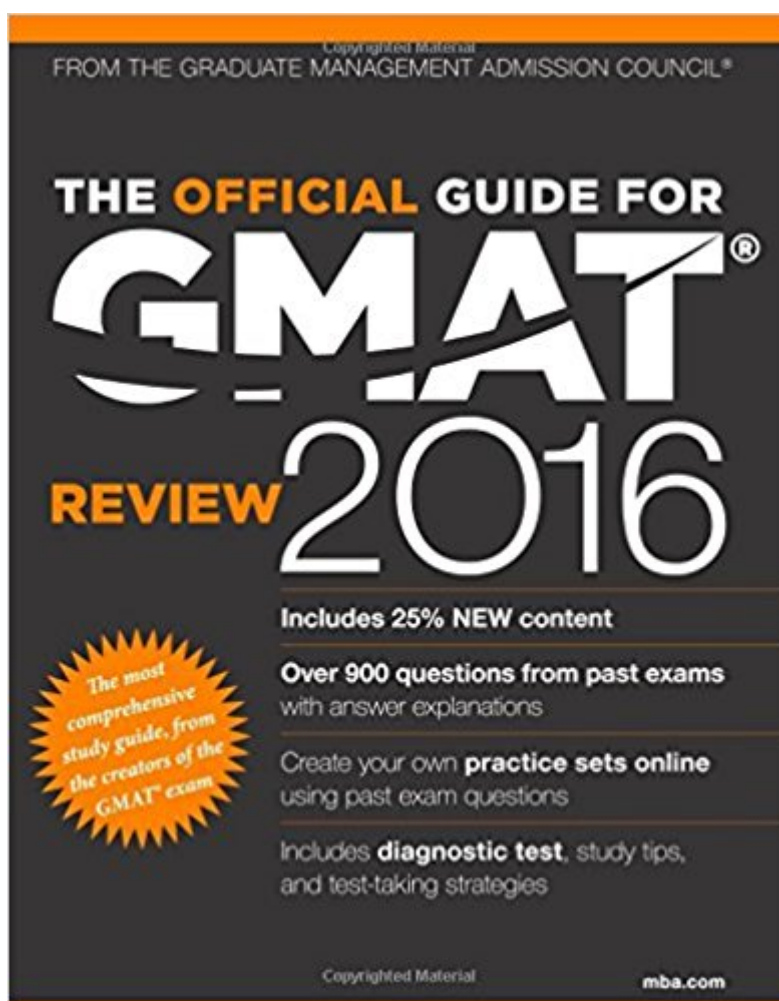


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# The Official Guide For GMAT Review 2016 With Online Question Bank And Exclusive Video



## Synopsis

Ace the GMAT with the only official study guide from the creators of the exam. With 25% brand new content, *The Official Guide for the GMAT Review 2016* delivers more than 900 retired questions from the official GMAT exam, complete with answer explanations and a 100-question diagnostic exam to help focus your test preparation efforts. Also includes exclusive online resources: Build your own practice tests with the exclusive online question bank of 900 questions, with answers and explanations, math review, essay topics and a diagnostic test, as well 50 integrated reasoning questions. Exclusive access to videos with insight and tips on GMAT preparation from previous test-takers and from the officials who create the test.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Includes 25% NEW content. Over 900 questions from past exams with answer explanations. Create your own practice sets online using past exam questions. Includes diagnostic test, study tips, and test-taking strategies. **THE OFFICIAL GUIDE FOR GMAT REVIEW 2016** The preeminent source of practice questions, *The Official Guide for GMAT Review 2016* helps you identify areas of strength and customize your study plan. Here's what you'll find inside: Online question bank with 900 practice questions. 50 Integrated Reasoning questions online. Diagnostic test to help you get the most out of your study time. Comprehensive grammar and math review. Actual essay topics, sample responses, and scoring information. Questions organized in order of difficulty to focus your study.

