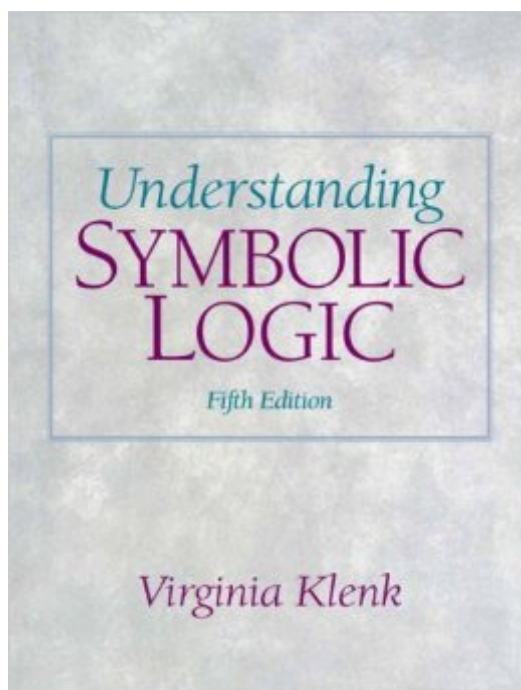


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# Understanding Symbolic Logic (5th Edition)



## Synopsis

This comprehensive introduction presents the fundamentals of symbolic logic clearly, systematically, and in a straightforward style accessible to readers. Each chapter, or unit, is divided into easily comprehended small "bites" that enable learners to master the material step-by-step, rather than being overwhelmed by masses of information covered too quickly. The book provides extremely detailed explanations of procedures and techniques, and was written in the conviction that anyone can thoroughly master its content. A four-part organization covers sentential logic, monadic predicate logic, relational predicate logic, and extra credit units that glimpse into alternative methods of logic and more advanced topics. For individuals interested in the formal study of logic.

## Book Information

Paperback: 480 pages

Publisher: Pearson; 5 edition (April 29, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0132051524

ISBN-13: 978-0132051521

Product Dimensions: 7 x 0.9 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 3.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (28 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #34,379 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #14 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Philosophy > Logic](#) #17 in [Books > Science & Math > Mathematics > Pure Mathematics > Logic](#) #30 in [Books > Politics & Social Sciences > Philosophy > Logic & Language](#)

## Customer Reviews

I really like this book. It's an excellent undergraduate introduction to logic for non-mathematicians. It's not dumbed down in any way. It's rigorous. The exercises are challenging and plentiful. Most importantly, it explains the basic concepts and tools of symbolic logic in a clear, unpretentious manner. (The 5th edition corrects the mistakes of the 4th.) By comparison, *Copi* seems unfocused and flabby; *Bergmann & Moor* comes off as unnecessarily muscular given the level of the material. An excellent choice.

This is the older version. There is very little difference between this and the newer version, but it

became an issue in our Logic course as there are some newer exercises in the new book. Our professor was understanding and willing to work with us on the exercises, which are definitely different in many places, but which are used in our particular course. That may not be true in your course, but the exercises are very good, both in this book and in the new version. The book explains symbolic logic well and offers adequate instruction on how to break down statements to determine the logic of an argument, or whether a statement actually qualifies as an argument. For the little that I paid I was satisfied. The book that I bought was a brand new hardback and I believe that it was under \$10. The book for the course was closer to \$120. Some people have criticized this, but symbolic logic is a bit technical, and it may be necessary to reread the information presented in the book and restructure it into your own notes so that you can get the hang of it. I would expect that with any book on this topic. I have seen others, such as the Copi/Cohen book, and it looked to be similarly difficult.

As a note of caution, this is not a light reader. It isn't something that you can pick up and put down and expect to gain too much from. The book moves quickly in teaching all of the fundamentals of symbolic logic, a somewhat cryptic way of proving something by means of the rules of logic. It does a really good job and isn't difficult to read.

After attempting an intro to symbolic logic course using the text, "The Logic Book", this other text "Understanding Symbolic Logic" was a godsend! It is very useful and easily understood. I really hope that professors require this as the primary text for their course. Perhaps, if this book is used rather than "The Logic Book", then maybe students will actually pass the course!!!!

Writer tends to go on and on in order to explain topic of each chapter in every way he can until the idea becomes confused. But I liked how short the sections were kept for the most part. Renting the book was really easy and cheap.

This is one of the best symbolic logic books on the market. It may be nearly impossible to write a symbolic logic book that appeals to everybody, given the different levels of preparations readers bring to it. This book strikes an excellent balance, explaining lucidly basic concepts of the discipline, basic yet requiring patient reflection on the part of neophytes to understand them (as would be the case with any worthwhile subject matter of some depth); without skipping on more complex notions--such as two dimensions of a formal logical system: semantic and syntactic; and why it is

possible prove the invalidity of an argument semantically while it is impossible to do so syntactically (Klenk's treatment of this issue is the best I've seen of the several similar books I've read so far); and complementing her discussions with plenty of exercises, many of which are answered in the book.

After reading other authors' volumes on this subject, I read about this one, so, I thought I'd try it. The seller shipped it quickly and the book arrived in great shape. As for the contents, since I like to review multiple sources (you get a broader view), I am alternating chapters between this one and two others. While there is some general repetition in subjects, presentation manner and author learning targets, this is, by no means a mere echo of any of the others. I'm learning things from this one not in the others -NOT sorry for the purchase.

I used this for a college course a couple of years ago. This subject can be hard to grasp after a while, but I still enjoyed it personally. It is not a book to read for the fun of it unless you like challenging material.

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