

Review

“Imagine calculus is a solid old house built on good foundations. When the time comes to sell it to a new owner, a lick of brightly colored, cheery paint can do wonders. This is what Adams, Hass, and Thompson have done in *How to Ace Calculus*.” ?Keith Devlin, *Dean, School of Science, St. Mary's College (CA), Senior Researcher, Stanford University, and author of The Language of Mathematics*

“This is a marvelous, user-friendly introduction to the basic ideas of calculus. It is effective, humorous and eminently practical. The book that 100,000 calculus students have been searching for is finally here.” ?Ron Graham, *Chief Scientist, AT&T Labs, former President of the American Mathematical Society, and author of Concrete Mathematics: A Foundation of Computer Science*

“Can a calculus book be lighthearted and engaging? Surprisingly, yes, and here is one that does the job.” ?Thomas Banchoff, *Professor of Mathematics, Brown University, President-Elect of the Mathematics Association of America, and author of Beyond the Third Dimension*

“This book is dangerously clear, direct, and funny. It should be suppressed before it jeopardizes the time-tested function of the calculus sequence to befuddle and filter surplus students.” ?William Thurston, *Professor of Mathematics, University of California at Davis, Fields Medalist, and former Director of the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute*

“Comic opera meets college math in this amusing and edifying roller coaster of an introduction to calculus.” ?Ivars Peterson, *author of The Mathematical Tourist*

About the Author

Colin Adams is Professor of Mathematics at Williams College. He is the author of *The Knot Book* and winner of the Mathematical Association of America Distinguished Teaching Award for 1998. **Joel Hass** is Professor of Mathematics at the University of California at Davis, and **Abigail Thompson** is also Professor of Mathematics at the University of California at Davis. Both have held fellowships from the Sloan Foundation and the National Science Foundation.

Users Review

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Hallie Cathey:

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