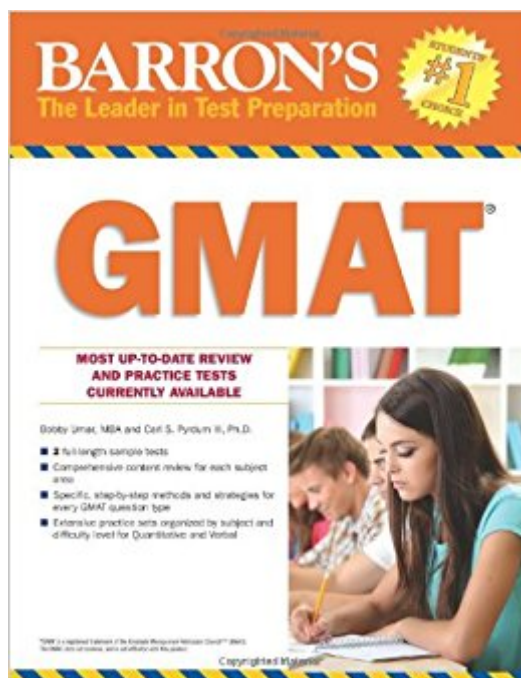


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# Barron's GMAT



## Synopsis

Barron's brand-new GMAT is a game-changer, designed to give you the best balance in both the depth of content and breadth of strategies. Written by two of North America's leading GMAT experts and award-winning instructors, this completely revised new book gives you the confidence to tackle every GMAT problem. You will know what to expect, what theory each question tests, what strategies you have in your arsenal and the step-by-step processes to get the correct answer quickly and efficiently. This new book provides a comprehensive review of all four content areas on the GMAT. Most importantly, it offers solid strategies for managing the particular challenges presented by this high-stakes, computer adaptive exam. For each of the GMAT sections (Verbal, Quantitative, Integrated Reasoning, and the Analytical Writing Assessment), Barron's GMAT provides: Diagnostic Skills Tests – initial quizzes that accurately and quickly assess strengths and weaknesses within a topic area Targeted Review Questions – additional questions for the frequent problem subject areas (probability, parallelism, data sufficiency) allowing test-takers to focus on their specific needs Strategic Step-by-Step Methods – approaches to each question type field tested by the authors on a wide range of test-takers with differing abilities and goals Full-Range Content – questions, strategies, and tips for all test-takers, whether they are aiming for a 70th or 95th percentile score, studying while undergrads or after years in the business world Barron's GMAT includes more strategies, theory, and methodologies than any other stand-alone GMAT book on the market! All questions in the manual come with answers and explanations. The book is also available with an optional CD-ROM, which presents additional questions in all four test areas, also with included answers and explanations.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

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Bobby Umar, MBA is a highly sought after GMAT instructor in North America. For almost 15 years, he has taught GMAT prep courses for Veritas Prep and Kaplan, global test prep companies, and his own company, Raeallan. In 2009-2010, he was awarded the "Worldwide Instructor of the Year" for Veritas out of 500+ instructors from 130 countries. During his MBA studies at Degroote School of Business in Hamilton, Ontario, Bobby was President of the MBA Association, received awards in case competitions, academics, and leadership, and graduated at the top of his class as co-valedictorian. With a background in brand marketing, engineering, and the performing arts, he also draws on his diverse career to lead Raeallan, a transformational training and speaking company ([www.raeallan.com](http://www.raeallan.com)). A four-time TEDx speaker, Bobby speaks about leadership, personal branding, networking, and social media. With his expertise about the GMAT, he has helped thousands of young leaders get into the best business schools. You can connect with Bobby via Twitter, LinkedIn or [www.GMATBobby.com](http://www.GMATBobby.com) Carl Pyrdum is a long-time GMAT tutor, who opened his own tutoring company, Ivory Tower Tutoring in Atlanta, Georgia. He has worked as a teacher, tutor, and content developer for the GMAT, GRE, LSAT, SAT, and ACT for Barron's as well as for Kaplan. He has helped more than a thousand students improve their test scores and reach their undergraduate, graduate, and professional school goals.

it show 4 dollar on the book! don't buy it on this price

While I have used Barron's test prep in the past (for the SAT) and was pleased with the program, this book seems to have not been proof-read prior to publication. I am not a mathematics expert (hence why I purchased this book), but this book is riddled with mathematical errors. There are errors on pages 91, 108, 112, 183, 197, 212, 213, 215. I am only on page 221 of this book and am beginning to doubt whether or not there was an editor. In fact, I am starting to think that this book was written at 3 am between double shots of espresso. Lest you doubt my claims that there are errors, allow me to give examples of them. Page 197 claims that  $49/3 = 18 \frac{1}{3}$ . Page 213 loses a 6 in the denominator of an equation with no explanation. Page 215 states that  $70 = 28 + X$  and that  $X = 56$ . The nitty gritty: this book has good tips for test taking, hence the two stars. But if you are a person who likes to really study these test books to learn how to take a test, you may drive yourself crazy trying to figure out what you did wrong on a problem when, in fact, there is an error in the text.

