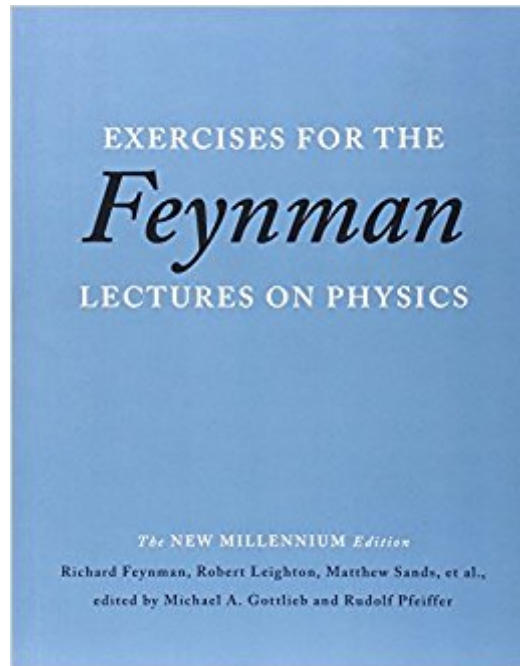


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Exercises For The Feynman Lectures On Physics



Synopsis

Combined into one volume for the first time, the updated and clarified Exercises for the Feynman Lectures on Physics provides comprehensive, hands-on practice in all the most important areas of physics—from Newtonian mechanics through the theory of relativity and quantum mechanics. A perfect complement to The Feynman Lectures on Physics, these exercises have all been assigned in Caltech's mandatory two-year introductory physics course, either when Richard Feynman was teaching it, or during the nearly two decades that followed when The Feynman Lectures on Physics was used as the textbook. With this modern, easy-to-use volume, students of physics will have a chance to apply what they have learned in the Lectures and to enhance and reinforce the concepts taught by the inimitable Richard Feynman.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

For fifty years now, physics students and mature physicists have cherished a copy of the Feynman lectures on their bookshelves as a resource to be used when they wanted to go back and see a clear, elementary exposition of a difficult idea, without wading through a more advanced treatment in a graduate text, where the fundamentals would be obscured by too much generality and mathematics. What the lectures have been useless for, however, has been their purported original purpose of teaching undergraduates. There are many reasons that nobody uses the Feynman lectures as a text for a freshman physics class, but one of them has always been that the book didn't contain end-of-chapter homework problems that could be used to practice the techniques demonstrated in the text. You might think that this would be no big deal, because one could just use

problems from another book. But that would be difficult because the Feynman lectures use an idiosyncratic order of topics. For example, there is a sophisticated treatment of diffraction, polarization, and antennas that comes long before any description of how to light up a light bulb with a battery. Also, the Feynman lectures introduce a lot of sophisticated techniques, such as the use of complex numbers to describe waves, and it's not necessarily easy to find a source of problems that provide practice in these techniques while hewing to a more or less freshman level of physics. This book is meant to provide the long-needed problem sets. It seems usable for its intended purpose, but I have a number of reservations. Like the Feynman lectures itself, this book is a little lumpy and uneven.

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