Visit [mba.com](http://mba.com), the official website of the GMAT exam, your one-stop site for graduate management education, applying to business school, and the GMAT exam. Register for the exam Use School Finder to search 6,000+ graduate management education programs Sign-up for GMASS Search Service to be contacted by schools

The Graduate Management Admissions Council (GMAC) is the association of leading graduate business schools around the world. GMAC's mission is to meet the needs of business schools and students through a wide array of products, services, and programs, and the organization serves as a primary resource of research and information about quality graduate management education. GMAC is the owner and administrator of the Graduate Management Admissions Test (GMAT). Created in 1954, the GMAT is the first and only standardized test specifically designed for graduate business and management programs. Available in over 100 countries, it is the global standard for entry to the MBA degree course. Currently about 2,100 schools and 5,900 programs have adopted the GMAT, and the test is taken approximately 230,000 times annually.

I am a professional GMAT tutor with 15 years of experience, and am fairly obsessed with this test. I also take the GMAT at least once a year to stay up-to-date, including a recent score of 770 (48 V/47 Q). I'm not a big fan of classifying GMAT questions by category--each one is different, and many GMAT questions defy categorization. So I'll just say that the questions in this book are super-realistic. They are just like the questions on the real GMAT, because the book is written by the test-maker and use actual, retired GMAT questions. Don't waste your time and money practicing on questions made by any other companies--these are merely inferior imitations of the real thing. If you must use other materials for test strategy, then that's fine, and in most cases necessary, but try your best to stick to official questions whenever possible. Pro tip: You can take each of the 6 GMAT Prep CATs (computer adaptive tests) more than once, because the GMAT is an adaptive test (it adjusts the difficulty level of later questions based on your previous responses). There are about 4 to 16 times as many questions in the GMAC's question pool as there are in any given test, which means that every test you take will be different. Tests 1 and 2 draw from a (gigantic!) pool of about 1,500 questions, and tests 3, 4, 5, and 6 draw from a more modest pool of about 400 questions each. To re-take your free GMAT Prep tests ([mba.com](http://mba.com)), click "reset" in the lower-left hand corner of the GMAT Prep software window (but make sure to take screenshots of your previous test sessions beforehand--frequent screenshots are a good idea anyway because the software is prone to crashing and losing your data). It's important to remember that although this physical GMAT book is

extremely helpful, the GMAT is still a computer-based test, which means that you should still do the majority of your work on a computer. For this reason, consider buying the Kindle versions of the guides, as well as making full use of the computer-based practice options available from the GMAC. Or, if you prefer to buy the physical book, then you can also use the access codes located in the sealed pouches in the back covers of the books to access a free Web-based version of the book ([gmat.wiley.com](http://gmat.wiley.com)), where you can try most of the questions in the book in an online format, and organize quizzes by question type / difficulty level (easy, medium, hard). You will also have to create a Wiley account, which is worth it because it allows you to travel without the physical book, so long as you have internet access and a computer. If you do run out of official GMAT Prep computer tests (the first two are free, and you can buy four more from GMAC), then I can recommend the Manhattan GMAT CATs. Just buy one book from the Manhattan GMAT series, and it will give you access to all 6 online CATs: GMAT Sentence Correction (Manhattan Prep GMAT Strategy Guides) For free video explanations to all the math questions in these books, google "GMAT Quantum," or if you prefer to read your explanations, then just try google searching the first few lines of your question's text. I would also strongly recommend that you check out informative websites such as GMAT Club, Beat the GMAT, and Atlantic GMAT, and that you consider retaining the services of a qualified private tutor such as myself. For those of you who are just getting started, here is the overall structure of the GMAT:

- 1) Analysis of an Argument Essay (AWA or Analytical Writing Assessment): 30 minutes, 1 question.
- 2) Integrated Reasoning (Multi-Source Reasoning, Table Analysis, Graphics Interpretation, Two Part Analysis): 30 minutes, 12 questions. Please note: unlike the Verbal and Quantitative sections, the IR section is not adaptive.
- 3) Optional 8-minute break
- 4) Quantitative Section (Problem Solving, Data Sufficiency): 75 minutes, 37 questions (2 minutes per question)
- 5) Optional 8-minute break
- 6) Verbal Section (Reading Comprehension, Critical Reasoning, Sentence Correction): 75 minutes, 41 questions (1.8 minutes per question)

