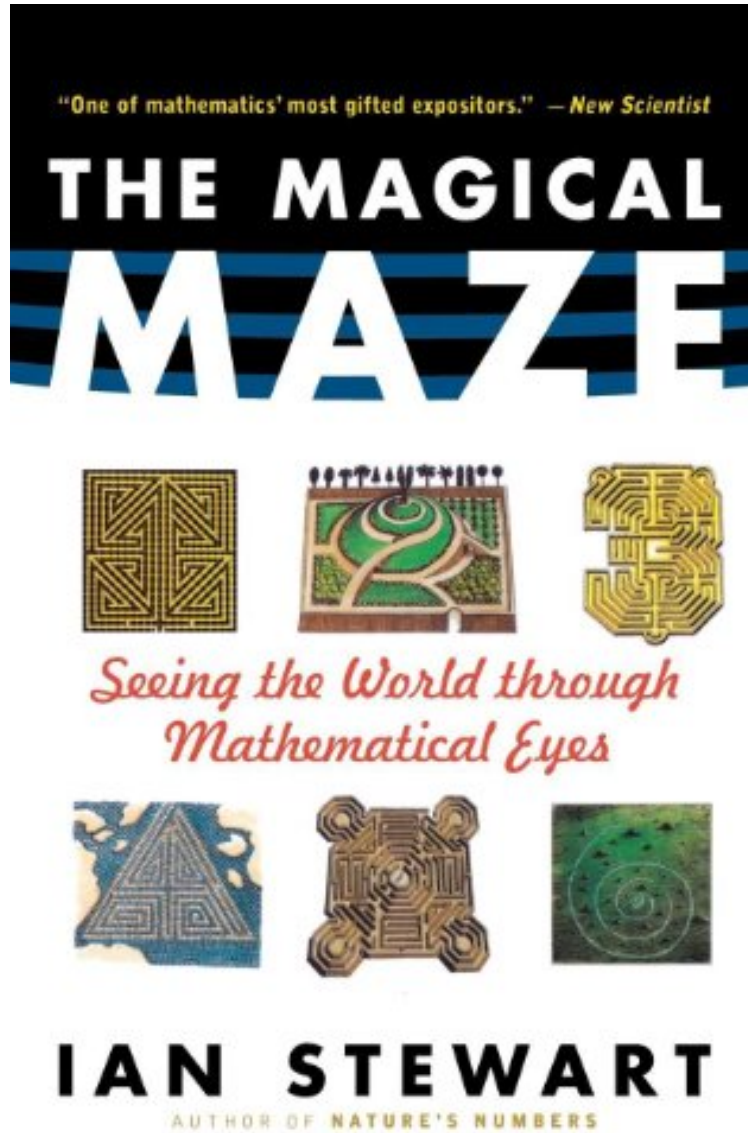


(Download) The Magical Maze: Seeing the World Through Mathematical Eyes

# The Magical Maze: Seeing the World Through Mathematical Eyes

*Ian Stewart*

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**Ian Stewart : The Magical Maze: Seeing the World Through Mathematical Eyes** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Magical Maze: Seeing the World Through Mathematical Eyes:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Nothing but math.By JUST a READERI guess I did not carefully review this book . This is NOT a maze puzzle book. IT is a math book. There are no mazes to solve like what is shown

on the cover. That is deceiving. It should not be put in the MAZE puzzle book section. As it says... it is a "see the world through math eyes" I guess meaning a math calculations and solutions book. Not what I was expecting. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. This book changed my view of math. By Ken If you are already familiar with math, then this book won't be all that interesting to you. It doesn't go into too much depth about the mathematical principles behind the concepts it discusses, and it doesn't involve all that much actual math. This book is really targeted towards people who never really saw math as anything other than another subject they hated in school, and it seeks to change their mind. I was never that much of a "math person" before I read this book, and I just saw math as another subject in school, and I got average grades in math, and that was all it was to me. This book taught me how to "think like a mathematician". I started to find myself actually liking math, and lo and behold, my grades even improved. I highly recommend this book for anyone who has an ill view of mathematics, and would like to improve their general experience with it. You might even find that you actually like math once you start looking at it as something besides a bunch of useless numbers, or a difficult class to get past. 7 of 8 people found the following review helpful. A wonderful introduction to recreational mathematics! By T. J. Ellis Other reviewers have criticized this book for its lack of detail and mathematical depth. Although that may be true for the experienced mathematician, this is an EXCELLENT introduction to the world of recreational mathematics. This book shows that math can be fun and useful and explains it in a way that anyone can understand. I often wondered, when I was younger, where logic tied in with math... I loved logic games and puzzles, things labeled as "math games" but I hated "math" -- arithmetic is totally lame. This book completely bridges the gap between logic games and mathematics and submerses the reader in a whole new, wonderful world. However, if you are already familiar with this world it may feel kind of like watching Sesame Street -- entertaining, but attempting to teach things you learned long ago. Either way it's an entertaining and educational (for the non-mathematician) romp in the frivolities of mathematics.

