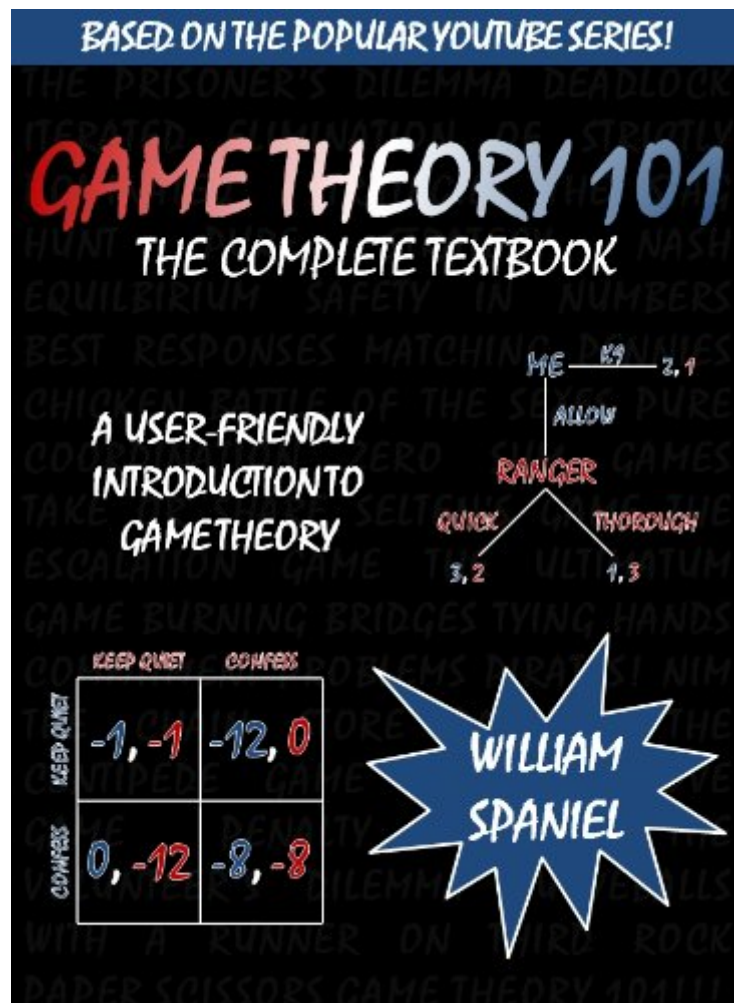




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# Game Theory 101: The Complete Textbook



## Synopsis

Game Theory 101: The Complete Textbook is a no-nonsense, games-centered introduction to strategic form (matrix) and extensive form (game tree) games. From the first lesson to the last, this textbook introduces games of increasing complexity and then teaches the game theoretical tools necessary to solve them. Inside, you will find:

- 1) All the basics fully explained, including pure strategy Nash equilibrium, mixed strategy Nash equilibrium, the mixed strategy algorithm, how to calculate payoffs, strict dominance, weak dominance, iterated elimination of strictly dominated strategies, iterated elimination of weakly dominated strategies, subgame perfect equilibrium, backward induction, forward induction, and more.
- 2) Dozens of games solved, including the prisoner's dilemma, stag hunt, matching pennies, zero sum games, battle of the sexes/Bach or Stravinsky, chicken/snowdrift, pure coordination, deadlock, safety in numbers, Selten's game, the escalation game, the ultimatum game, the pirate game, nim, the centipede game, the hawk-dove game, the volunteer's dilemma, and rock-paper-scissors.
- 3) Rich descriptions of important economic concepts such as commitment problems, burning bridges, perverse incentives, and the chain store paradox.
- 4) Advanced topics such as generalized games, comparative statics, and knife-edge conditions.
- 5) Real world applications including wars, firm entry/exit, tournament strategy, arms races, advertising, game shows, soccer, baseball, video games, and more.
- 6) Crystal clear, line-by-line calculations of every step, with more than 400 images so you don't miss a thing.

Quick, efficient, and to the point, Game Theory 101: The Complete Textbook is perfect for introductory game theory, intermediate microeconomics, and political science.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is a useful and practicable book on game theory. I have never studied Game Theory before and yet I found this book easy to follow; but it does require some effort and thinking. I do recommend signing up with Udemy.com and taking the course. The book and the course compliment each other. The course doesn't have all of the examples as the book, but the explanations are clear and helpful. The real-world examples in the book are useful for the student, which I found helpful when thinking about how to apply a matrix paradigm and the thought process that applies to the situation being evaluated.

To complement his popular YouTube channel, Mr. Spaniel's text presents a clear and concise treatment of the most important elements of Game Theory. It is the ideal introductory text, especially for those interested in the field without the appropriate mathematical background to get a good value out of more advanced texts from Fudenberg and Tirole or Young and Zamir. It is not devoid of mathematics, however, as the field is quantitative by nature, but the author does a superior job of making the ideas tangible by providing several fairly simple examples to demonstrate the important mechanics. For this reason, it is ideal for self-paced learning.

This is a great introductory text (with accompanying videos) to build a solid foundation of knowledge to apply to international relations, in my case, or to whatever discipline you choose. Prior to purchasing this text, I was having trouble with more advanced applications, having failed to build this foundation on my own. I used this text to fill gaps and move forward. My advice for novice game theorists to start here and save themselves some time. Build a foundation fast, and shorten the distance from noise to knowledge to useful application.

I am currently taking a course in Game Theory, and this book (and video series) is the key to connecting all the dots for me. While my regular lectures are fine, they lecturers tend not to think in

terms of somebody trying to learn the subject matter. Some people have the teaching knack, while others don't. The author of this book has it, and you get to enjoy the benefits! The author has an eye towards having you learn Game Theory in a meaningful and substantial fashion. He walks you through the various concepts, and manages to do with an efficiency and style that takes all the stress and effort out of it. If you are delving into this subject matter, I highly recommend that you pick up this book as an additional resource, and watch his videos when you're looking for a little more instruction. It has made my coursework infinitely more enjoyable!

This is a great textbook/practice reference to complete W. Spaniel's online videos. Nailed it!

Very nice work. Thanks so much to the author for his efforts. I bought the \$3.99 (\$1 price increase) version. [The author responds to comments on his blog. He told me the price went up to \$3.99 when he added the third chapter. Good for those with the \$2.99 version to know.] Still a bargain. What is nice is that once I bought it, has an app that let's me download it again (for free) to my iPod Touch. Perfect level for short seminar that I may give soon to retired folks as a supplement. I gave it a high rating because it is an excellent job for what it is. It is not intended as a mathematical treatise on the subject. You will still want to read it with pencil and paper at hand as you would with any technical subject matter.

This textbook is helping me learn Game Theory in a way that is efficient and fun. The simple "read the textbook sub chapter, then watch the video" formula allows me to understand the material in the textbook at my own pace, then review it in a fun, easy to understand environment whilst using more of my senses so it lasts longer.

While it is a beautifully written guide to strategic thinking, it also requires some strong mathematics prerequisites, like calculus, statistics and probability.

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