Keep in mind that on the GMAT you cannot go back or skip any questions, and that the first 12-15 questions of the Verbal and Quantitative sections have the most impact on your score due to the adaptive scoring algorithm. A correct answer will yield a slightly harder question in most cases, and vice versa, and the GMAT will gradually determine your score as you go. The largest adjustments are made at the beginning of the test, which is why the first 1/3 of questions are so essential. Here are my most essential GMAT Resources, ranked from most important to least:

- 1) Free GMAT Prep Software - 2 practice tests (180 questions) and 90 practice questions ([mba.com](http://mba.com)) out of 1,500 possible questions
- 2) GMAT 2016 Official Guide Bundle - 1 diagnostic test and over 1,500 practice questions and answer explanations
- GMAT 2016 Official Guide Bundle - about \$453

GMATPrep Exam Pack 1 - 2 diagnostic CATs (180 questions total) out of 400 possible questions  
 GMATPrep Exam Pack 1 [Online Code] - \$50  
 GMAT Prep Exam Pack 2 (New Release with 2 New Tests -- not yet available on ) - 2 more diagnostic CATs (180 questions total) out of 400 possible questions - \$50  
 Please note: you can save \$10 by buying #3 and #4 together as an Exam Pack Bundle from the GMAT website for \$90.5)  
 GMATPrep Question Pack 1 - 404 questions with answer explanations and ability to sort questions by type and difficulty - \$30  
 GMATPrep Question Pack 1 [Online Code]  
 6) The Official Guide for GMAT® Review 2016 Mobile App  
 The Official Guide for GMAT® Review 2016 - \$5 for 50 question with \$30 upgrade for an additional 800 questions  
 7) GMAT Focus Quizzes - 24 questions per quiz (math only) - \$30 per quiz and 4 total  
 GMAT Focus Online Quantitative Diagnostic Tool: Single Use [Online Code]  
 8) IR Prep Tool - 48 Integrated Reasoning Questions  
 GMAT IR Prep Tool [Online Code] - \$20  
 Strategy:  
 1) GMAT Club (free), and online resources / videos  
 2) Manhattan Prep GMAT Series: \$144 for the entire series  
 Complete GMAT Strategy Guide Set (Manhattan Prep GMAT Strategy Guides) or about \$16 for one book which gives you access to 6 online CATs (see top link above).  
 Finally, you can google "GMAT Action Plan - McElroy Tutoring" to read my personal, frequently updated recommendations for GMAT Prep.

I've been a GMAT tutor in NYC and online for over ten years and am the founder of Atlantic GMAT (100% GMAT 0%BS!). Comment with any questions!  
 The OG 2016 is an excellent purchase for those seeking the best possible GMAT practice material. Keep in mind that this is essentially a question bank MEANT FOR PRACTICE and has VERY LIMITED TEACHING MATERIAL. That said, the questions in this book are absolutely the best thing to practice on. Avoid third party/non-official questions as they lack the nuances of the real deals (especially verbal questions).  
 Here's what we're going to cover in the review:  
 1. Official Guide 2016 vs Official 2017. Is it worth waiting for the new Official Guide?  
 2. Kindle vs. Paperback -Which version is better and why -What are the ISSUES with the KINDLE VERSION. (The CORRECTED KINDLE ANSWER KEY can be downloaded from my website).  
 3. What other official GMAT resources should you consider buying.  
 4. What you can/can't do with the online question bank (included with the book)  
 5. New questions broken down by category  
 Official Guide 2016 vs Official 2017  
 The short answer is: Don't wait, buy the 2016 edition. The new guide (2017) will have some unreleased questions but those questions aren't necessarily any better than the questions that they are replacing in the older guide. Will doing that handful of newer questions actually impact your score? I seriously doubt it. The 2016

books will also likely be less expensive than the 2017 ones. I wouldn't fight the special. Here's the exception: Are you the type of person who will not rest easy knowing that there is the possibility of having the slightest, basically undetectable, only theoretical edge? Do you need the absolute best of the best, newest of the new? Are you fine with paying the surcharge? Rest easy. Buy the new edition! The point is: no harm will come from sticking with the 2016 guide or from buying the new one. But, why wait and pay more for essentially the same thing? Will I be getting the new guide? Of course! I have an archive of every GMAT question from the last 10 years. But, I'm a GMAT tutor looking for every advantage possible for my students regardless of cost. And for me it isn't 2016 vs 2017. I buy everything (except for AWA and IR materials). \*\*\*\*\*Kindle vs.

