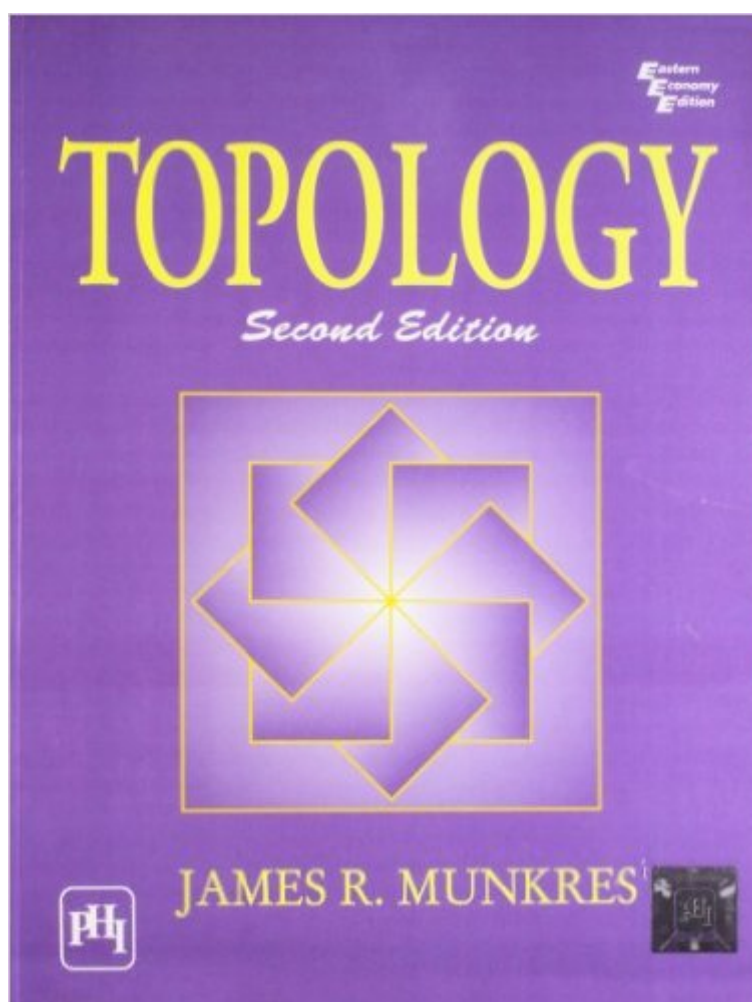


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Topology (2nd Economy Edition)



Synopsis

This text suitable for postgraduate students in mathematics offers a clear, comprehensive presentation of the fundamentals of topology. It can also be effectively used at the senior undergraduate level for a basic introduction to the core topics of topology. The book's broad coverage of topics and flexible organization allows instructors to follow their own preferences in the matter of course emphasis. The second edition is divided into two parts-general topology and algebraic topology.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I used to own the first (1975) edition of this title since the late 1990s, but eventually purchased the new edition as well, and donated the old book to our campus library. Despite having very close similarity to the text by Stephen Willard (1970, Dover issue 2004) which points to the fact that both authors must have used the same source articles, Munkres's book stands out as one of the best rigorous introductions for a beginning graduate student. It covers all the standard material for a first course in general topology starting with a full chapter on set theory, and now in the second edition includes a rather extensive treatment of elementary algebraic topology. The style of writing is student-friendly, the topics are nicely motivated, (counter-)examples are given where they were needed, many diagrams provided, the chapter exercises relevant with the correct degree of difficulty, and there are virtually no typos. The 2nd edition fine-tunes the exposition throughout, including a better paragraph formatting of the material and also greatly expands on the treatment of algebraic topology, making up for 14 total chapters as opposed to eight in the first edition. I particularly found useful the discussion of the separation axioms and metrization theorems in the

first part, and the classification of surfaces and covering spaces in the second part. In my opinion, after going through the discussion of algebraic topology in Munkres, the students should be ready to move forward to a (now standard) text such as Hatcher, for further coverage of homotopy, homology and cohomology theories of spaces.

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