

foundation

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The first volume in Isaac Asimov's world-famous saga, winner of the Hugo Award for Best All-Time Novel Series.

Foundation marks the first of a series of tales set so far in the future that Earth is all but forgotten by humans who live throughout the galaxy. Yet all is not well with the Galactic Empire. Its vast size is crippling to it. In particular, the administrative planet, honeycombed and tunneled with offices and staff, is vulnerable to attack or breakdown. The only person willing to confront this imminent catastrophe is Hari Seldon, a psychohistorian and mathematician. Seldon can scientifically predict the future, and it doesn't look pretty: a new Dark Age is scheduled to send humanity into barbarism in 500 years. He concocts a scheme to save the knowledge of the race in an Encyclopedia Galactica. But this project will take generations to complete, and who will take up the torch after him? The first Foundation trilogy (Foundation, Foundation and Empire, Second Foundation) won a Hugo Award in 1965 for "Best All-Time Series." It's science fiction on the grand scale; one of the classics of the field. --Brooks Peck One of the great masterworks of science fiction, the Foundation novels of Isaac Asimov are unsurpassed for their unique blend of nonstop action, daring ideas, and extensive world-building. The story of our future begins with the history of Foundation and its greatest psychohistorian: Hari Seldon.

For twelve thousand years the Galactic Empire has ruled supreme. Now it is dying. Only Hari Seldon, creator of the revolutionary science of psychohistory, can see into the future-- a dark age of ignorance, barbarism, and warfare that will last thirty thousand years. To preserve knowledge and save mankind, Seldon gathers the best minds in the Empire-- both scientists and scholars--and brings them to a bleak planet at the edge of the Galaxy to serve as a beacon of hope for future generations. He calls his sanctuary the Foundation.

But soon the fledgling Foundation finds itself at the mercy of corrupt warlords rising in the wake of the receding Empire. And mankind's last best hope is faced with an agonizing choice: submit to the barbarians and live as slaves--or take a stand for freedom and risk total destruction.

Other Books

Foundation Mathematics. Mathematics is finding ever wider areas of application as we seek to understand more about the way in which the natural world and the man-made environment operate and interact. In addition to the traditional use of mathematical models as design tools and for the prediction of the behaviour of many phenomena, mathematics is increasingly being used to model situations in many other disciplines including finance, management, politics and geography. Foundation Mathematics begins with a concise summary of arithmetic, basic algebra and a discussion of quadratics and cubics, strongly emphasising geometric ideas. Then follow the principles of Euclidean and Cartesian geometry and the concept of proof. Next are trigonometry, further algebra, functions and their inverses. Finally, the concepts of differential and integral calculus are introduced. Each chapter starts with a list of learning objectives and ends with a summary of key points and results. A generous supply of worked examples incorporating motivating applications is designed to build knowledge and skill. The exercises provided range in difficulty to aid consolidation and facilitate revision. Answers to the exercises, some including helpful hints, are placed at the end of each chapter. Foundation Mathematics together with its sequel Mathematics in Engineering and Science take the reader forward, in both content and style, from a level close to UK GCSE mathematics and its international

equivalents to first year university-level mathematics. The concise and focused approach will help the student build the necessary confidence to tackle the more advanced ideas of the authors related book Mathematics in Engineering and Science (Wiley, 1998). This no-nonsense textbook will enable students to gain a basic grounding in the foundations of mathematics and will enable them to approach further study with confidence.

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