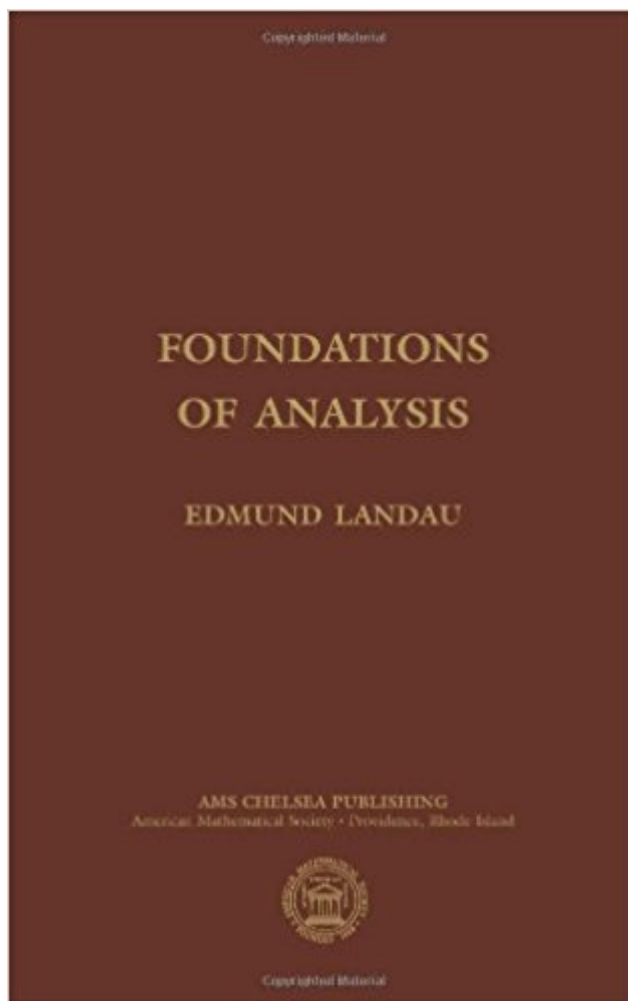


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Foundations Of Analysis (Ams Chelsea Publishing)



Synopsis

Why does $2 \times 2 = 4$? What are fractions? Imaginary numbers? Why do the laws of algebra hold? What are the properties of the numbers on which the Differential and Integral Calculus is based? In other words, What are numbers? And why do they have the properties we attribute to them? This work answers such questions.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Absolutely the best reference book for any advanced math student who plans to take calculus, or for any calculus survivor who want to actually understand why calculus works.

Beautiful work! Required reading for those who like mathematics.

Few pages, difficult content. It is not an introductory book.

This book is very great indeed, if you are a mathematician or a mathematics enthusiast or a serious student of mathematics and also want to know why the common algebraic laws as commutative, associative and distributive holds or more concretely why $2+2=4$ not 5 or 6 or 10000000000 then only you should go through this book. Prof. Edmund Landau has done the great job and the serious mathematics enthusiast will never feel the waste of money as he or she goes

through the books and began explore great ideas and techniques the great mathematician offers to you and no ordinary teacher or professor can provide those master pieces. Only a master can provide those master strokes.

This is a superb book if you want to understand numbers and the laws they satisfy under addition and multiplication. However it's not the most modern treatment of the subject. See also H. A. Thurston's *The Number System*, which has a wealth of explanatory writing. I contend that a book like this would be unnecessary without the existence of irrational and complex numbers. For example the multiplicative commutative law for the natural numbers is intuitively obvious. Likewise for rational numbers, the law is easy to accept. However, thinking of irrational numbers as infinite non-repeating decimals makes it difficult to "see" the truth of the commutative law for this type of number. Hence the need to model the irrational numbers starting from basic facts about the natural numbers. Once one makes it past Theorem 4 in I.2, the book is very easy to understand. Theorem 4 can be confusing because of notation (a_1 means $x + 1$ or x' , b_y means $x + y$, etc.) and because addition is defined within an inductive argument. *Foundations of Analysis* is well worth your time even if you don't go on to higher mathematics.

This book dates from 1951 but it's still a satisfactory place to see how the real (and even complex) numbers can be developed from the integers. A quick read.

It is a very interesting book of a great Jewish mathematician from Germany. In fact, a good and relatively cheap edition.

The best and readable!

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