

GATE EXAM BOOK DIRECTORY

The Ultimate Reading List

A comprehensive, easy-to-read guide to the best standard textbooks and reference materials for all major engineering branches.

Curated for GATE Aspirants

How to Use This Guide

Welcome to the GATE Book Directory! Preparing for the Graduate Aptitude Test in Engineering requires a clear understanding of core concepts. While coaching notes are helpful, standard textbooks build the deep foundation needed to solve tricky questions.

In this guide, we have organized the best, most highly recommended books by branch.

PRO TIP:

You do not need to read these books cover-to-cover. Keep a copy of the official GATE syllabus next to you, and read only the chapters and topics mentioned in the syllabus!

Common Subjects (For All Branches)

Subject	Book Name	Author / Publisher
Engineering Mathematics	Higher Engineering Mathematics	<i>B.S. Grewal</i>
General Aptitude (Quant)	Quantitative Aptitude	<i>R.S. Aggarwal</i>
Verbal Ability (English)	Objective General English	<i>S.P. Bakshi (Arihant)</i>

Computer Science & IT (CS)

Core Subject	Recommended Book	Author
Algorithms	Introduction to Algorithms	Cormen, Leiserson, Rivest (CLRS)
Operating Systems	Operating System Concepts	Galvin & Silberschatz
Database Management	Database System Concepts	Korth & Sudarshan
Theory of Computation	An Introduction to Formal Languages	Peter Linz
Computer Networks	Computer Networking	Kurose & Ross

Mechanical Engineering (ME)

Core Subject	Recommended Book	Author
Thermodynamics	Engineering Thermodynamics	P.K. Nag
Strength of Materials	Strength of Materials	S. Ramamrutham
Fluid Mechanics	Fluid Mechanics	Cengel & Cimbala
Theory of Machines	Theory of Machines	S.S. Rattan
Manufacturing	Production Engineering	Kalpakjian & Schmid

Civil Engineering (CE)

Core Subject	Recommended Book	Author
Geotechnical Engineering	Soil Mechanics & Foundation Engg.	<i>K.R. Arora / B.C. Punmia</i>
Environmental Engg.	Environmental Engineering	<i>S.K. Garg</i>
Transportation Engg.	Highway Engineering	<i>Khanna & Justo</i>
Strength of Materials	Mechanics of Materials	<i>B.C. Punmia</i>

Electrical Engineering (EE)

Core Subject	Recommended Book	Author
Electrical Machines	Electrical Machinery	<i>P.S. Bimbhra</i>
Power Systems	Power System Engineering	<i>Nagrath & Kothari</i>
Control Systems	Control Systems Engineering	<i>I.J. Nagrath, M. Gopal</i>
Power Electronics	Power Electronics	<i>P.S. Bimbhra</i>

Electronics & Communication (EC)

Core Subject	Recommended Book	Author
Network Theory	Fundamentals of Electric Circuits	<i>Alexander & Sadiku</i>
Analog Circuits	Electronic Devices & Circuit Theory	<i>Boylestad & Nashelsky</i>
Digital Circuits	Digital Design	<i>M. Morris Mano</i>
Signals & Systems	Signals and Systems	<i>Oppenheim & Willsky</i>

FINAL ADVICE:

Always combine your textbook reading with solving Previous Year Questions (PYQs). Textbooks are for conceptual clarity, but PYQs train you for the exact difficulty level of the GATE exam! Good luck with your studies.