

Cracking The New Gre With Dvd 2012 Edition Graduate School Test Preparation Paperback

Cracking the New GRE with DVD (2012 Edition): A Comprehensive Review

The Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) represent a significant hurdle for prospective graduate school applicants. Navigating this challenging exam requires diligent preparation, and for many, the *Cracking the New GRE with DVD (2012 Edition)* graduate school test preparation paperback served as a valuable tool. Even though newer editions exist, understanding its strengths and weaknesses provides valuable context for anyone facing the GRE today. This article delves into the features, benefits, and limitations of this now-classic GRE prep guide, exploring its effectiveness as a study resource and offering insights into its enduring legacy.

Understanding the 2012 Edition's Context

The *Cracking the New GRE with DVD* (2012 edition) arrived at a pivotal moment. The GRE underwent a significant redesign around that time, introducing adaptive testing and a revised question format. This book, published by The Princeton Review, aimed to equip students with the strategies and content knowledge necessary to conquer this evolving exam. Key features often discussed by users included its comprehensive coverage of all sections – Verbal

Reasoning, Quantitative Reasoning, and Analytical Writing - and its focus on effective test-taking strategies rather than just rote memorization. This emphasis on *GRE test-taking strategies* proved crucial for many students.

Key Features and Benefits

This book's success stemmed from several key features:

- **Diagnostic Test:** The book started with a diagnostic test, allowing students to pinpoint their weaknesses and tailor their study plan accordingly. This personalized approach was a significant advantage over generic study guides.
- **Content Review:** Each section received dedicated chapters providing in-depth content review, covering vocabulary, grammar, math concepts, and analytical writing techniques. This *GRE content review* was praised for its clarity and comprehensive nature.
- **Practice Questions:** Abundant practice questions mirrored the actual GRE in style and difficulty, helping students build familiarity and confidence. This hands-on experience was crucial in solidifying understanding and building stamina for the actual exam.
- **Strategies and Techniques:** The Princeton Review's renowned test-taking strategies, emphasizing process of elimination and efficient time management, formed the backbone of the book. This focus on *GRE preparation techniques* was arguably its most valuable contribution.
- **DVD Component:** The accompanying DVD contained additional practice questions, video explanations, and potentially access to online resources (though the availability of these online components may be limited now). This supplementary material added another layer to the study experience.

Usage and Effectiveness: A Practical Perspective

Many users reported significant score improvements after utilizing the *Cracking the New GRE with DVD* (2012 edition). Its effectiveness was largely attributed to its structured approach, blending content review with strategic test-taking techniques. The diagnostic test proved invaluable in identifying areas requiring focused attention. The abundance of practice questions simulated the exam experience, reducing test anxiety and improving time management skills. The DVD component, though potentially limited in its current accessibility, offered a different perspective on the material. However, it's crucial to remember that the book's success relied heavily on the student's commitment and consistent effort. Simply owning the book wouldn't guarantee a high score; diligent study and consistent practice were essential.

Limitations and Considerations

While the 2012 edition offered considerable value, it's important to acknowledge its limitations:

- **Outdated Information:** As a 2012 publication, some information, particularly regarding the GRE's format and content, might be outdated. The GRE evolves, so relying solely on this older edition might leave gaps in preparation.
- **Limited Online Resources:** The availability and functionality of online resources accompanying the DVD are likely to be limited or nonexistent today.
- **Lack of Adaptive Testing Simulation:** While the book provided practice questions, it likely didn't fully replicate the adaptive nature of the computerized GRE. The adaptive nature of the test significantly impacts the pacing and difficulty experienced.

Conclusion: A Valuable Resource with Caveats

The *Cracking the New GRE with DVD (2012 Edition)* provided a robust foundation for GRE preparation for many students. Its comprehensive content review, strategic approach to test-taking, and plentiful practice questions made it a valuable resource in its time. However, prospective users should be mindful of its age and the limitations of its now-outdated online components. While it can still offer valuable insights into GRE fundamentals, supplementing it with more recent materials is strongly advised for comprehensive preparation. This book provides a helpful historical perspective on GRE preparation and serves as a reminder of the importance of strategic learning and consistent effort.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Q1: Is the *Cracking the New GRE with DVD (2012 Edition)* still relevant today?

A1: While the core concepts of GRE preparation remain the same, the 2012 edition is significantly outdated. The GRE has undergone subtle changes since then, and the online resources accompanying the DVD are likely defunct. While you might glean some helpful information about fundamental concepts, you should definitely supplement it with more current material.

Q2: What are the biggest differences between the 2012 edition and newer versions?

A2: Newer editions reflect changes in the GRE's format, content, and question types. They incorporate updated vocabulary, reflect changes in the emphasis on certain skill sets, and offer more accurate simulations of the adaptive testing process.

Q3: Can I use this book alongside other GRE prep materials?

A3: Absolutely. Using the 2012 edition as a supplementary resource, focusing on its content review and strategies, while using a more recent guide for updated information and adaptive test simulations, can be a very effective approach.

