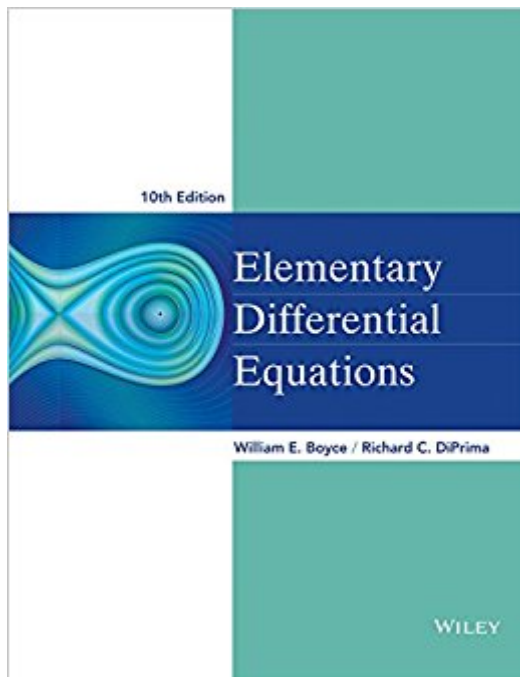


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# Elementary Differential Equations



## Synopsis

Elementary Differential Equations, 10th Edition is written from the viewpoint of the applied mathematician, whose interest in differential equations may sometimes be quite theoretical and sometimes intensely practical. The authors have sought to combine a sound and accurate exposition of the elementary theory of differential equations with considerable material on methods of solution, analysis, and approximation that have proved useful in a wide variety of applications. While the general structure of the book remains unchanged, some notable changes have been made to improve the clarity and readability of basic material about differential equations and their applications. In addition to expanded explanations, the 10th edition includes new problems, updated figures and examples to help motivate students.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The 10th edition of Elementary Differential Equations, like its predecessors, is written from the viewpoint of the applied mathematician, whose interest in differential equations may sometimes be quite theoretical, sometimes intensely practical, and often somewhere in between. The authors have sought to combine a sound and accurate (but not abstract) exposition of the elementary theory of differential equations with considerable material on methods of solution, analysis, and approximation that have proved useful in a wide variety of applications. While the general structure of the book remains unchanged, some notable changes have been made to improve the clarity and readability of basic material about differential equations and their applications. In addition to expanded explanations, the 10th edition includes new problems, updated figures and examples to

help motivate students. The book is written primarily for undergraduate students of mathematics, science, or engineering, who typically take a course on differential equations during their first or second year of study. The main prerequisite for reading the book is a working knowledge of calculus, gained from a normal two or three semester course sequence or its equivalent. Some familiarity with matrices will also be helpful in the chapters on systems of differential equations.

Dr. Boyce received his B.A. degree in Mathematics from Rhodes College, and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Mathematics from Carnegie-Mellon University. He is a member of the American Mathematical Society, the Mathematical Association of America, and the Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics. He is currently the Edward P. Hamilton Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Science Education (Department of Mathematical Sciences) at Rensselaer. He is the author of numerous technical papers in boundary value problems and random differential equations and their applications. He is the author of several textbooks including two differential equations texts. In 1991 he received the William H. Wiley Distinguished Faculty Award given by Rensselaer.

Save yourself a few hundred bucks and buy the 9th edition used for \$15. I have seen the 10th edition and the material is 97% the same - they didn't even change the numbers in the problems. Now, the book "feels" closer to a science book than a math book. That is, definitions and equations are embedded in blocks of text as opposed to being neatly presented in a table. The techniques are taught by example with very little explanation. The worst part is that they will skip the manual computations and jump straight to Maple, not very helpful for exams! It would be infuriating if this text was used for self study. Thankfully, there is a ton of differential equation material out there.

This book is written with the idea that most people who would need it are comfortable with math. I am not and for me it misses out on explaining things. I end up going online to get a better feel for what I just read. That being said, if you love math Elementary Differential Equations is for you.

Fairly good ODE's book. Some problems are hard to work through and some material is not presented as good as it could be.

Bought this book for my Diff Eq class I took last semester. The proofs and the types of questions asked are good, but I didn't really feel it was very helpful with the examples it gave. Take note, I did

struggle with this class, so that might color my opinion. But when I was having trouble, this book was not one of the first sources I would turn to. It might be better from someone who learns well from more theoretical explanations, but I like concrete examples and explanations and didn't find the book particularly helpful.

Overall: 1/10-TL;DR review  
Pros: paper feels nice, cool cover, GREAT exercises at the back of each chapter.  
Embarrassingly that's it for pros.  
Cons: book is terrible at explaining the simplest things, and often skips steps that the reader wouldn't have thought about.--Full review:  
I own about 60+ books and this is probably the worst book I own in my library, second to Advanced Calculus by Widder. The chapters of this book that were assigned to us are by far the most irritating chapters of a book I've ever had the displeasure of reading. The sections on exact Equations were made way more difficult than they needed to be by skipping countless steps or using new notation that's not known to new students of Differential Equations. Chapter three is somewhat decent when discussing homogenous Differential Equations of order two, but quickly becomes useless again when attempting to teach nonhomogeneous Equations. You get the idea; the rest of the book follows the pattern. I believe that the main problem with the book is that it offers pages and walls of text before giving a concrete example instead of offering a theorem and walking you through an example. Towards the end of the semester I had a stack of 6 other DE books, as I struggled with a terrible Russian professor and this pathetic excuse of a book. I've yet to find a decent DE book that covers Eigenvalues and matrices (otherwise it would be Tenenbaum's DE'S), but "Elementary Differential Equations and Boundary Value Problems" by Powers is good, better than this 'book'.

I bought the book new on here simply because no used ones were available. This book didn't get a lot of use by me because my diff-eq teacher didn't completely follow the book. However there were some very good examples in the book that definitely helped me out in understanding what was going on in the course. As I said in the title, differential equations is not an easy class, so you can't expect this book to make it cake, but it'll get you farther than just searching the internet IMO.

It's definitely the book I ordered. But I foolishly trusted the description provided by the seller. I was expecting a new book, but what I received was a book that was CLEARLY used. Frayed edges, along with marking and stamps along the side of the book indicate it was subjected to use by some organization called the 'Academic Challenge Program'. Not only this, but there is small amounts of writing in the book. Not everything was as advertised.

This was purchased for a course that is associated with this book. What is good is that It goes through detailed explanations of theorems and methods in regards to each topic. The book also makes well use of specific examples so as to show how to solve the problems given at the end of each section, as most books do. However, the ODE Architect CD is, for my own purposes, useless as I am not using it in the course.

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