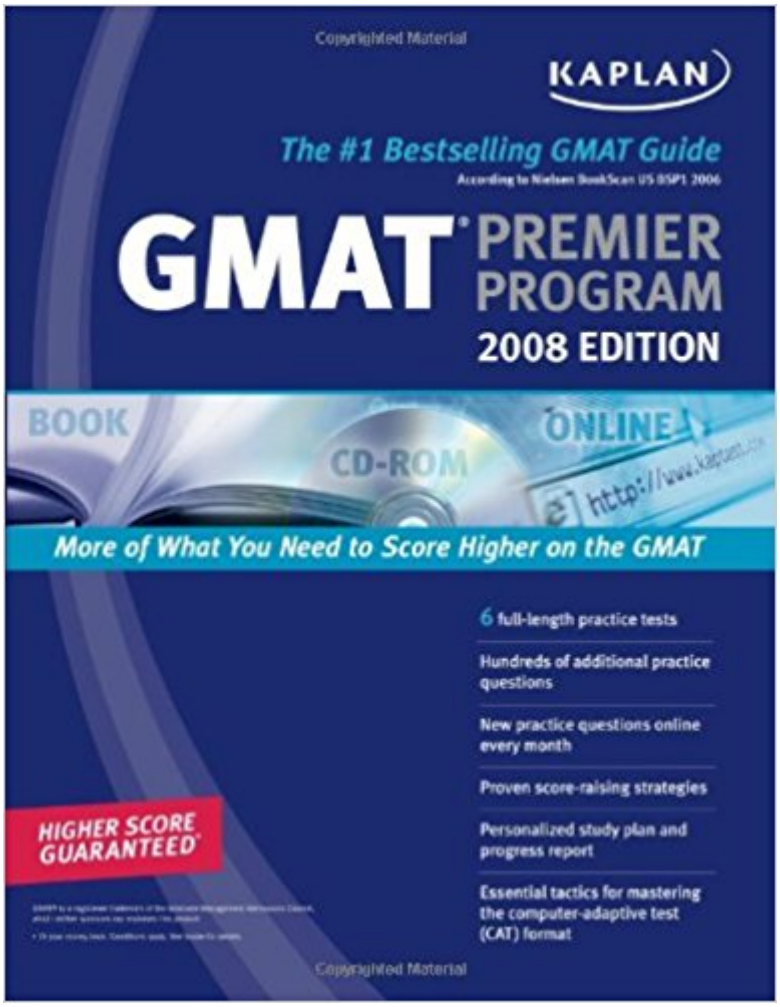
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Kaplan GMAT 2008 Premier Program (w/ CD-ROM) (Kaplan GMAT Premier Program (w/CD))



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Includes:*Fully integrated book, CD-ROM, and online program*A rich online study plan that guides students through all of the integrated assets of the comprehensive program, including the book, online, and software*Guidance throughout the program, directing students to additional resources within the program if they need it*A diagnostic experience to help students concentrate on the areas in which they need the most help*A progress report, so students can keep track of and analyze their performance as they make their way through the program*Email communication at key points during the program, providing extra tips and guidance, as well as motivation to keep improving*Monthly online additions to ensure that the student has the latest content and information about the exam*Remedial content to ensure students are up-to-speed on the basic concepts before attacking higher-level content*Downloadable strategy and reference guides for easy prep on the go*Realistic practice experiences*Online question banks*6 full-length practice tests with detailed answer explanations