Thanks

Great!

At first, I thought I was crazy on some of the math problems...but NO, Barron's GMAT is just full of mistakes. For example, one of the practice problems in the algebra section suggests that  $3 - (-9) = 15$  instead of 12...umm WHAT? The concept reviews are decent, but how can you trust a book that doesn't even seem to have been proofread? I used Barron's for my SAT prep years ago, and had a better experience. This is a big disappointment.

Preparing for the GMAT can be daunting- Studying for the test can also be overwhelming. With the help of Barron's GMAT book, I was able to study the highlights of subjects that I needed to review and be successful. I particularly found the first section very helpful. It specifically goes over practical matters, the test's structure, your ten test scores, what the gmat really tests, and then how to get ready for the test, material-wise. Not skipping this introduction is important and can be invaluable when beginning the preparation process. The book then dives into the Analytical Writing Assignment. It's important to note that this one score will not keep you out of business school! At worst, the admissions department might recommend a remedial business writing course for you to take. The third part of the book is the Integrated Reading section. After explaining this section, the book details the four question types and then details the process of analyzing tables and graphic interpretation. Next comes the Quantitative section which contains problem-solving directions and

strategy and data sufficiency directions, strategy, methods, and tactics. The following chapters were the scariest for me.... arithmetic, algebra, geometry, and statistics. Chapter 8 continues into detail with Data Sufficiency- which answers the question, "Are the data provided sufficient to solve the problem?" Problem Solving, Probability, and Permutations and Combinations close up the math section. After reading the samples and explanations, I felt much more prepared and ready to tackle the math portion! I do feel like you will believe you spent your time wisely. Your grade will definitely increase with this review!

While the idea of "teaching to the test" is not something that educators at any level like to do, sometimes pragmatism trumps principle -- especially for standardized gatekeeper-type exams for advanced degree programs. When it comes to the GMAT, the multiple sections of the tests call for strategies and tactics tailored to each component -- not unlike the diverse components of the heptathlon. In both cases, effective preparation calls for studying the route, educating yourself on the possible pitfalls and distractions, building stamina and endurance, and becoming attuned to what the judges are seeking. By removing variables and preparing mentally, you provide yourself with ways to clear obstacles from your path and make your test results as competitive as possible. At 747 intensive pages, this book is a single-source preparation manual that encompasses everything from describing the philosophy of the test and how to prepare to practice problems and two full-length sample tests. The authors address how this style of test may impact your mindset, and offer advice on how avoid getting distracted or discouraged. Particularly helpful is their advice on gauging the "discomfort zone" that is on the upper end of your confidence level in the adaptive sections of the test. They follow this up by explaining how practice and familiarity can help you nudge that upper range higher. "[H]ow well you can recognize and manage your discomfort zone will determine how high your score can go," they note. They provide ways to identify patterns and predictability within the test. In addition, they help you to understand the reasoning behind each section of the test and what measurements each section is gathering. They also address such practical matters as practicing with homemade materials resembling the ones you will be limited to during the test, and replicating test conditions as closely as you can. In addition to generalities such as time management and how scoring is calculated, they provide specific strategies and tactics for each section of the test. They dissect how to identify what is being asked, as well as understanding what sort of answer is desired. This is especially helpful for the essay (AWA) section of the test. The overview of the various sections of the test includes a description of how the adaptive sections play out, since they function differently than other standardized tests you may have taken in the past.

The initial questions predict the test-taker's skill level and the testing algorithm fine-tunes that prediction by offering questions at that level, and requiring that the test-taker demonstrate content knowledge by answering several questions correctly before ramping up the difficulty of the questions. Here's an example of how the authors not only provide advice, but explain why it matters. They debunk a number of myths about the GMAT, including the one that maintains you are best off by spending relatively more time on earlier questions. Doing so doesn't necessarily mean you'd get more of them right than you would otherwise, they say, and it may cost you the time you could have used to complete as many of the questions in the section as possible. They note that the score-calculation algorithm makes it more costly to miss answering a question than it is to answer a question incorrectly. With the publisher's retail price of this book currently at less than 10 percent of the cost of one session of the GMAT, this book is a sound investment if you are able to commit the time to process the strategies and work through the questions over the span of several weeks so that you will be able to reinforce and encode the authors' strategies and tactics. If your prep time is briefer, the book should still help you perform triage, although less effectively than if you had a longer span of time to prepare.

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