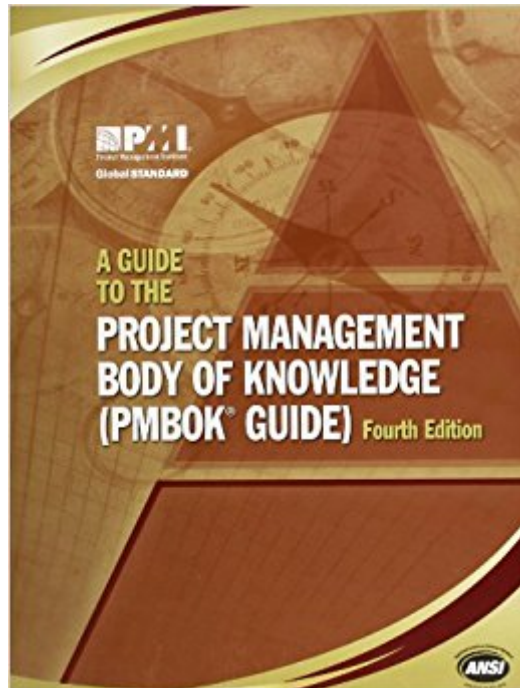




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A Guide To The Project Management Body Of Knowledge



Synopsis

The PMBOK® Guide – Fourth Edition continues the tradition of excellence in project management with a standard that is even easier to understand and implement, with improved consistency and greater clarification. Standard language has been incorporated throughout the document to aid reader understanding. New data flow diagrams clarify inputs and outputs for each process. Greater attention has been placed on how Knowledge Areas integrate in the context of Initiating, Planning, Executing, Monitoring & Controlling, and Closing process groups. Two new processes are featured: Identify Stakeholders and Collect Requirements.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As a project management instructor and course developer at a state university, a project management keynote speaker, and someone who has been training project managers for nearly two decades, I highly recommend this book. I have also helped hundreds to pass their PMP exams (including training PMI employees) and although some folks claim they passed without this, I firmly believe that the PMBOK is a must-have. I have owned every edition of the PMBOK and I can tell you that it's gotten better with age. Let's face it, the material isn't the most exciting but at least it's much more readable than ever. Processes are more refined (some may remember core vs. facilitating processes in older versions) and are titled more consistently (used to have some start with verbs and others with nouns), descriptions of inputs/tools & techniques/outputs are clearer, and illustrations are less confusing. That said, the book still only covers the "whats". If you actually want to know "how" to execute some of these processes, you will need another resource like a Project

Management: A Systems Approach to Planning, Scheduling, and Controlling. For those who have seen some of the PMBOK's poor ratings in reviews of previous versions, you have to understand that this is a high-level guide, not an elaborate text or a mystery novel. As a result, do not expect to be a project management guru at the end or be entertained with creative irony. Anyway, since many of you are looking at this because you want to take the PMP exam, here is some advice:- Although you may be able to obtain a soft copy of this book by being a PMI member, I recommend having a physical copy. In all my years of schooling, I've never even used a highlighter but I did for the PMBOK when I was studying for this exam over a decade ago. It turns out that almost everything was worth highlighting but it forced me to read each line thoroughly.- You will need another book since many exam concepts aren't even covered in the PMBOK. I personally like *PMP Exam Prep, Seventh Edition: Rita's Course in a Book for Passing the PMP Exam* or *CAPM/PMP Project Management Certification All-in-One Exam Guide with CD-ROM, Second Edition*. You do not even need the latest editions. Trust me, the general concepts will be the same. For instance, earned value lessons in Rita's 1st edition from yesteryear will be the same as those in 7th or 8th editions. SPI will always be EV/PV .- When submitting project experience on the application, you can submit work even if your title was not Project Manager. If you worked on projects and have played a lead role, it may count so submit it. The key point is that you should be submitting project leadership activities. You still need 4500 hours of project experience if you have a bachelors or 7500 hours without a bachelors. Also, always submit more than those thresholds since some activities may be not be accepted.- Do not buy flash cards; instead, make your own. Get a stack of index cards and start writing terms/concepts on one side with definitions/formulas/descriptions on the back side. Hope this helps. Best of luck to everyone!***Update (Sep 2013)***New editions of the books I linked to above were released:- *PMP Exam Prep, Eighth Edition: Rita's Course in a Book for Passing the PMP Exam*- *CAPM/PMP Project Management Certification All-In-One Exam Guide, Third Edition*

I gave this book 5 stars NOT because I loved it, but because in my opinion you must read this book, at least 3 times through (I read it 3 times through) before taking the exam. Please realize, you will be tested ONLY on the content of THIS BOOK. So, go ahead and buy another book on studying for the PMP exam, but if that book covers any topic(s) that are NOT in THIS BOOK, you are learning content that is irrelevant for this exam. That's what I discovered anyway. I bought Joseph Phillips study guide, and although it was helpful, there were many terms and content items NOT in the PMBOK guide, and therefore I did not get any questions on the real exam related to those

terms/topics. For example, Joe Phillips covers organization theories like Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, and there were no questions like this on the real exam (and it's NOT in PMBOK Guide). Also, I took 5 practice exams from 3 different sources (one was from the Joseph Phillips CD) which turned out to give me false confidence because the real exam was a LOT harder. I passed the exam yesterday after studying for over a year (not continuous). I think you'd have to study for 3-4 months straight if this material is new to you. So what do you need to study? First, you must MEMORIZE all the terms and concepts. That is hard if your memory is not great like mine. Second, you must MEMORIZE the PROCESSES and general FLOW of events. Understand the 47 processes and what events occur in each process--and what the major ITTOs are in each process. I recommend memorizing the 47 processes and being able to write them down in the chart before you take the exam. Memorize all the formulas. Know your contract types--I was surprised by how many Procurement questions there were. I cannot over emphasize that the exam was one of the hardest I've taken. According to the staff at the Sylvan Testing Center near me, where I took the exam, at least half the people who take it there fail. Good luck.

I just took my PMP certification exam today and passed !Below is my review on this book. If you are interested in how you might best prepare for the PMP exam - read on - further below.- this is a good study companion to the PMBOK guide.- it does have some tips for memorizing things (like math formulas, theories on motivating employees, etc.) -- I found these tips helpful for the most part- this book also has some tips on items to focus on (because higher chances of them being on the PMP exam) and those not to focus on too much (because lower chances of them being on the PMP exam - based on historical data)- This book - is a bit wordy - it probably weighs about 50 lbs (ok, I'm exaggerating) and has about 600 pages.- however, the wordiness is meant to make it less 'dry' it seems (try reading the PMBOK - now, that's dry)- chapter practice tests - were very helpful for me (it is how I best learn)Another great study aid that really helped me with the PMP exam is "Neutropix" Support Brain Function, Memory, Attention Span, Concentration & Clarity it is an amazing supplement that enhances your memory, focus and cognition, great for studying.

Faded print. Some pages are barely legible. Pages 49, 50, 58, 59, 67, 74...so far. That is as far as I've read. Be sure to check your book thoroughly upon receipt.

One of the most verbose guides I've ever read. Half the book is the author(s) repeating themselves, usually with at least 3 unnecessary adjectives per sentence. Poorly organized in terms of concept

delivery. Will start talking about phases, jump to project life cycle, return to phases, or throw out a random fact about a particular concept in a loosely related chapter instead of the chapter where that concept is discussed. Unfortunately, it's required for the PM certifications, so I would say skim through it and then just buy an alternative study guide.

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