



Measurement

By Paul Lockhart

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Lockhart's 'Mathematician's Lament' outlined how we introduce mathematics to students in the wrong way. This book explains how mathematics should be done. With plain English and pictures, he makes complex ideas about shape and motion intuitive and graspable, and offers a solution to mathematic phobia.

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Editorial Review

Review

Lockhart is famous in the math world for a 2002 essay about the state of mathematics teaching. He described it as akin to teaching music by forcing children to transcribe notation without ever touching an instrument or singing. *Measurement* is his attempt to change the equation: a conversational book about mathematics as an art that invites the reader to join in the fun. Sounding every bit the teacher whose love for his subject is infectious, he guides us through exercises in geometry and calculus--giving information and hints along the way while always encouraging us to ask, and answer, "Why?" Lockhart does not try to make math seem easy; instead he wants his readers to understand that the difficulty brings rewards.--Evelyn Lamb "Scientific American" (09/01/2012)

The book is a love song and a philosophical manifesto about the pleasures and frustrations, but mainly the pleasures, of doing math.--Steven Strogatz, "New York Times" Contributor And Author Of "The Joy Of X" (Forthcoming)

No matter what mathematical education you had, or didn't have, you will be delighted by this enticing book if you take up Paul Lockhart's invitation to engage in the mathematical sensibility that radiates from its pages, and try your own hand not only at answering, but even more fruitfully, at formulating questions as you explore the world of mathematics.--Barry Mazur, Author Of "Imagining Numbers (Particularly The Square Root Of Minus Fifteen)"

Prospective readers should rest assured that while aimed at the nonexpert, Lockhart's writing is sophisticated and mathematically modern...In place of the usual boxed and high-lighted formulas and tricks, "Measurement" offers questions to be pondered. Lockhart invites readers to trade tutorial fake problems about actual objects, which lead students to abhor school mathematics, for real problems about fantastical objects, which lead mathematicians to love math.--Brie Finegold "Science" (11/09/2012)

This book forced me to use mental muscles I haven't exercised in a long time, but it felt fantastic! Paul Lockhart is a mathematics evangelist; his passion for his subject is evident on every page, in every line. Looking at the subject of *Measurement*, he takes the reader on a journey that covers geometry, algebra, trigonometry, and on through differential calculus. He has a conversational tone and self-deprecating humor that sets the reader at ease. He understands that many people have been turned off of mathematics. His attitude is playful and joyous...Math is usually taught in such a compartmentalized way that it loses any meaning or coherence, and certainly any sense of wonder or beauty, but "Measurement" restores the connection. Paul Lockhart feels that math is the most beautiful, abstract and pure art form, and that it is actually fun! By the end of the book, you come to agree with him.--Gretchen Wagner "Sacramento Book Review" (12/07/2012)

There are many books available these days on what mathematicians do, and this is one of the best...Lockhart's approach is fresh and effective.--C. A. Gorini "Choice" (02/01/2013)

About the Author

Paul Lockhart teaches mathematics at Saint Ann's School in Brooklyn, New York.

Users Review

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