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Manhattan GMAT Set Of 8 Strategy Guides, Fourth Edition (Manhattan GMAT Strategy Guides)



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Synopsis

Developed by Manhattan GMATÃ¢â ¬â„¢s high-caliber instructors, these 8 volumes offer students a competitive edge by providing in-depth instruction in the testÃ¢â ¬â„¢s principal content areas.The 8 Manhattan GMAT Strategy Guides (5 Quantitative, 3 Verbal) are the heart of our curriculum. Our 5 Quantitative Strategy Guides provide in-depth instruction in the GMATÃ¢â ¬â„¢s principal quantitative content areas: Number Properties, Fractions, Decimals, & Percents, Word Translations, Equations, Inequalities, & VICÃ¢â ¬â„¢s, and Geometry. Our 3 Verbal Strategy Guides provide in-depth instruction in the GMATÃ¢â ¬â„¢s principal verbal content areas: Sentence Correction, Critical Reasoning, and Reading Comprehension. Included in this set are: The Critical Reasoning Guide (200 pages; ISBN: 0-9824238-0-2); The Equations, Inequalities, & VICs Guide (192 pages; ISBN: 0-9824238-1-0); The Fractions, Decimals, & Percents Guide (112 pages; ISBN: 0-9824238-2-9); The Geometry Guide (112 pages; ISBN: 0-9824238-3-7); The Number Properties Guide (160 pages; ISBN: 0-9824238-4-5); The Reading Comprehension Guide (152 pages; ISBN: 0-9824238-5-3); The Sentence Correction Guide (288 pages; ISBN: 0-9824238-6-1); The Word Translations Guide (176 pages; ISBN: 0-9824238-7-X). The content of this set is aligned to the latest Official Guides from GMAC (12th edition). Purchase of this set includes one year of access to Manhattan GMATÃ¢â ¬â„¢s online practice exams and question banks.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

In the last decade, Manhattan GMAT has grown from a single, dedicated tutor to a major test prep company with locations across the country. Our philosophy is simple: We aim to help students achieve their goals by providing the best curriculum and the highest-quality instructors in the industry. Manhattan GMAT hires fewer than 1 in 10 qualified applicants for its teaching positions, ensuring every instructor has years of experience and a 99th percentile score. So you can trust our books are developed by the very best

When I first started studying for the GMAT, I had not heard of Manhatten GMAT, though I was impressed with the positive feedback they received on . Only a few weeks into studying I now understand why they have received such positive feedback. I have tasted their Koolaid and highly recommend using their entire suite of tools for all things GMAT related...Manhatten has come very close to perfecting the art of studying for the GMAT. Their strategy guides provide the most comprehensive, easy to understand GMAT roadmap on the market. I highly recommend purchasing the entire study guide if you are just beginning your studies, or purchase any of their 8 strategy guides if you need targeted practice in a specific area on the GMAT.Who should use these guides:Anyone who is serious about getting a good score on the GMAT AND has the time to invest in getting that great score. Manhatten GMAT's philosophy is to teach students to "do more with more" rather than to "do more with less". This is a great concept for anyone who has the time to invest in learning the test and for those with the desire to score well above average.Who shouldn't buy these guides:Those who don't have time to invest and just need a basic understanding of the test. Manhatten really caters to those who are trying to get above a 600 (if not above a 700) on the GMAT. If you are a last minute studier or don't have the desire to ace the test, then I would recommend going with either Kaplan or just the Official Guides provided by the test makers.Bottom Line:Manhatten GMAT provides the most comprehensive, in depth coverage of the GMAT. These books, which are accompanied by access to their online practice center (and 6 practice exams), are worth the premium compared to other study material.

Context on my usage:I took the exam in March 2012 of this year. I studied intensively for approximately three weeks (however, I am historically a high performer on standardized exams so for those with greater ground to cover I would suggest allocating more time). I browsed through materials from four major brands before making a selection.Personal commentary/opinion/experience:It is much easier to improve your quantitative score than your verbal score, no matter what your starting proficiency. The rules of grammar are riddled with

exceptions, and if the nuances are not already ingrained in your mind from years of usage, it will be difficult to internalize over the course of months. Getting problems wrong, understanding the mistake, and remembering it for the next time will be more helpful than trying to memorize rules and exceptions. The math sections, on the other hand, are time-constrained. The hardest problems test the same concepts as the simple ones, but they require multiple steps. The more rules and equations you internalize, the faster you will become. The faster you can either do the problem or assess that it is not doable in a reasonable amount of time, the better your score will be.Pros:This is truly a case of getting what you pay for. I would not recommend any of the single-volume prep materials offered by the major test prep brands. You get eight volumes - one dedicated to each question type. You also get access to online resources including computer adaptive diagnostic and practice exams, detailed score analysis, and (somewhat less useful) problem set banks for extra practice. What truly sets this product apart, however, is not the quantity but the approach.This quality is best described by addressing the math and verbal sections separately. The math sections start with foundational concepts and build up from there. If you go through all the material, you will know all of the relevant topics in sufficient depth. (This is in contrast to the competing solutions, which often only scratch the surface of actual material and instead focus on "tips and tricks" like the process of elimination and comparing your guess of the difficulty of the question to what the average test taker would choose).The verbal sections are somewhat less differentiated from the competition, largely because there is a natural limitation on how much you can absorb. Again, MGMAT definitely goes in more detail and is far more comprehensive, but at the end of the day the average person will not be able to retain all that material. I think churning through problems (as described in the context section) is the best use of time for these sections.Cons:You really do have to commit a lot of time to get through everything. If you're just going to rush through it, you are unlikely to end up any better off than if you used the competing offerings.Parting thoughts:If you are serious about boosting your score AND willing to put in the time and effort, this is the product you want. However... IMPORTANT NOTE: Don't buy this edition because the exam changed in mid-2012. A new section (integrated reasoning) was added, which the newer edition incorporates. I can only imagine the fundamental approach to the other sections remain the same, but I do not know that firsthand.

This books are very comprehensive, but will involve a lot more involvement than say, a Kaplan book set. This doesn't focus on "beating" the test with tips and tricks, but rather beating it with sheer brainpower. These books are mini classes on the subjects they relate to, teaching you how to actually do the problems and giving you insight and strategy on using that knowledge with the

GMATs actual questions. I recommend getting the GMAT review book (the one issued by the GMAT itself) with these as these books will reference questions from these in the lessons. Everyone says that these books will result in a higher score than other publishers series and I totally see it, you just have to put forth the effort. Give yourself at least a month and a half to get through all these books (maybe more, maybe less depending on your strengths and weaknesses) as the material is dense and slow moving. Saying that, the books aren't boring, but written in a light, fun manner. There's just a lot of information to get through.All in all, the best set of books I've found. Get the GMAT review book with this set though.

The Manhattan set is highly recommended but the product is not good for people out of school for a number of years and if your background isn't in math. The reviews on GMAT Club and Beat The GMAT come from people with engineer backgrounds or they are very good at math. If your fundamentals are terrible then this set will go over your head. Manhattan assumes you know the basics. After you get your fundamentals down then this set will be useful. Try the Manhattan GMAT Foundations of GMAT math first or another book to get your basics down. The three stars do not reflect the quality of the books but how useful the material was to my studies.

I bought this set of guides due to great reviews and I was definitely not disappointed. Long story short, I used only these guides to learn from and practiced from the Official Guide 12th ed, as well as the Quant and Verbal books - got a 770 after 3 months of diligent study.With these books, you have your work cut out for you - but it is definitely straightforward. Buy with confidence! (my used set is listed here if you want some magical karma :))

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