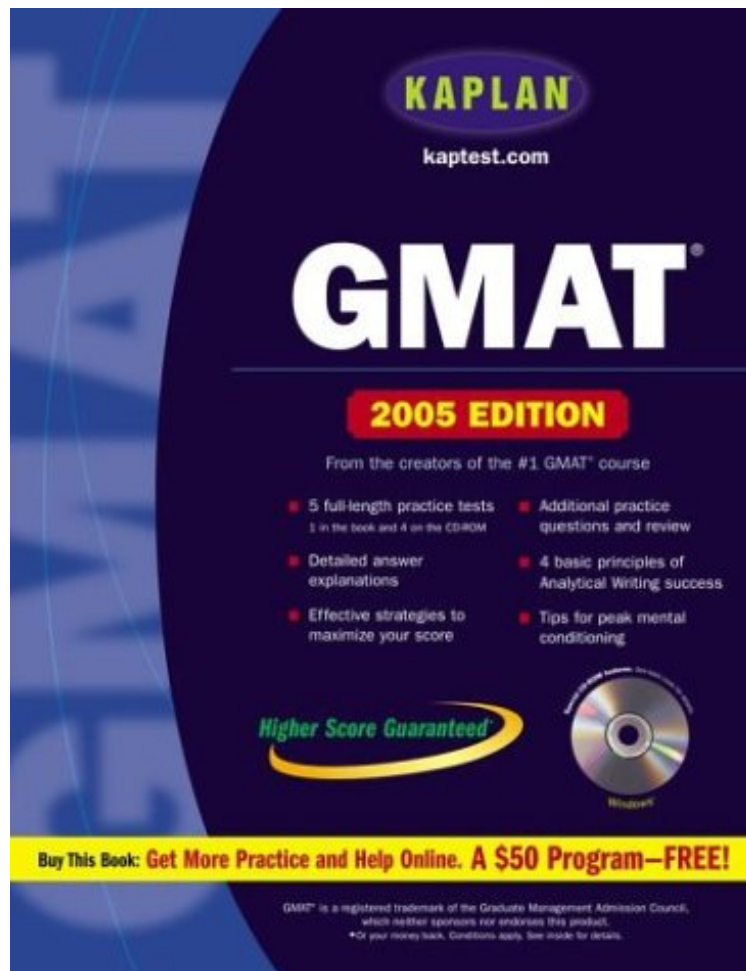


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Kaplan : Kaplan GMAT 2005 with CD-ROM (Kaplan GMAT Premier Program (w/CD)) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Kaplan GMAT 2005 with CD-ROM (Kaplan GMAT Premier Program (w/CD)):

8 of 8 people found the following review helpful. Kaplan is hard, but the real GMAT is even harderBy bjYou may get this book and CD and come to same conclusion as I did...that the GMAT couldn't possibly be as hard as these 2005 Kaplan tests. Let me tell you, the GMAT is harder. I felt I had a good handle on the material before going into the test. I could not believe how hard the problems were that it was giving me.I took the 4 Kaplan CAT tests on the CD and scored:540/q29/v30520/q25/v30520/q27/v29550/q32/v31Powerprep scores:640/q41/v38650/q39/v40The Powerprep is a total joke. The problems on the test were so much harder. The Powerprep is made by GMAC so they make it easy,

that way you go in and blow \$225 and have to come back again. Some of the problems I encountered were probabilities, reducing fractional decimals with negative exponents, data sufficiency with simple/compound interest formulas, etc... In my opinion, all the hardest types of problems. Data sufficiency was incredibly tough. So do Kaplan and realize, that it will be close to your actual score. I suggest a good month of studying to get better than 650. Also learn to factor very large numbers. Actual score 580/q36/v3314 of 15 people found the following review helpful. Not Recommended. By mak17fl used a total of five books in preparing for the GMAT: Barron's 13th edition, Petersons 2003 and 2004 CDs, Kaplan 2005, Nova's GMAT Prep Course 2003, and the Official Guide. I have taken the GMAT twice. The first time I used the Barron's book and the Petersons CD and scored a 40% on math, 75% on verbal, and a 4.5 on the essay for a total score of 570. This score was unacceptable. The second time around, I budgeted more time to study a day (around 6 hours) and for a longer time period (a month and a half). For me, I felt I had a strong background knowledge on all the required subjects, but I was not as honed on specific strategies and techniques for answering questions. My thoughts on each book: Barron's: As a beginner, I enjoyed this book. I read the whole book and did all practice tests. They did not explain probability, sequences, and progressions questions well. In general, the math explanations were a bit sketchy. However, the word problem explanations were the best out of all the books. Petersons: I just used the CDs and did not look at the book. After taking their adaptive practice tests, one is provided feedback which has questions divided into very difficult, difficult, etc. This is beneficial because you can see the level of difficulty at which you generally test. This is a really helpful addition that other CDs lack. Kaplan: My least favorite book and CD. The book had very poor explanations for test questions. The book only offered general guidance for taking the test and outline common strategies. The cartoonish CD just became annoying and took more time than it was worth. Nova: Far and away the best book. After reading reviews on various sites, everyone recommended Kaplan and Princeton Review, but no one mentioned this book. I found it by chance at the local book store. It covered everything on math and had exceptional, comprehensive explanations. Also, the drills after all chapters were very, very, very helpful. After doing all drills in Nova, the commonly considered difficult practice questions in Kaplan were almost a joke. I would recommend to anyone this book. Official Guide: A must to have for everybody taking GMAT. I did the last third of the questions for each section, which are typically more difficult. I recommend, in order from best to worst: Nova, Official Guide, Petersons CDs, Barron's, Kaplan. I recently took the test again and got a 96% in verbal, 60% in math, and a 690 overall. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Helpful, but you'll have to do the heavy lifting yourself. By Paige Turner This is a decent GMAT prep book. It's worth the money, and will help you get in gear for the GMAT. However, the GMAT is computer-based now, so relying on the books too much is of limited value. It will help you brush up on math and grammar a bit, and get a feel for the questions on the exam. If you are serious about doing well on the GMAT, you need to do some practice tests on the computer. If it means anything to you, I got a 720 on the GMAT. This book definitely helped, because I hadn't done any math for a few years.

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About the Author Kaplan is the educational division of The Washington Post Company, which also publishes Newsweek. Kaplan offers courses in London and at 185 centres throughout the world.