Paperback \*\*\*\*\*Kindle by a mile! You will be taking your GMAT staring at a computer screen so practice as you will play by staring at a computer screen while working on HW. This makes a difference. Beyond that, the kindle version is in the cloud so you can access it anywhere. No need to carry around a massive set of books. And: save some trees! THERE ARE PROBLEMS WITH THE KINDLE VERSIONS. These issues are mostly related to the Kindle format, not the guide itself. Some of the math equations are small. That said, I have been using the kindle versions for years without an issue. Neither I nor any student has EVER been unable to read an equation. The examples in some of the other reviews are cell phone pictures that are not representative and make the equations look far worse than they are. The kindle version is still the best option! The other issue is that the answer key numbering is wrong. Well, not really wrong, but hard to read. It looks like this: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and then instead of 10 the key flips back to 0. Then 11 isn't 11 but 10 but 1. So you can find the answers but it is annoying. But (drum roll please), I created a new CORRECTED ANSWER SHEET for Official Guide 2016. I can't post links here but you can download it from the OG 2016 review on the Atlantic GMAT site. \*\*\*\*\* Besides OG2016, Official GMAT resources you should consider buying \*\*\*\*\* For most people, these four resources are essential: GMATPrep Question Pack 1 [Online Code] (big question bank that lets you sort questions by difficult and type. You can create mini-tests that are great for getting you close to competition mode). GMATPrep Exam Pack 1 [Online Code] (Official GMAT Practice test with official questions and scoring algorithm. This is the same as a real GMAT). Exam Pack 2 (Same deal as Exam Pack 1. Two more Official Tests) Atlantic GMAT Practice Pad + 2 Markers (You should do all of your tests with the same GMAT scratch pad that you'll use on test day) In addition, these last two are for students who want to eak out that last 1%: GMAT Focus Online Quantitative

Diagnostic Tool: Bundle of 3 [Online Code] (These are computer adaptive Quant quizzes. Buy the bundle of three.) GMAT Paper Test Set 1 [Download] (Retired GMAT paper tests. The Quant is too easy but the verbal is helpful. Don't do the reading comprehension as it overlaps with the GMAT Prep 1 and 2). Official GMAT resources are limited (especially practice tests). DO NOT WASTE THEM!!! Before you start blasting practice tests go ahead and make a study plan and consider at what point it would make sense to take tests. In general, take one test at the beginning of your studies to get a baseline score and to get a sense for the exam. Then, work on your fundamentals. Have a good strategy for most of the GMAT questions types. After you are in a good rhythm, start taking practice tests. Every case is different, but consider getting into practice test mode about 4 weeks before your GMAT.

\*\*\*\*\*Online GMAT Question Bank\*\*\*\*\* All of the questions from the Official Guide 2016 are available in an online question bank. At first I couldn't figure out where the question bank was located. I even googled it and found pretty much nothing. Frustration! Flipping to the back of the OG 2016 I noticed a secret pouch containing my personal access code along with the question bank website: GMAT.Wiley.com What you can do with the GMAT online question bank: -Set up a practice set with any combination of questions and order of difficulty. -Name your sessions so that you can return to them at a later date for review. It would have been nice if the questions were categorized so that you could set up targeted quizzes. I imagine that GMAC already has this information so why not include it? Also - no internet means no question bank. That is very unfortunate considering you really should be doing most of your practice eyeballing a computer screen as you will on the real GMAT CAT. Also keep in mind that you only have access to the online question bank for 1 year.

\*\*\*\*\*Official Guide 2016 Question Breakdown\*\*\*\*\* -201 brand new questions (I recognized a handful but couldn't quite place them - could be from tests I've taken, from some legacy product, or actually a new question that is a very close clone of an old one). -Problem solving questions mostly centered in medium difficulty (no new questions past #153) -Lots of substitutions in PS Geometry. Slight boost for combinatorics and overlapping sets. -New Reading Comprehension passages mostly long and difficult. Excellent additions. -Critical Reasoning Assumption based reasoning got a major facelift. Difficulty level increased a shade. -No big news on Sentence Correction or Data Sufficiency -Same very limited teaching material from the old edition. This is a book for practice not a book for learning.

