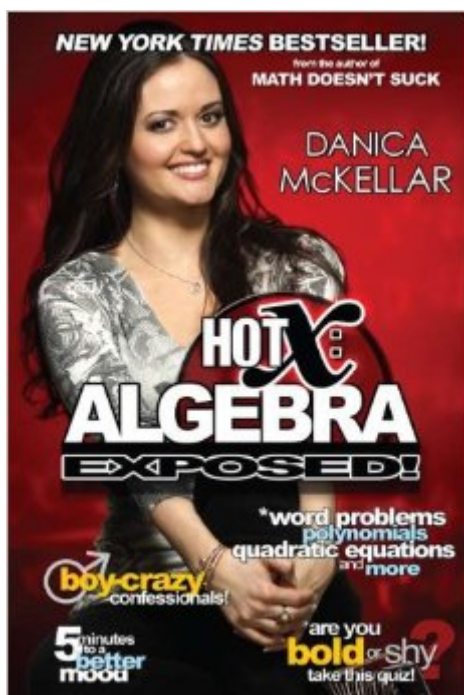


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Hot X: Algebra Exposed!



Synopsis

"Dancing With The Stars" contestant Danica McKellar's (Math Doesn't Suck, Kiss My Math, Girls Get Curves) New York Times bestseller tackles the most feared of all math classes: Algebra! Algebra: The word alone has been known to strike fear in the hearts of even the best students, but help is here! With her two earlier books, actress and math genius Danica McKellar shattered the "math nerd" stereotype and empowered girls to conquer middle-school math and pre-algebra. Sizzling with McKellar's trademark sass and style, Hot X: Algebra Exposed now shows high schoolers how to master algebra topics like square roots, polynomials, quadratic equations, word problems, and more. In addition to fun extras like personality quizzes, reader polls, and boy-crazy confessionals, Hot X include time-saving tips and trick sample problems with detailed solutions and relatable real-world examples. Parents and daughters alike will cheer McKellar as they watch their test scores rise!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

As far as math goes, McKellar knows her stuff. With two girl-centric, best-selling titles under her belt (Math Doesn't Suck, 2008, and Kiss My Math, 2009) and a degree in mathematics from UCLA, it is almost easy to forget that she was Winnie Cooper on *The Wonder Years*. Facing down a 432-page book devoted to algebra could give even math whizzes pause, but McKellar makes it work, taking the textbook-meets-*Seventeen* approach by mixing the explanations and equations with boy talk, quizzes, and testimonials from successful women. While a tutor might use this title as

a teaching aid, teen girls will want to explore it on their own. Navigation is easy; students are encouraged to hop from chapter to chapter as their homework demands. The breakdown of equations is effective and certainly unconventionalâ ”explaining functions in terms of sausage factories, for example, or exponents in terms of whip-bearing female executives (makes sense in the book, promise)â ”and while McKellar keeps her focus on how to solve math problems, her approach is both readable and even entertaining. --Courtney Jones --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

"A cross between a math class and a slumber party, and a perky, self-affirming slumber party at that: interspersed among the math are anecdotes about boys and testimonials about struggles and triumphs with math... McKellar exhorts her readers to be smart and confident... I found myself wishing that Ms. McKellar, who makes math relevant without dumbing it down, would cover the rest of the high school math curriculum."â ”Kenneth Chang, The New York Times"AA” must-have for any teen or tween girl who feels nervous about algebra class this year."â ”The Washington Post"McKellar... may well have done more to encourage girls to stick with math than any government task force... the wildly enthusiastic response [her books] have received speaks to the effect that can be achieved by reworking the contents of standard math and science problems and countering the perception that boys won't like girls who are smart."â ”Eileen Pollack, The New York Times"As far as math goes, McKellar knows her stuff... Facing down a 432-page book devoted to algebra could give even math whizzes pause, but McKellar makes it work, taking the textbook-meets-Seventeen approach by mixing the explanations and equations with boy talk, quizzes, and testimonials from successful women. While a tutor might use this title as a teaching aid, teen girls will want to explore it on their own. Navigation is easy; students are encouraged to hop from chapter to chapter as their homework demands. The breakdown of equations is effective and certainly unconventionalâ ”explaining functions in terms of sausage factories, for example, or exponents in terms of whip-bearing female executives (makes sense in the book, promise)â ”and while McKellar keeps her focus on how to solve math problems, her approach is both readable and even entertaining."â ”Courtney Jones, Booklist

