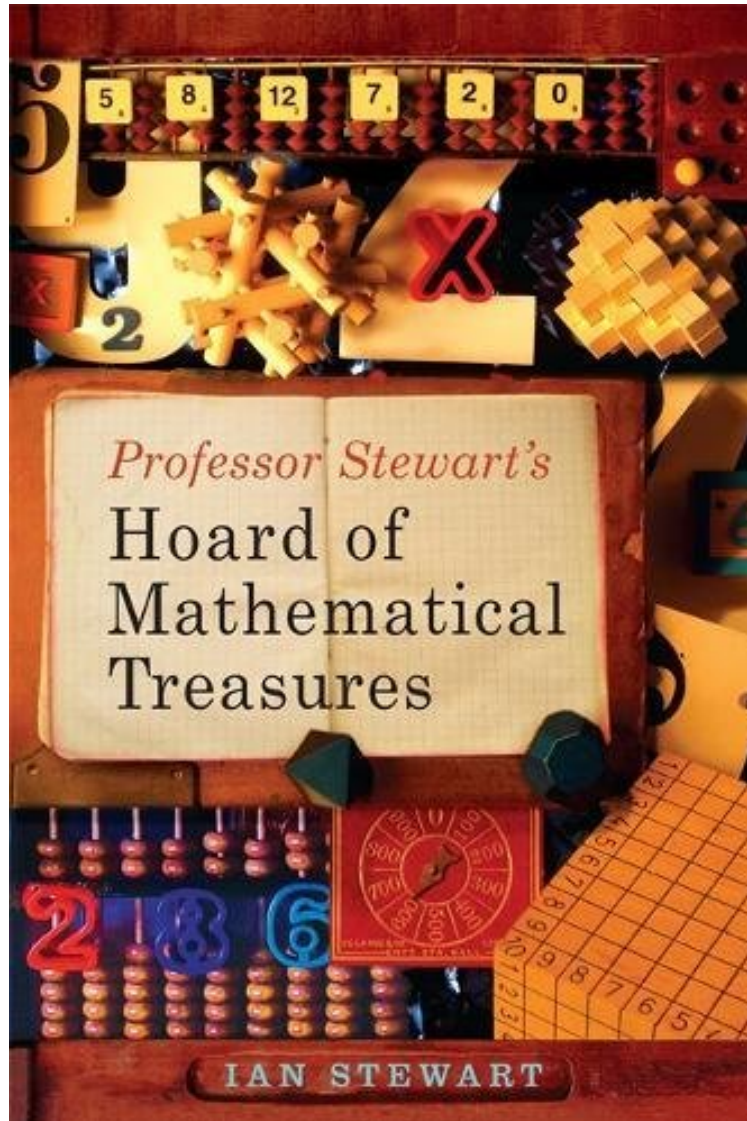


Professor Stewart's Hoard of Mathematical Treasures

Ian Stewart

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Ian Stewart : Professor Stewart's Hoard of Mathematical Treasures before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Professor Stewart's Hoard of Mathematical Treasures:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Not what I expected By J. Poel thought this was for the every day reader, but everything is a tricky math problem. He presents how someone did something, then challenges you to figure it out. I thought it was a fact-filled reader, not a problem book. 2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. What good fun! By ProfTom The book was just what I wanted and expected. Good solid puzzles and articles that have certainly challenged by 70-year-old brain. No I did not "get" them all, some are a bit beyond me, so far, and I shall go

through the book again, I hope. This is not just arithmetic, not just numerological curiosities; it has taken me into some mathy areas I didn't get in high school. Yeay. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Four Stars By donald cascilike Stewart's work. Nice short, easy to digest pieces of interesting mathematics.

Opening another drawer in his Cabinet of Curiosities, renowned mathematics professor Ian Stewart presents a new medley of games, paradoxes, and riddles in Professor Stewart's Hoard of Mathematical Treasures. With wit and aplomb, Stewart mingles casual puzzles with grander forays into ancient and modern mathematical thought. Amongst a host of arcane and astonishing facts about every kind of number from irrational and imaginary to complex and cuneiform, we learn: How to organize chaos How matter balances anti-matter How to turn a sphere inside out (without creasing it) How to calculate pi by observing the stars ...and why you can't comb a hairy ball. Along the way Stewart offers the reader tantalizing glimpses of the mathematics underlying life and the universe. Mind-stretching, enlightening, and endlessly amusing, Professor Stewart's Hoard of Mathematical Treasures will stimulate, delight, and enthrall.

From Booklist Stuffed with puzzles, jokes, word problems, puns, and history and lore about math, this sequel to Professor Stewart's Cabinet of Mathematical Curiosities (2009) reads like a numbers guy performing stand-up comedy (A piece of a string walked into a bar . . .). An old hand at the routine, Stewart's contention that his compendium can entertain anyone with math-class memories is amply borne out, and his ability to surprise is one reason. One never knows what's next: a proof that two plus two indeed equals four jostles with a spoof of proof itself. To keep readers on their toes, or at least flipping back to his superlative storehouse of sneaky solutions, Stewart flummoxes them with bizarre propositions, such as two plus two actually equals zero when you're doing modular arithmetic. Speaking of equality, the equal sign makes for a go-to topic for amusing vignettes, while stories about math underlying modern technology underscore the serious side of a subject with which Stewart makes such good sport. A great distraction for math mavens at any knowledge level. --Gilbert Taylor About the Author Ian Stewart is Professor of Mathematics at the University of Warwick and Director of its Mathematics Awareness Centre. He is also a regular research visitor at the University of Houston, the Institute of Mathematics and Its Applications in Minneapolis, and the Santa Fe Institute. His writing has appeared in New Scientist, Discover, and Scientific American, among others. He lives in Warwick, England.