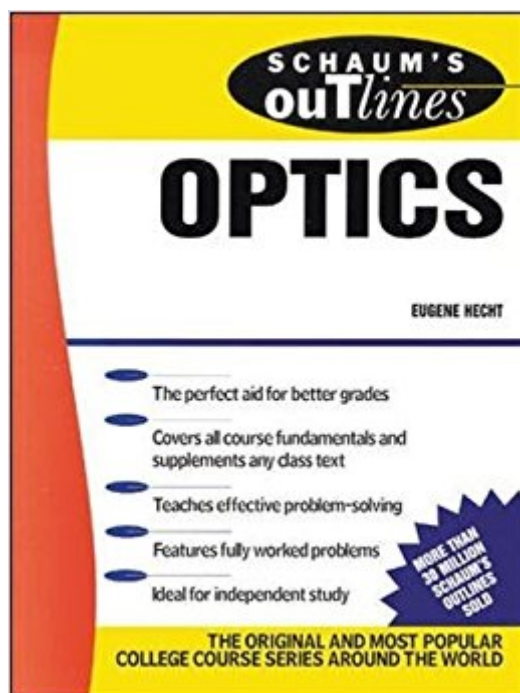


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Schaum's Outline Of Optics



Synopsis

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Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Eugene Hecht is a member of the Physics Department of Adelphi University in New York. He has authored eight books.

Pairs well with the textbook "Optics" written by the same author, though not as necessary with the 5th edition text as it was with the earlier editions due to the incorporation of example problems in the 5th edition. Organized in the same manner as all the other Schaum's manuals with a short narrative

one the background needed for the section, example problems, and supplementary problems. A great pairing with the text especially if your instructor doesn't expand on the material in class or work any example problems in class.

This book did not work for me as my professor was teaching wave optics exclusively. From what I can tell this book is good for geometrical optics.

I bought Theory and Problems of Optics to familiarize myself with beginning optics and Fourier series. I rate it high because all the problems are solved, which makes it much easier to figure out things that one doesn't understand at first. (My hobby horse --- I don't understand why mathematicians think one can't learn unless the answers are withheld.) I agree with the reviewer who found the first two chapters confusing. I think this is partly because the notation is introduced haphazardly and not well explained. I would have found a list such as the following to be helpful. Small initial letters in Greek letter names indicate lower case Greek letters. Upsilon and phi are the curly forms. k is the propagation number, $2\pi/\lambda$. λ is the wave length or spatial period. τ is the temporal period, λ / v or $1/\nu$. ν is the frequency, number of waves per unit time, usually Hz. ω is the angular frequency, $2\pi/\tau$, radians per sec. v (easily confused with ν) is the speed of propagation or phase velocity. ϕ is the phase, argument of the sine function; $\phi = kx -/+ \omega t$ is time ϵ is initial phase; $\phi = kx -/+ \omega t + \epsilon$ Confusion may also arise from the fact that the functions in the first two chapters contain variables for both space (x) and time (t). More explanation of why might have helped, but one can plot the functions on these variables to determine their meaning.

This is a great overview of optics, but it's Schaum, so what else would you expect?

This book presents the basic optics and equations, and then example solved problems, and exercise problems.

In short: as one would expect from Schaum. In some details: optics well separated in chapters, chapters well covered with examples and excercises of different difficultness. Excellent introductory handbook for optics.

Steak sauce.

This is a perfect supplement to the Optics book by Hecht. Taking a senior optics class at UTD and the schaums book had some really good key examples to help with HW, concepts in general. Highly recommended

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