My daughter now has all of the books in this series, and loves reading them, just for fun! Math is no longer a chore, and she is eager to learn. One year ago, I had a 10-year-old daughter who was frustrated to tears with mathematics, no matter how we tried to demonstrate and explain the reasoning behind it. Her school math grade was miserable, and she felt miserable, too. I

remembered hearing about Danica's books on NPR, and had previewed them on .com. It was time to bring out the big guns. Within one day of receiving the first book, our daughter was engaged and excited about learning, and DEMANDED more books. Today, one year later, school work is tear-free, and math is her #1 subject with a straight A record. Danica has a mysterious way of explaining things to girls that just makes sense and sticks with them. There is something magical in these pages. We absolutely recommend all of Danica McKellar's books!

We are a homeschool family. My daughter has always had such a hard time with math. Her strong suit has been Language Arts and writing. However, we bought all of Danica's books last winter (2014) and between these books and a new tutor, my daughter has done a 180 in math. She references these books constantly. At the time, she is using only the Hot Algebra Exposed. She cannot say enough wonderful things about this book. It has helped her tremendously and she feels she just might now like math! And between these books and her tutor, she may be able to do harder maths come Junior and Senior yr and not feel stressed and worried over grades and understanding. I know these books are meant for girls. But seriously, my boys will be using them also when they across trouble.

I think Middle School can be a time when girls back away from math and I don't want that to happen to my daughters (I have 2). The tips and shortcuts in this book are easy to understand. McKellar does a great job of walking you through problems and when she can turn them into something girls can relate to, it makes it a lot of fun to read. One of my daughter's is going into 7th grade in the fall and taking Algebra I. We've been using this book over the summer as a way to prepare her for the class. I highly recommend it to anyone who has daughters. The pages are interspersed with testimonials from girls, some who used to struggle in math, and the testimonials give positive messages about working hard and not letting math intimidate you. That seems to be the mantra for all her books -- math is not intimidating and you can handle it! It's been years since I've taken Algebra and even I understand the concepts thanks to this book. I wish I had this kind of book when I was a kid struggling with math.

This series of books explains math in everyday language. It is perfect for the intended audience, and it may be useful to those who are older also, as other reviews show. My wife, however, did not find it to be helpful when attempting to read it as a refresher when returning to college, and the analogies chosen were primarily distracting for her. The strength of the book is also its weakness.

While explaining math in everyday language, it is not particularly helpful as a stand-alone text because math is best learned by doing. It is clearly not intended to be a stand-alone text, of course. But for those not currently taking a math class, it will be necessary to find a book of exercises. For that purpose, and for self-study, "The Humongous Book of Algebra Problems" by W. Michael Kelley may prove useful. I've still given it four stars because the book clearly is helping people to learn algebra. As a self-study tool, however, take into consideration whether the person studying math may need other books and whether the writing style is appropriate to the student.

We love the Danica McKellar math books because they bring the math across in a real easy to understand way for my kids. I use them with my son also since he is now in middle school. It makes homework help easier on me to deal with since I have been out of college a while now.

My son, an 8th grader, was struggling with some of the concepts in Algebra. Since I elected myself as chief homework reviewer, I had to understand it also. Not being in class with him, I had to rely on his textbook. The biggest issue were the "motion" problems. This book gives great examples and explains in layman terms how these problems get solved. As we continue with the year, I expect to use it often. I have tried others, but this is by far the best. Maybe she'll do a book on Algebra II.

Bought this for my daughter who was very weak in math. She now has an A in College Prep Algebra in 9th grade and has enjoyed this book as a resource when she needs additional clarification on a topic. Her teacher has ordered several of these books for the classroom after the success my daughter and her friends have had using the book. Highly recommend!

Make sure you read the test taking tips! Great supplementary material for math tutors.

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