PROBLEM SOLVING - 57 New Questions/24.7%: 1, 2, 3, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 21, 25, 27, 30, 31, 33, 38, 39, 43, 44, 45, 55, 56, 57, 59, 60, 61, 63, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 73, 76, 82, 83, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 91, 97, 99, 107, 108, 111, 114, 117, 122, 125, 134, 136, 137, 139, 142, 153 - Percents 1

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 (Geometry/Coordinate), 70 (Geometry/Mixed Shapes), 73 (Geometry/Quadrilaterals), 86  
 (Geometry/3D Shapes), 122 (Geometry/Mixed Shapes), 125 (Geometry/Quadrilateral/Word  
 Problem), 139 (Geometry/Quadrilateral/ratio), 142, 153 (Geometry/Coordinate),DATA  
 SUFFICIENCY - 44 new questions / 25.2%7, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 26, 27, 29, 34,  
 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 46, 48, 49, 51, 54, 55, 60, 64, 67, 73, 77, 80, 83, 84, 86, 92, 94, 115, 121, 134,  
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 Properties),-Overlapping Sets 150 (Overlapping Sets), 29 (Overlapping Sets), 19 (Overlapping  
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(Sequence), 38 (Formula), 121 (Function/Number Properties/Exponents) OG 2016 READING COMPREHENSION- 6 new passages, 31 new Questions / 22.3% Page 370 (Short) Questions 8-10 Page 386 (Long) Questions 42-47 Page 404 (Long) Questions 96-101 Page 408 (Long) Questions 107-112 Page 416 (Long) Questions 130-136 Page 418 (Short) Questions 137-139 OG 2016 CRITICAL REASONING - 34 new questions / 27.4% 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 21, 30, 37, 39, 41, 43, 48, 49, 53, 55, 57, 58, 60, 63, 65, 67, 70, 76, 77, 79, 81, 84, 94, 97, 100, 106, 109, 121, 124 Strengthen/Weaken: 2, 3, 4, 21, 30, 37, 39 (oddball), 48, 55, 57, 60, 63, 65, 67 (oddball), 76, 77, 79, 94, 97, 106, 121, 124 Assumption: 8, 37, 41, 49, 70, 84, 109 Evaluate: 100 Inference: 1, 53 Paradox: 58 Boldface: 81 Fill in the Blank: 43 Assumption Based: 29 Strengthen/Weaken - 21 Assumption - 7 Evaluate - 1 Content Based: 5 Paradox - 1 Boldface - 1 Inference - 2 Fill in the Blank - 1 OG 2016 SENTENCE CORRECTION - 35 new questions / 25% 2, 4, 7, 10, 13, 18, 21, 23, 27, 28, 31, 35, 37, 42, 46, 52, 63, 66, 73, 80, 86, 90, 97, 101, 111, 116, 120, 124, 126, 128, 132, 133, 136, 137, 138

This is the GMAT OG (Official Guide) from GMAC, the creators of the GMAT, so you would think that this is one of the best books for your GMAT preparation but you'd be wrong. This is the very best book for your GMAT preparation. Of all of the other materials that I used the Official Guide offers the most realistic practice questions. But again, this book was written by the creators of the exam. I saw some of the same quant word problems and reading comprehension passages on the real exam that were in this book, with some minor variations of course, but so similar I'd call them the same. Negatives -- 1) The practice questions are not segregated into categories to allow practice in specific question types to help target weak or trouble areas. 2) Some of the problem solving answer explanations jump some pretty important steps. An incorrect answer to a problem is probably due to a misunderstanding of some sort, but the OG doesn't offer a granular level explanation or even reference to resources with the level of detailed needed to understand and correct mistakes. 3) Other exam preparation materials, tools and resources will be necessary if you are weak in any areas. There are tips, shortcuts and concepts that are lifesavers and must be understood and learned before attempting the GMAT that the OG just doesn't offer. They want to keep the exam challenging and not give away all of their secrets, so use other resources that have already cracked the codes. Overall, the OG a must have and a great resource for anyone preparing for the GMAT exam and wants the closest thing to real exam questions on the market. NOTE: The free online practice test is a great way to assess your level. I scored exactly the same on the online practice test as I did on the actual exam, a great tool.

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