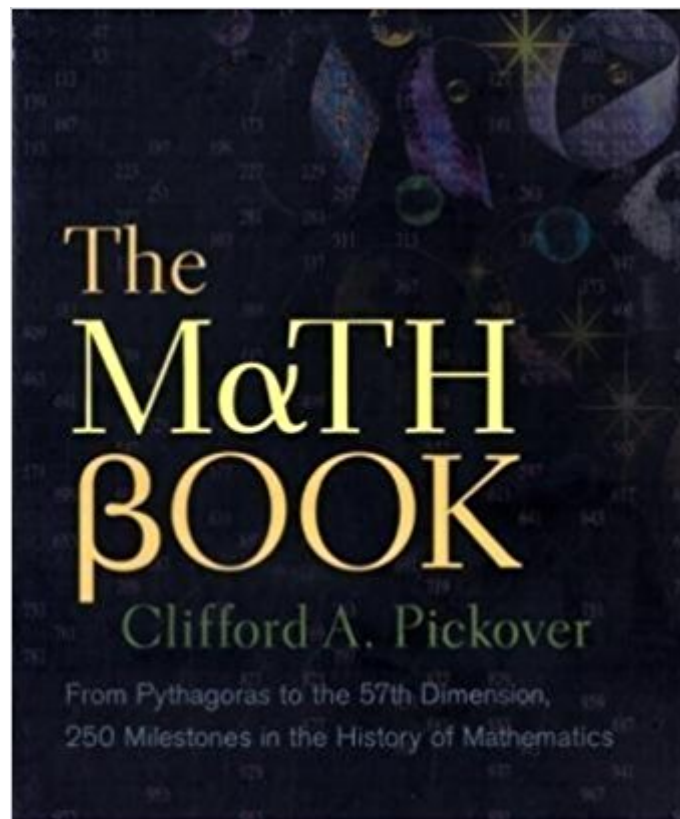


The book was found

# The Math Book: From Pythagoras To The 57th Dimension, 250 Milestones In The History Of Mathematics (Sterling Milestones)



## Synopsis

Math's infinite mysteries and beauty unfold in this follow-up to the best-selling *The Science Book*. Beginning millions of years ago with ancient odometers and moving through time to our modern-day quest for new dimensions, it covers 250 milestones in mathematical history. Among the numerous delights readers will learn about as they dip into this inviting anthology: cicada-generated prime numbers, magic squares from centuries ago, the discovery of pi and calculus, and the butterfly effect. Each topic gets a lavishly illustrated spread with stunning color art, along with formulas and concepts, fascinating facts about scientists' lives, and real-world applications of the theorems.

## Book Information

Series: Sterling Milestones

Hardcover: 528 pages

Publisher: Sterling; 1 edition (September 1, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1402757964

ISBN-13: 978-1402757969

Product Dimensions: 1.5 x 7 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (124 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #64,213 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #57 in [Books > Science & Math > Mathematics > History](#) #259 in [Books > Science & Math > Mathematics > Applied > Probability & Statistics](#)

## Customer Reviews

In his previous science book, *"Archimedes to Hawking"*, Cliff Pickover explored the great laws of science and the lives of the physicists and chemists who discovered the laws. In the *"Math Book"*, Pickover takes on the great moments or milestones of mathematics. While the great laws of physics were almost all named by the early twentieth century, scientific milestones continue to be established. Thus, the mathematical milestones of the *"Math Book"* are documented into the twenty-first century. The publishers have provided Pickover with a challenging format. Each milestone is described on just one page, and each is accompanied by a full page image on the facing page. These limitations restrict the scope of the presentation for each subject. However, having as many as 250 milestones has allowed Pickover to expand some subject areas into more

than one related milestone. The images are absolutely beautiful. They include paintings, diagrams, photos, and computer-generated art. Among the best are a close-up photo of the game of Go, a map of the Internet as the illustration for the Königsberg Bridges, the Gray Code using a diagram taken from a US patent, and the Archimedes Spiral as exemplified by a fiddlehead fern. Many of the milestones cover esoteric theoretical areas of mathematical analysis. This was not my best subject in school. However, because of the latitude provided by having 250 topics to cover, Pickover is able to include more technology-related topics.

