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Description:

This is a one-of-a-kind reference for anyone with a serious interest in mathematics. Edited by Timothy Gowers, a recipient of the Fields Medal, it presents nearly two hundred entries, written especially for this book by some of the world's leading mathematicians, that introduce basic mathematical tools and vocabulary; trace the development of modern mathematics; explain essential terms and concepts; examine core ideas in major areas of mathematics; describe the achievements

of scores of famous mathematicians; explore the impact of mathematics on other disciplines such as biology, finance, and music--and much, much more.

Unparalleled in its depth of coverage, *The Princeton Companion to Mathematics* surveys the most active and exciting branches of pure mathematics. Accessible in style, this is an indispensable resource for undergraduate and graduate students in mathematics as well as for researchers and scholars seeking to understand areas outside their specialties.

- Features nearly 200 entries, organized thematically and written by an international team of distinguished contributors
- Presents major ideas and branches of pure mathematics in a clear, accessible style
- Defines and explains important mathematical concepts, methods, theorems, and open problems
- Introduces the language of mathematics and the goals of mathematical research
- Covers number theory, algebra, analysis, geometry, logic, probability, and more
- Traces the history and development of modern mathematics
- Profiles more than ninety-five mathematicians who influenced those working today
- Explores the influence of mathematics on other disciplines
- Includes bibliographies, cross-references, and a comprehensive index

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