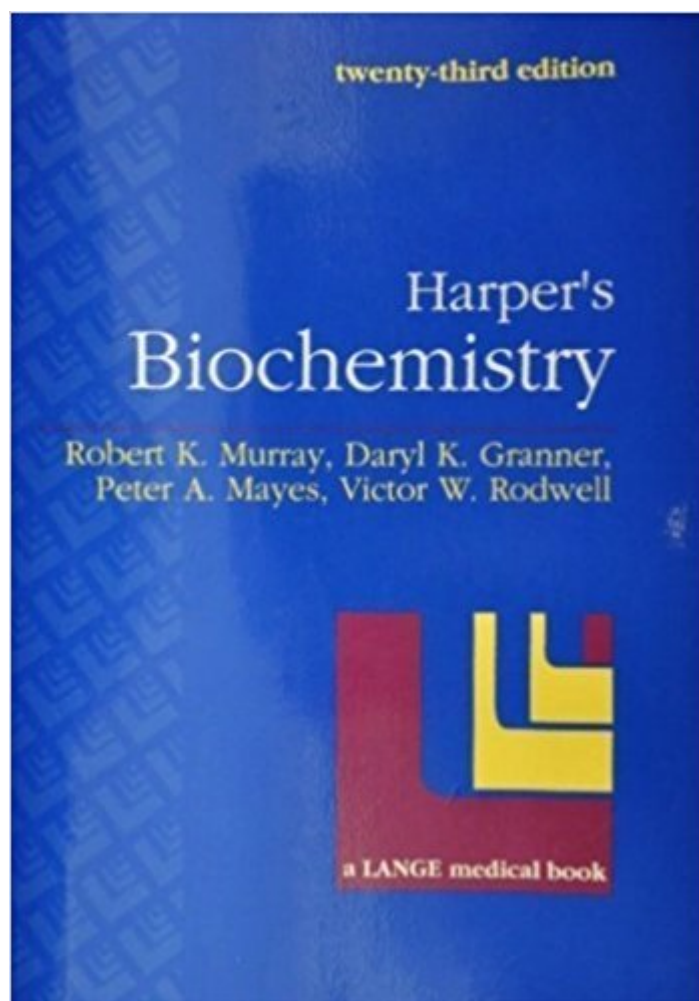




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Harper's Biochemistry/a Lange Medical Book (Harper's Illustrated Biochemistry)



Synopsis

Harper's Illustrated Biochemistry offers concise, up-to-date, and authoritative coverage of the principles of biochemistry and molecular biology as they relate to medicine. Revised for clarity, with new streamlined organization, new figures, and new online image collection Reflects major advances in biochemistry that are important to medicine Includes new chapters on amino acids and peptides, primary structure of proteins, and the Human Genome Project Presents new and expanded coverage of the mechanisms of action of enzymes, receptors involved in lipoprotein metabolism and reverse cholesterol transport, RNA synthesis, gene regulation, molecular mechanisms of hormone action, protein life cycle, and pharmacogenomics Provides clinical correlations and chapter summaries Features more than 500 clear, descriptive illustrations --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Book Information

Series: Harper's Illustrated Biochemistry

Paperback: 806 pages

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Product Dimensions: 1.2 x 7.2 x 10.2 inches

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Average Customer Review: 3.8 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (30 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

It seems that people like this book a lot or don't like it at all. I must admit, I don't like it very much. However, I think it depends a lot on: 1) your biochem background, and 2) your personal reading style. Someone mentioned to me that Harper's is like a graduate school text - full of detailed information and appropriate if your background in biochem is sound. However, most first year med students are not biochem majors and need a text that is easier to read (and enjoy). I bought Harper's 26th edition and also Lippincott's Illustrated Review (3rd ed.). They both cover similar

topics (not necessarily in the same order), but they differ (significantly) in the way each presents the material. Different chapters in Harper's are written by various authors which creates a glaring inconsistency throughout the book. Many of the chapters are well written but some are just plain awful. The chapters that are poorly written make it difficult to nail down the main points. I often find important information embedded in the book's "essay-type" format. Illustrations are ok, but nothing to write home about. Biosynthetic pathways, for example, are squeezed onto one page with very small print. Sometimes these diagrams are so "busy" that it takes more effort than should be necessary to untangle the important concepts, and quite frankly, is simply uninteresting to look at. Conversely, Lippincott has wonderfully full-coloured illustrations that are professionally drawn, easier to understand, get to the point, and are visually interesting. Besides the great illustrations, the text throughout Lippincott is consistent, clear, and concise.

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