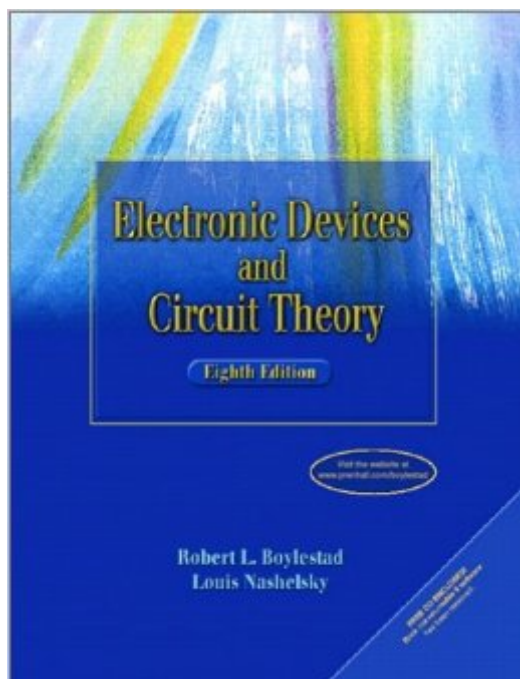


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Electronic Devices And Circuit Theory (8th Edition)



Synopsis

For upper-level courses in devices and circuits, at 2-year or 4-year engineering and technology institutes. Highly accurate and thoroughly updated, this text has set the standard in electronic devices and circuit theory for over 25 years. Boylestad offers students a complete and comprehensive survey, focusing on all the essentials they will need to succeed on the job. This very readable presentation is supported by strong pedagogy and content that is ideal for new students of this rapidly changing field. Its colorful, student-friendly layout boasts a large number of stunning photographs. A broad range of ancillary materials is available for instructor support.

Book Information

Hardcover: 1020 pages

Publisher: Prentice Hall; 8 edition (July 19, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0130284831

ISBN-13: 978-0130284839

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 1.8 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 3.9 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (38 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,395,797 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #368 inÂ Books > Textbooks > Engineering > Electrical & Electronic Engineering #548 inÂ Books > Education & Teaching > Schools & Teaching > Counseling > Career Development #707 inÂ Books > Business & Money > Job Hunting & Careers > Vocational Guidance

Customer Reviews

Pros: * Lots of worked example problems * Excellent coverage of all the basics of transistor technology * Great introduction to semiconductor technology
Cons: * Errors. So many that it's difficult to trust anything you learn in this book. * Poor job of explaining anything besides transistors and diodes. * Spends far too much time on some concepts (without presenting any new information) and not enough on others. * Encourages calculating without using units--a poor practice in engineering. * Second half of the book is largely wasted, concepts are not clearly explained. * Poorly edited * Though its portrayed as introductory, much of the topics require prior understanding (and if you have prior understanding, you'll be bored by the "introductory" portions). For every ten things this book taught me, one raised more questions than it answered, another wasn't explained very well, and another was plain wrong. Overall, you come out ahead. It appears that a lot of time

was spent on the first half of the book, because the introductory chapters (the first 6 or so) were helpful for someone who had a basic understanding of circuit theory and guided them to a reasonable understanding of semiconductor technology. The second half of the book was much more vague. Concepts were brought up and never explained, others were covered only briefly. For example, negative voltage regulation was given a paragraph and didn't explain much more than "use a 7900-series for this." LCD technology was covered over the course of two pages, but very little helpful information was conveyed. I felt that oscillator circuits, and operational amplifiers (the latter of which takes up 3 out of 17 chapters) were very poorly explained.

If you could only afford one electronics text, this is it! I've reviewed over 40 texts for our library acquisition clients, who can afford only 4 in many cases. Boylestad always makes the top three, and with this 11th edition, I can say with confidence that ALL the kinks have been worked out. Most every other text starts out WAY too fast, and still has numerous, frustrating errors. But that's not the major plus. Boylestad is a master teacher and storyteller. The picture of that lonely copper electron sitting out in its own shell with gangs of family members in the adjacent shell will never leave you! While other texts are grinding you through integrals, Bob is gently explaining in PRACTICAL ENGLISH and with hundreds of illustrations and pictures, how and why it all works. His 12th edition of circuit analysis, for example, starts at the High School or tech level, yet still gives enough technical detail for use in Engineering courses (Introductory Circuit Analysis (12th Edition)). If you are at MIT working on your PhD in Electronics Engineering, you'll not find a lot of matrix calculus, linear algebra and dynamic systems analysis using differential equations, because Boylestad targets his teaching to both self study and technology courses, and assumes you're starting at the beginning. However, if you ever want to teach, you should still study this, because his approach is a model for explaining difficult concepts with wonderful examples that you finally "get" at a gut level. I guarantee (as an Engineer myself), you'll grasp concepts more intuitively here even if you are very advanced.

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