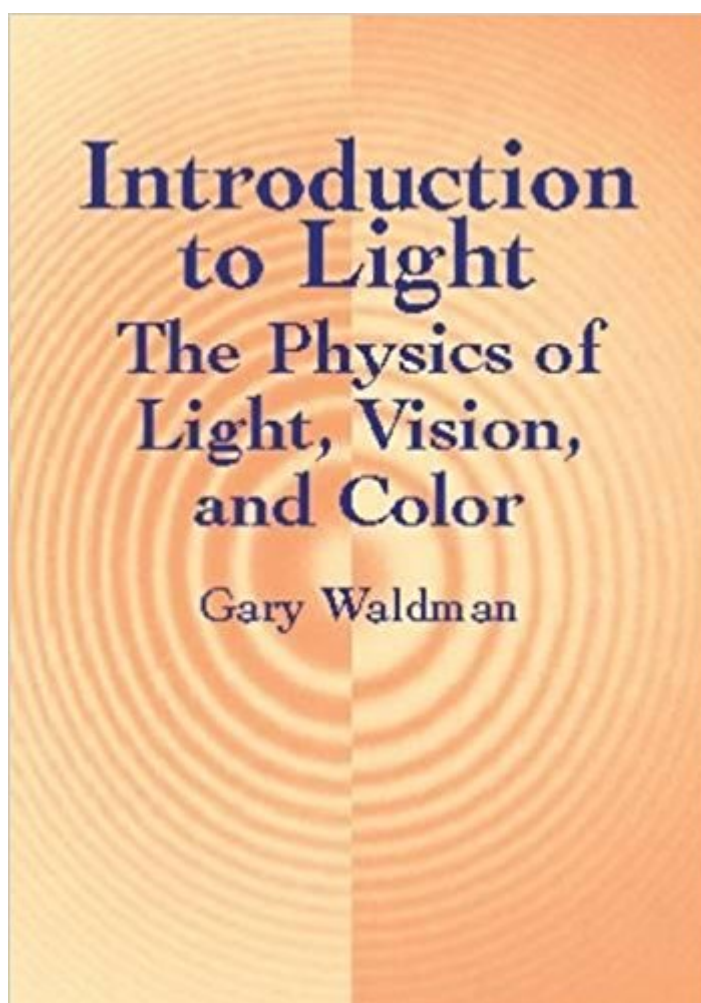


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Introduction To Light: The Physics Of Light, Vision, And Color (Dover Books On Physics)



Synopsis

Designed as a text for a one-semester, nonmathematical optics course at the undergraduate level, this well-illustrated text is addressed to art majors but is also suitable for students of fashion, theater, photography, and the liberal arts. Four parts constitute this introductory volume: Part I discusses the nature of light, including early ideas of light (a newly revised chapter for this edition), and classical and modern theories. Part II concerns the manipulation of light, including such topics as geometrical optics, polarization, lasers, and holography; Part III explores vision, including the eye and seeing; and Part IV examines color, in terms of light and color in nature and color science. Three appendices deal with lens and mirror equations, Snell's law, and scientific notation. Questions at the end of each chapter offer students a chance to test their grasp of the material. The presentation is almost completely nonmathematical in manner, making this book widely accessible to students of all backgrounds and to other readers curious about this ubiquitous but mysterious natural phenomenon.

Book Information

Series: Dover Books on Physics

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Average Customer Review: 3.3 out of 5 stars 4 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

I teach physics to high school and middle school teachers, and came across this book while looking for good discussions and illustrations of the formation of rainbows. The author has taught optics to art majors for many years and the style of the text, rich with clear verbal descriptions, simple diagrams, and occasional asides relating to art, reflects his experience communicating with non-science majors. I recommend the book to any student of physics or optics who wants to gain a more intuitive understanding of basic concepts. Since the publisher has not enabled the search

function, I will list the table of contents: 1. Early ideas of light; 2. The classical theories; 3. Modern theories; 4. Geometrical optics; 5. Polarization; 6. Lasers; 7. Holography; 8. The eye; 9. Seeing; 10. Light and color in nature; 11. Color science; Appendix A: Lens and Mirror equations; Appendix B: Snell's Law; Appendix C: Scientific notation. Index.

Book is a little dated. It deserves to be read carefully since some areas are ambiguous. Author is careful not to over-reach. Would like to have seen more on the visible spectrum and how the eyes see color.

Oddly, one of my favorite books. Everything is very well explained and illustrated. If you want an excellent introduction to the physics of light, I don't think you'll be disappointed with this one.

I did not buy this book, I leafed through it at the bookstore. It is in all black and white; no color! A book whose topic is the physics of light and color should contain color illustrations.

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