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This is a helpful guide to studying for the GMAT, but not an exhaustive one. I recommend using it at the start of your GMAT studies to get a good introduction to the test's mechanics and a general sense of each section. For practice questions and more in-depth, area-specific review, look elsewhere.The book provides a succinct, easy-to-understand summary of each section and the key takeaways, but if you have any area-specific weaknesses or knowledge gaps, this book will not be enough. For example, there's a great section in the back that provides a review of almost all the basic math knowledge you'll need to have down cold, but the explanations given are short and sometimes represent only one way (and not always the fastest or simplest way) of doing a particular type of problem. Knowing all the basic math is not enough; you have to know how to apply it in many different ways under time-constrained conditions. The Kaplan guide is not going to fill that need for you, and in fact, if you use some of Kaplan's strategies (e.g., plugging in numbers) without a good grasp of the underlying principles, you could be worse off because the GMAT is designed precisely to trip you up on such mental shortcuts.The practice questions skew toward the difficult side and answer explanations vary from decent to good, but as other reviewers have mentioned, some of the questions are not representative of the actual types of questions you will see on the GMAT. I also noticed a few typos and question errors sprinkled throughout the book and the CD, which seemed sloppy for a guide book to a test where attention to detail is key, and one that has already gone through multiple editions.In short, if I could do it all over again, this is how I would use the book: at the start of my prepping, read over the strategy sections to get a basic understanding of the GMAT, and later on in my studies, do the practice questions once I've exhausted all Official Guide practice material and have those down cold.

Buy this book instead of the official guide! The guide provides educational material and some practice, but very little information to guide you on how to approach the test to maximize your

score.The online material works on either a Mac or PC, but the CD ROM exercises are PC only. One downside to the CD ROM exercises - when reviewing the explanations, they frequently refer back to an earlier question, which makes it inconvenient to compare and it feels like they expect you to remember what the previous question asked. I also noticed that once a practice is selected, a box comes up on the screen asking you to click on it to start timing the practice. I left to grab a bite and when I came back to click on the box, it said that time had expired. It required going and resetting the practice so that I could take it.The test taking strategies make a lot of sense (the kind that make you go "why didn't I think of that?") and I feel should definitely help me raise my score. The book talks about where to spend more time and how to logically approach answering a question. There is no substitute for doing the practice tests.If you've been out of school for more than a couple of years, allow more than three weeks to prepare for the test. I'm out of time and wish I had at least another month to prepare.

I was thinking of trying the GMAT and got this book for Chirstmas. The book is pretty good. It's got a nice pace to it, sample tests, and overall is easy to read. I thought it explained things well in its specific sections on how to do things and gave pretty good tips on what you should expect going into the test. It's easy to understand and you should get what you need from it. If possible, you really might want to go to your local library and see if they have some of these. Even if it's from a year or so ago, it might help as an addition to this one if not a substitute.Anyway, things changed so I didn't end up taking the test and probably won't for at least quite some time, so I can't really say for certain if it will help with the real test, but unless the test is wildly different from what the book shows it should give you some good preperation. I have read some places though that it might be on the easy end of things, so if you have taken the test before, try looking for some of the more advanced books on the subject.

While learning for the GMAT I didn't take a course and used two books: the Kaplan and GMAC ("GMAT review") books.While the GMAT review book does not have too many full tests to offer (you can download 2 tests online, but that's only 2) the Kaplan book has about 6-7 (with the CD).The problem is that the tests of Kaplan are not realistic to the real GMAT test. They are very ambitious (i.e. the level gets very hard) and the score I got was a lot lower than what I got on the GMAT. My score on the GMAC tests was a lot closer (within 10 points) but like I said, there are only 2 tests...In short, if you're studying from books alone (w/o taking a course), get this book. It's worth it just for the good practice material. However, keep in mind that your score might be lower than on the real test

(which is better than the other way around, I guess...)

I decided to take the GMAT on pretty short notice and ordered this book when I registered for the test. I spent about a month with this book and went through the practices from start to finish. It provides some good tips and tricks for various sections, but to make it even better it could provide a summary of the tips and tricks. I was really satisfied with the book because I got a 740 and a 6 on the writing. For $30, I couldn't have asked for more.I found the verbal section of this book (and the accompanying CD) to be a bit harder than the GMAT. I found the math section to be a bit easier. However, it gave a really good, comprehensive review. One thing the CD really helps with is test timing. I was able to finish the verbal section on the real GMAT with 10 minutes to spare thanks to this book. Your scores on the CD tests will likely be disappointing, but the actual score you receive on the GMAT from this review should be higher than the review CD scores.

Great

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