**The Math Book** By Clifford A. Pickover What a wonderful book. Simply terrific! And, nearly all of the illustrations are in magnificent full color too. In these pages are told the stories of exactly 250 of some of the greatest events in the history of mathematics, each entry being one page long with an illustration on the facing page and arranged in chronological order. So deep and pervasive is mathematics that mathematical behavior has been observed in ants in their quest for food, and they appear to have some sort of counting mechanism which serves as an ant odometer counting the number of steps they take. It must have been an interesting job trimming their little legs or installing tiny stilts to detect changes in their travel distances. From ant journeys it's quite a reading journey to the final 2007 entry on Max Tegmark's speculation that the universe not only can be described in mathematical terms, but actually is mathematics. In between the ants and the universe we see the spirit of mathematics persisting in a Nazi concentration camp where Curt Herzstark invented an ingenious calculating device; so successful was his Curta calculator that it became a commercial product for about 25 years. There is also a nice story of Pope Sylvester II who was known as the Number Pope for being a mathematician; other stories are about dice and games and other chance phenomena, magic squares, and there are some of the most dazzling fractals ever put to paper, especially the one that accompanies the entry on the Hausdorff dimension.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

**The Math Book: From Pythagoras to the 57th Dimension, 250 Milestones in the History of Mathematics** (Sterling Milestones) **The Law Book: From Hammurabi to the International Criminal Court, 250 Milestones in the History of Law** (Sterling Milestones) **Music and Mathematics: From Pythagoras to Fractals** **Secret Of Mental Math Arithmetic: 70 Secrets To Super Speed Calculation & Amazing Math Tricks: How to Do Math without a Calculator** **2nd Grade Math Flashcards: 240 Flashcards for Building Better Math Skills Based on Sylvan's Proven Techniques for Success** (Sylvan Math Flashcards) **3rd Grade Math Flashcards: 240 Flashcards for Improving Math Skills Based on Sylvan's Proven Techniques for Success** (Sylvan Math Flashcards) **4th Grade Math**

Flashcards: 240 Flashcards for Improving Math Skills Based on Sylvan's Proven Techniques for Success (Sylvan Math Flashcards) 1st Grade Math Flashcards: 240 Flashcards for Building Better Math Skills Based on Sylvan's Proven Techniques for Success (Sylvan Math Flashcards) Kindergarten Math Flashcards: 240 Flashcards for Building Better Math Skills Based on Sylvan's Proven Techniques for Success (Sylvan Math Flashcards) The Life and Philosophy of Pythagoras: Esoteric Classics The Life and Philosophy of Pythagoras Sterling Silver Flatware for Dining Elegance: With Price Guide (A Schiffer Book for Collectors) Sterling (Mageri Series Book 1) The Call of the Wild and White Fang (Sterling Unabridged Classics) Minecraft Labyrinth : Math Activity Book and Coloring Book For Kids : Unique Labyrinths, Geometric Labyrinths and Math Labyrinths: (Unofficial ... (Unique Activity Book) (Volume 2) People's History of Sports in the United States: 250 Years of Politics, Protest, People, and Play (New Press People's History) History: Human History in 50 Events: From Ancient Civilizations to Modern Times (World History, History Books, People History) (History in 50 Events Series Book 1) History: British History in 50 Events: From First Immigration to Modern Empire (English History, History Books, British History Textbook) (History in 50 Events Series Book 11) Operation Ouch: Medical Milestones and Crazy Cures: Book 2 A Station Favorable to the Pursuits of Science: Primary Materials in the History of Mathematics at the United States Military Academy (History of Mathematics, V. 18)

[Dmca](#)