Enter the magical maze of mathematics and explore the surprising passageways of a fantastical world where logic and imagination converge. For mathematics is a maze a maze in your head a maze of ideas, a maze of logic. And that maze in your mind is a powerful tool for understanding an even bigger maze the one of cause and effect that we call "the universe." That is its special kind of magic. Real magic. Strange magic. Infinitely fascinating magic. Acclaimed author Ian Stewart leads you swiftly and humorously through the junctions, byways, and secret passages of the magical maze to reveal its beauty, surprise, and power. Along the way, he reveals the infinite possibilities that arise from what he calls "the two-way trade between the natural world and the human mind." If you've always loved mathematics, you will find endless delights in the twists and turns of *The Magical Maze*. If you've always hated mathematics, a trip through this marvelous book will do much to change your mind.

.com Math is fun? It is in Ian Stewart's romp through a labyrinth of possibilities and logic. Although some of the delightful puzzles, problems and teasers will give your brain a workout, you will be glad you followed the path to the end. Stewart uses the maze metaphor (the book has an "entrance," "passages," and an "exit" rather than an introduction, chapters, and an end) to illustrate the mental journeys we take when solving everything from bar tricks to problems of artificial intelligence. Difficult points are illustrated with an imaginary journey and lots of fun games. Real-life examples of mathematical "magic" abound, including the trails of slime-molds and the dimples in golf balls. Great walk through the jungle of probability. --Therese Littleton From the Publisher Internationally acclaimed popular math and science author Ian Stewart has outdone himself with this infinitely entertaining romp through 4,000 years of mathematical monkey business. As with mathematics itself, fresh wonders await readers at every turn in this crazy quilt of fun games, mindboggling puzzles, fantastical parables, and fascinating yarns. From the Inside Flap *The Magical Maze* Entre the magical of mathematics maze and explore the surprising passageways of a fantastical world where logic and imagination converge. For mathematics is a maze a maze in your head a maze of ideas, a maze of logic. And that maze in your mind is a powerful tool for understanding an even bigger maze the maze of cause and effect that we call "the universe." That is its special kind of magic. Real magic. Strange magic. Infinitely fascinating magic. In this adventure of a book, acclaimed author Ian Stewart leads you swiftly and humorously through the junctions, byways, and secret passages of the magical maze to reveal its beauty, its surprise, and its power. Along the way, he reveals the infinite possibilities that arise from what he calls "the two-way trade between the natural world and the human mind." On your travels you will encounter number magic both the stage-act variety and the deeper magic of animals, plants, and the physical world. You will come to understand the amazing pattern-forming abilities of the humble slime mold, the numerology of flowers, and the feeding habits of pigs and panthers. You will discover how to solve puzzles the algorithmic way, the artistic way, and the army way. You will be amazed by the deep connections between the founding of Carthage, soap bubbles, and communications networks. You will discover how to use a toy train set as a computer, and find out why this implies that there are unavoidable limits to mathematics. You will join the controversy over cars and goats, find out the terrible truth about confessions, and win endless bets about birthdays. You will see how a new idea about ferns can lead to a multimillion-dollar computer graphics company, and how Jupiter and Mars can combine forces to hurl cosmic rocks at Earth. And you will never again be able to watch a kitten,

a kangaroo, or a Chihuahua without noticing the delightfully rhythmic patterns with which they move their feet. If you've always loved mathematics, you will find endless delights in the twists and turns of *The Magical Maze*. If you've always hated mathematics, a trip through this marvelous book will do much to change your mind.