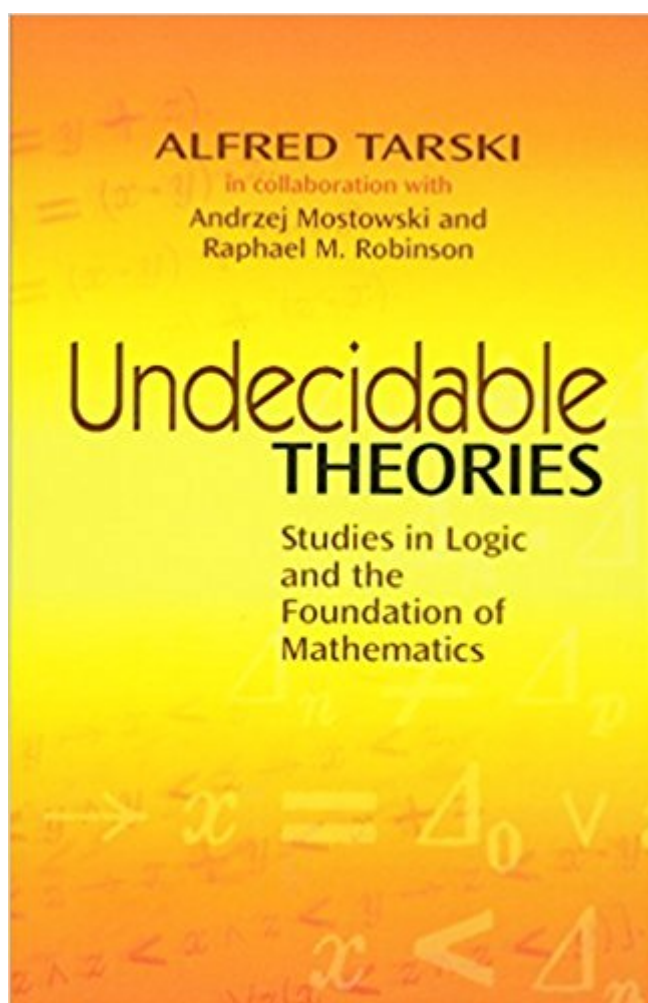


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Undecidable Theories: Studies In Logic And The Foundation Of Mathematics (Dover Books On Mathematics)



Synopsis

This graduate-level book is well known for its proof that many mathematical systems—including lattice theory, abstract projective geometry, and closure algebras—are undecidable. Based on research conducted from 1938 to 1952, it consists of three treatises by a prolific author who ranks among the greatest logicians of all time. The first article, "A General Method in Proofs of Undecidability," examines theories with standard formalization, undecidable theories, interpretability, and relativization of quantifiers. The second feature, "Undecidability and Essential Undecidability in Mathematics," explores definability in arbitrary theories and the formalized arithmetic of natural numbers. It also considers recursiveness, definability, and undecidability in subtheories of arithmetic as well as the extension of results to other arithmetical theories. The compilation concludes with "Undecidability of the Elementary Theory of Groups."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Polish mathematician Alfred Tarski (1901-83) ranks among the greatest logicians of all time. Best known for his work on model theory, meta mathematics, and algebraic logic, he contributed to many other fields of mathematics and taught at the University of California, Berkeley, for more than 40 years. Tarski's student Andrzej Mostowski worked at the University of Warsaw on first-order logic and model theory. Tarski's University of California colleague Raphael M. Robinson built on Tarski's

concept of essential undecidability and proved a number of mathematical theories undecidable.

A beautiful slim volume that has served as the starting point for so much of the research on the topics of decidable and undecidable theories formulated in First Order Logic, key themes in Model Theory and in Recursion Theory.

Tarski is great, always!

a fabulous, beautifully written book; quick delivery!

Since the winter is coming, you may want to settle in your recliner chair with a glass of your favorite libation and spend a quiet evening with this book. But the evening won't be quiet for your brain, which will be working OT to grasp all that is in this book.

If you've studied the foundations this is a wonderful refresher. After reading in it, I've found it to be a mind cleaner, so straight and to the point, so pleasing to the thought processes. Read, and think about every idea presented. It's like a gym for your mind. Try to visualize all the formal systems that are talked about, you will be rewarded. Work through the example theories to solidify the concepts. Note the precision and terseness of the writing. See what the ancient authors left for us. The reading of this will provide osmosis for the improvement of your own writing. It's a wonderful, healthy adventure in reading and writing.

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