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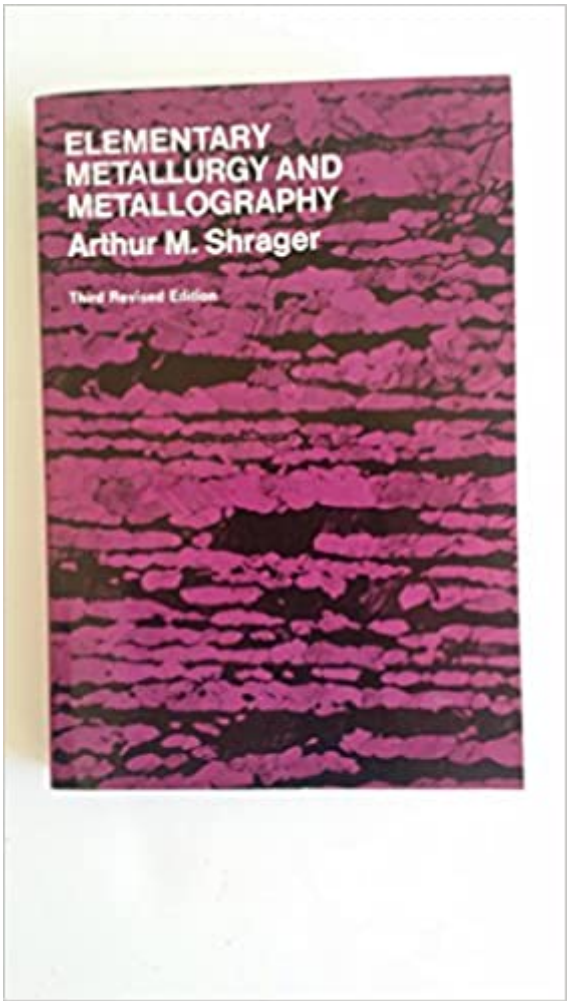

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Customer Reviews

I am an apprentice steamfitter/welder and a blacksmith newbie and this book has been great. Its been good for referencing and has helped my understanding of different metals. Definitely recommended if your into or looking to get into any kind of metal type trade or hobby.

I have the Dover 3rd edition of this classic, the one with the bilious, bright purple cover. I've been through half a dozen books on this fascinating subject and this is absolutely my favorite book on metallurgy. Very clear explanations of the properties of the various metals and alloy groups, especially steel and steel alloys, copper and copper alloys, alluminum, and zinc, with especially good treatments of the effects of the many alloying elements. Some of these properties are quite paradoxical and still difficult to predict and understand their effects even today, but it makes for fascinating reading nevertheless.For example, it's understandable why adding such metals as tungsten, vanadium, titanium, or cobalt, and so on, would increase the temperature resistance and toughness of steel, since these are very tough elements with high melting points themselves. But why does adding aluminum produce a very fine, austenitic (i.e., non-magnetic) grain structure, thereby increasing the overall strength of the alloy? Or why does silicon, a non-metal, greatly increase the fatigue resistence of steel, which is why it's often used in car and truck springs and other similar applications? Even stranger, why does nickel, a magnetic, ferrous element itself, when added in large enough percentages to steel, produce alloys that are non-magnetic or austenitic themselves? All of this made for fascinating reading and discussion.In addition to the above

interesting sections, there are also very good discussions on such topics as the different types of furnace operations, annealing, hardening, and tempering, casting and finishing processes, heat treatment, defect analysis, and a nice section on thermodynamics and crystallography, as well as some special topics like powder metallurgy.Overall, this is still a great classic and introduction that has yet to be exceeded.

The item arrived in the specified time and was exactly what I wanted. I am very happy with this purchase.

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