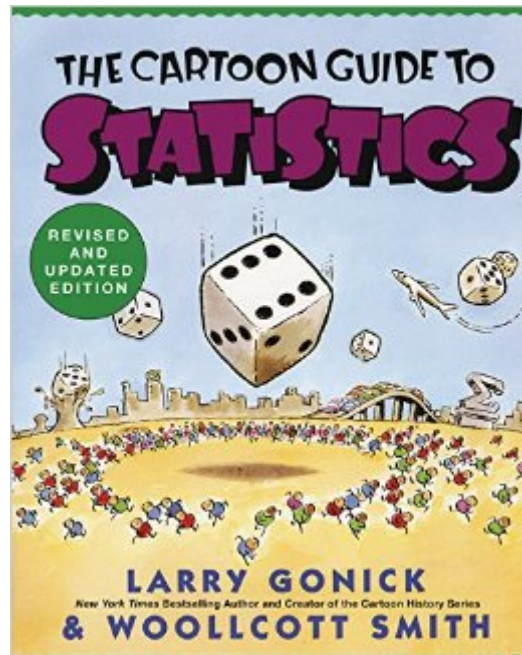




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The Cartoon Guide To Statistics



Synopsis

If you have ever looked for P-values by shopping at P mart, tried to watch the Bernoulli Trials on "People's Court," or think that the standard deviation is a criminal offense in six states, then you need The Cartoon Guide to Statistics to put you on the road to statistical literacy. The Cartoon Guide to Statistics covers all the central ideas of modern statistics: the summary and display of data, probability in gambling and medicine, random variables, Bernoulli Trials, the Central Limit Theorem, hypothesis testing, confidence interval estimation, and much more--all explained in simple, clear, and yes, funny illustrations. Never again will you order the Poisson Distribution in a French restaurant!

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Customer Reviews

"Gonick is so consistently witty and clever that the reader is barely aware of being given a thorough grounding."--Omni
"Gonick is one of a kind."--Discover

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The Kindle format of this book is useless: the cartoons are very difficult to read on the screen, and it does not even have a table of contents, so you will have to navigate the book page by page, or by Go to location. I wish I could return this book, even if I get credit back to buy the paper edition.

This book is sooooo helpful. I am taking a doctorate biostatistics class and these cartoons really help when coupled with a textbook. There is also a lot of humor in it.

If you like cartoon language and are about to start a statistics 101 course, you are going to love this book. The authors cover from basics of probability theory (data description, discrete and continuous random variables, and common probability distributions) to applied statistics (sampling, confidence intervals and hypothesis testing, linear regression and ANOVA), in a very joyful cartoon journey, seizing your attention through simplified "real-life" applications (aspirin vs myocardial disease prevention, racial bias in jury selection during 60-80s in South US, the false positive paradox in disease diagnostics, election polls, '92 Penn State classroom experiment, quality inspection in cereal boxes, fuel selection by a taxicab company, among others).

I am a totally none statistics trained person, however in my job I work with engineers and mathematicians that also teach statistics at the university undergraduate and graduate. The Cartoon Guide to Statistics covered the entire spectrum of what my mathematicians talk about when they identify the statistics they are using for the projects I manage. The book is on my work reference shelf as a ready reference as its explanations are very thorough. I am planning on taking formal statistics courses to do more hands on working through the formulas to have a better understanding. But going into the class, thanks to this book I will have an understanding of the principle and intent of the different parts of statistics. After reading the book I now know what my engineers mean with they say it all a roll of the dice (if this doesn't make sense, read the book its very well explained)

The book isn't a guide. It doesn't explain. It simply declares statistical formulas, followed by a bit of example. For example, on p. 22, to calculate the standard deviation, use the square of the distance. Why? Why the square? Why not cube it? Why not multiply by 37 and divide by 7? This is like handing someone a slide rule and saying "figure it out". Yes, eventually, one could figure it out. But why not explain it? The cartoons are cute but mostly either meaningless or distracting. They don't

illustrate the points in the text. Finally, on a deeper level, the book covers mostly trivial or irrelevant topics. Frankly, who cares about dice? I don't want to learn to gamble in Las Vegas. I want to learn how to use statistics in my work. I'd like an explanatory guide to practical statistics that can be used for biology, business, manufacturing, and other similar fields. If you know of such a book, please say so here (and let me know: andreas@andreas.com). Or I may have to write it myself :-)

I took statistics in my MBA and when I first read the textbook thought I was in for a semester of pain. This book was recommended to me as an alternative that made the concepts easy. I suppose it tries to do that, however, I am not a fan. It doesn't go into any good examples of how to do the problems, which is what you really need. The cartoons range from funny to "why bother". I was disappointed and would instead suggest watching free Khan academy videos online. Funny narrator, and real examples.

This book is an excellent first step on the path towards learning statistics. The treatment of probabilities and distribution (normal, binomial, and t), sampling and confidence intervals is very accessible, yet impressively complete. Further, it does a good job at hypothesis testing and comparing two distributions. I wish it were a bit more readable from a typography point of view: the cartoonish font may make it seem less intimidating, but this reader would have preferred a normal serif font instead.

This book is terrible on kindle. You can not enlarge it, you can barely see the words. Worst money ever spent. I can't say if the book is any good BECAUSE I CANT SEE IT

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