Q4: What are the most important aspects of GRE preparation that this book covers?

A4: The book emphasizes strong foundations in verbal reasoning, quantitative reasoning, and analytical writing. It also stresses efficient test-taking strategies such as process of elimination and effective time management – critical skills for success on the GRE.

Q5: Where can I find more recent GRE preparation materials?

A5: Several reputable publishers, including Kaplan, Manhattan Prep, and Powerscore, offer up-to-date GRE prep books, online courses, and practice tests that incorporate the latest changes to the exam.

Q6: What is the best way to use this book effectively, given its age?

A6: Focus on the fundamental concepts within the book, particularly in verbal and quantitative reasoning. Use the practice questions to test your understanding, but be aware that the questions may not fully reflect the current GRE's style and difficulty.

Q7: Is the DVD still functional?

A7: It is highly unlikely that the DVD and any associated online resources from this 2012 edition will still be

functional.

Q8: Is this book a good value for the price today?

A8: Given its age and the availability of more up-to-date and comprehensive resources, the 2012 edition of *Cracking the New GRE with DVD* is unlikely to be a cost-effective purchase on its own. However, if obtained cheaply, it can serve as supplementary reading material for fundamental concepts.

Deciphering the Secrets: A Deep Dive into "Cracking the New GRE with DVD 2012 Edition"

The journey of applying to advanced programs often begins with a daunting obstacle: the GRE. This standardized test, a gatekeeper to higher education, demands thorough preparation. For many aspiring students, the renowned "Cracking the New GRE with DVD 2012 Edition" serves as a reliable companion on this challenging path. This article aims to dissect the contents of this precious resource, highlighting its benefits and providing helpful strategies for optimizing its usage.

The 2012 edition, while somewhat outdated in terms of specific test characteristics, still offers a robust foundation for GRE proficiency. Its enduring relevance stems from its exhaustive approach to test training. The book methodically tackles each section – Verbal Reasoning, Quantitative Reasoning, and Analytical Writing – providing detailed explanations and many drill problems. The inclusion of a DVD further improves the learning experience, offering interactive lessons and additional materials.

Unpacking the Verbal Reasoning Section: The book's treatment to Verbal Reasoning is particularly powerful. It effectively breaks down the complexities of reading understanding, text completion, and sentence parallelism. The

strategies presented are not merely abstract; they are applicable and instantly transferable to the actual test. The book highlights building a strong vocabulary, but more importantly, it teaches the skills necessary to infer meaning from context, a crucial skill for success on the GRE.

Mastering Quantitative Reasoning: The Quantitative Reasoning section, often a source of apprehension for many applicants, is carefully addressed. The book methodically explains fundamental mathematical concepts, from calculation to equations and geometry. Beyond the basics, it concentrates on developing problem-solving skills and clever approaches to tackling difficult problems efficiently. The inclusion of numerous example questions, organized by challenge level, allows for focused practice and gradual improvement.

Conquering Analytical Writing: While often underestimated, the Analytical Writing section carries significant significance. "Cracking the New GRE" provides a structured approach to writing both the "Analyze an Issue" and "Analyze an Argument" essays. It offers sample essays, showing effective strategies for argumentation, organization, and clear writing. The DVD enhances this section by providing visual tutorials on essay writing principles and approaches.

Leveraging the DVD and Beyond: The DVD is a substantial enhancement to the book. Its engaging lessons complement the written material, offering a multisensory learning approach. However, the book's value extends beyond its physical elements. The techniques and principles it teaches are applicable to many aspects of academic life, extending far beyond the boundaries of the GRE itself.

In conclusion, "Cracking the New GRE with DVD 2012 Edition" remains a useful resource for prospective graduate students, offering an extensive approach to test preparation. While the specific test content might have evolved since 2012, the foundational skills and strategies it imparts remain enduring and crucial for success. Its power lies in its organized approach, the wealth of practice questions, and the valuable additional materials provided on the accompanying DVD. By diligently utilizing its tools, aspiring graduate students can significantly boost their chances

of achieving a desirable score.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):

1. **Is the 2012 edition still relevant?** While some specific test questions may be outdated, the core concepts and strategies remain highly relevant. Focus on the underlying principles rather than memorizing specific examples.
2. **What are the key strengths of this book?** Its strengths lie in its comprehensive coverage of all GRE sections, its practical strategies, plentiful practice problems, and the helpful supplementary DVD.
3. **How can I maximize the book's effectiveness?** Create a study schedule, practice consistently, and review your mistakes thoroughly. Use the DVD to supplement your learning and focus on areas where you struggle.
4. **Is this book suitable for all levels of GRE preparation?** Yes, it caters to a range of preparation levels, from beginners to those seeking to improve their scores. Its structured approach allows users to tailor their study plan according to their needs.
5. **Are there any alternative resources I should consider using alongside this book?** Supplementing this book with additional practice tests and vocabulary-building resources can further enhance your preparation.

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