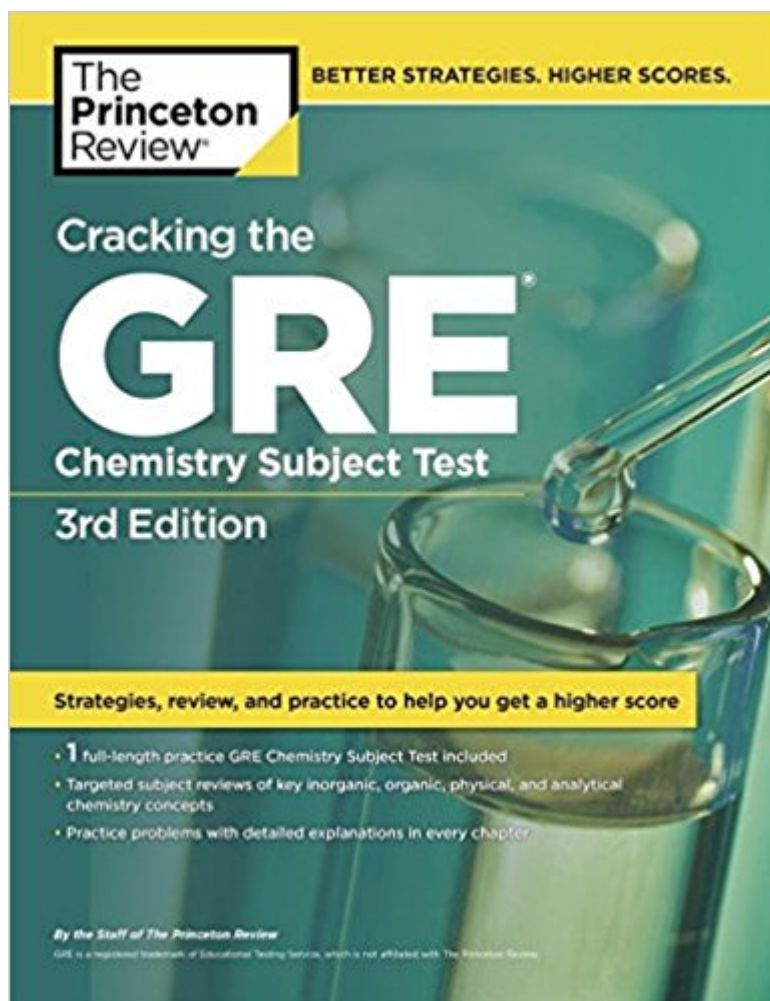


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# Cracking The GRE Chemistry Subject Test, 3rd Edition (Graduate School Test Preparation)



## Synopsis

THE PRINCETON REVIEW GETS RESULTS. Getting a high score on the GRE® Chemistry Subject Test isn't about memorizing every formula or theory ever devised—it's about targeting how you prepare for the exam itself. We teach you only the information you'll need, along with the best strategies for the day of the test. Inside this book, you'll find practical information on the what, when, where, and how of the exam, plus subject review for all potential topics. Techniques That Actually Work. • Effective strategies to help you beat the test and hit your top score • Specialized tactics to avoid the trick questions that trap most students • Alternative approaches to enable you to tackle the toughest questions with confidence Everything You Need to Know for a High Score. • Practice problems for all content chapters to help you critically assess your progress • Detailed subject review for all exam topics, including key concepts for inorganic, organic, physical, and analytical chemistry • Study tips with useful advice from The Princeton Review's expert tutors and teachers

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

You would like to think that Princeton Review would do a good job with something like this, but it's pretty miserable. It's obvious that they just hired some first year grad student to write it. The organic section consists of a list of reactions with little to no explanation. No mechanisms are involved and it's just expected that you memorize all 50 some pages of mechanisms. The physical section is

absolutely miserable and they don't seem to want to stick to a sign convention when they talk about thermodynamics. The analytical section is not comprehensive.

This book was of very little help. Do not use this to help prepare for the chemistry GRE. You are better off buying individual review books. There is too much pointless information and not enough detail on important topics. The amount of typos is outstanding! Don't do what I did. I read the reviews and asked myself "how bad could it possibly be?". MUCH worse than I expected even after I had been warned by the other reviewers. This book is a waste of money.

I am surprised that so many people gave this such a negative review. If this truly was a comprehensive review of inorganic, organic, physical, and instrumental/analytical chemistry, it could easily be thousands of pages long. I liked this because, despite being 9 years old, it still followed the same subsections for the Chemistry GRE that are listed on the ETS page with short descriptions of major topics for each subsection. This way I knew what to focus on and which textbooks to go back and review from. Like people said, the organic section is just a list of reactions with no mechanisms or explanations. If there were, it would be the same size as an organic chem textbook. Looking at the reactions, I knew which ones I didn't understand and needed to go back and review more.

Egregiously SubStandard! Honestly, initially I thought the problem must lie with me, but, after several chapters I was forced to reluctantly conclude this was a shambles of a book. I would absolutely hate to have some unwitting person purchase this in the hope it would make a serious contribution to their GRE scores. The plethora of negative reviews for this effort in total accurately assess the book's shortcomings. The errors are particularly insidious, since they occur at a frequency just low enough to lull the student into a sense of false security- then \*BAM\* , an incorrect equation or a subtle inaccuracy derail one's thought train. The lack of cohesive subject flow is alarming. Coherent organization stops at the level of chapter headings; once into the finer details, it's one non-sequitur after another. Try ploughing through the section on spectroscopy if you want to know what it's like to get lost in the jungle - even when you thought you were technically conversant on the subject I've had problems with Princeton review before, and urgently recommend Barron's products instead. Unbelievably, I feel forced to actually discard this book. What a waste! Another trap with Princeton Review GRE books is that they consistently set the bar too low across the range of subjects - the GRE tests themselves are tougher than the subject material in the guides.

Do not believe that this is a bad book, because it is not. You cannot possibly expect it to contain detailed information, since then it would be thousands of pages long. Instead, it should be used as a guide to what you should review for the exam. For that it is amazing. I do not think it is disorganized at all, in fact, it presents disparate topics in a very unified and easy to understand manner. There were some topics that I never quite understood in class when I was taking Chemistry courses, but this book dumbed them down to me in a perfect way. Use it as a condensed study guide (namely with your textbooks/ lecture notes/ the internet close by, further delving into the topics presented) and it will prepare you well, I am sure. There is a reason why there is almost NO Chemistry GRE prep material out there, and that is because it is very hard to make. So this book deserves praise even just for existing, although it may not be perfect.

I just took the GRE Chemistry with less than a month to prepare but this book really sums it up well and reminded me of things that I've learnt but forgot. All in all, this book probably saved me a couple of points!

Entirely agree with the above reviewers about the poor job this book does. Did not prep me well -- there is so much that this book is lacking. Only mediocre section is O-Chem. Don't waste your time with this book -- it will misguide you. Study old lecture notes and exams.

This test-prep text provided a reasonable overview of organic chemistry but was useless for all other topics of chemistry. I'd achieved a high percentile on the chemistry gre exam in the fall of 2008, but I can give no due credit to this print. Do not waste your time here..

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