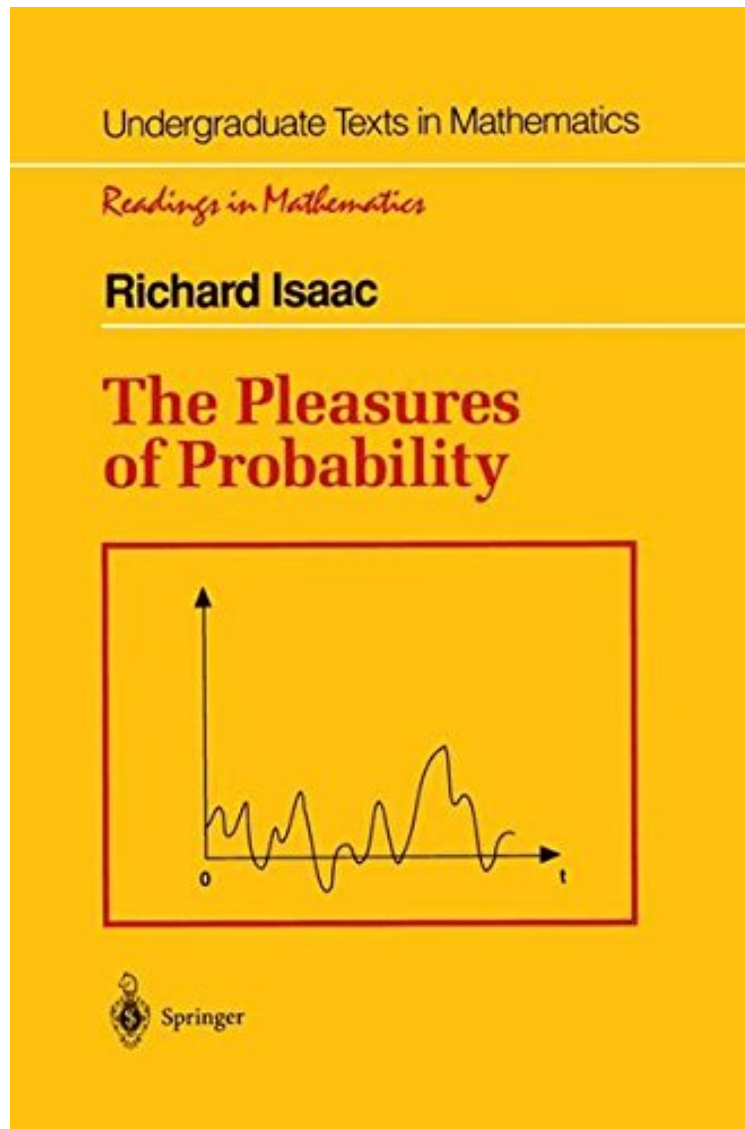


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Richard Isaac : The Pleasures of Probability (Undergraduate Texts in Mathematics) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Pleasures of Probability (Undergraduate Texts in Mathematics):

3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Great content, kindle version has issuesBy angrydAs a warning I have only used the kindle version, as this was my first experiment in using the kindle for a reference book.While the content and examples presented are great, the formatting on the kindle suffers from several problems, mainly when presenting formulas. They mistakenly have C instead of subset operators, leave off multiplication dots between

numbers, etc. When there aren't mistakes in the format they suffer from some fairly obviously low res images for the formulas. I cannot compare this with the print version but I have not ever found a print book with all of these problems. I would be curious to know if this problem exists in many of the books or its specific to only this one. In any case be warned. So on content I give this 4 stars. On ebook presentation I would probably give it 2.2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. A Good Beginner's Text in Probability -- But Not Easy for the Mathematically Challenged By c2 Chapters are short, explanations of concepts are fairly thorough, and helpful explanations of answers to chapter questions are provided. However, I have a very limited background in mathematics and I found the material to be very difficult, even after carefully reading the text and attempting to solve the chapter problems. 12 of 13 people found the following review helpful. very good book - fun for amateurs By Treetown This is a wonderful book for both the serious and amateur mathematician. For the serious student and practitioner it will provide an excellent background. For the amateur who enjoy dabbling and reading about math, this is a wonderful book - just read the opening section which explains clearly and in an illustrated fashion the Monty Hall problem.

The ideas of probability are all around us. Lotteries, casino gambling, the almost non-stop polling which seems to mold public policy more and more these are a few of the areas where principles of probability impinge in a direct way on the lives and fortunes of the general public. At a more removed level there is modern science which uses probability and its offshoots like statistics and the theory of random processes to build mathematical descriptions of the real world. In fact, twentieth-century physics, embracing quantum mechanics, has a world view that is at its core probabilistic in nature, contrary to the deterministic one of classical physics. In addition to all this muscular evidence of the importance of probability ideas it should also be said that probability can be lots of fun. It is a subject where you can start thinking about amusing, interesting, and often difficult problems with very little mathematical background. In this book, I wanted to introduce a reader with at least a fairly decent mathematical background in elementary algebra to this world of probability, to the way of thinking typical of probability, and the kinds of problems to which probability can be applied. I have used examples from a wide variety of fields to motivate the discussion of concepts.