

## ERRATA FOR

“Proofs and Fundamentals: A First Course in Abstract Mathematics”

Ethan D. Bloch  
Birkhäuser, 2000

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Below is an updated list of errata. The fault for all the errors in the book is my own, and I offer my sincere apologies for any inconvenience caused by the errors in the book.

This list was compiled with the generous assistance of: Joe Antao, Mark Halsey, Lauren Rose, George Vaughan, Oleg Yerokhin and Bard students Jordan Berkowitz, Emily Grumbling, Monica Elkinton, Supriya Munshaw, Dan Neville, Jurvis LaSalle, Georgi Smilyanov, Benjamin Rin, Emily Shapiro.

If you find any additional errors in the book, or any errors in this list of errors, I would very much appreciate it if you would let me know by email or regular mail at the following address:

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| Page | Line/Item          | Text  | Comment/Should be   |
|------|--------------------|---|---|
| 19   | 1. -3              | $(P \rightarrow Q) \rightarrow (\neg Q \rightarrow \neg P)$ | Should be $(\neg(P \rightarrow Q)) \rightarrow (P \vee Q)$  |
| 29   | Exercise 1.3.8 (5) | “give him a hug”  | Should be “you should give him a hug”   |
| 34   | 1. 3               | “Fact1.3.1”   | Should be “Fact 1.3.1”  |
| 43   | 1. -3              |   | Remove the quotation mark at the end of the line  |
| 47   | 1. -13             |   | After the first sentence insert “For the sake of avoiding special cases, we will assume that the collection $U$ , which is often not written explicitly but is implicitly assumed, always has something it it.” |

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| 53  | 1. -6               | $(\forall x \text{ in } U)[(R(x) \rightarrow C(x))]$ | Should be $(\forall x \text{ in } U)[R(x) \rightarrow C(x)]$   |
| 53  | 1. -3               | $(\forall a \text{ in } V)[(N(a) \rightarrow B(a))]$ | Should be $(\forall a \text{ in } V)[N(a) \rightarrow B(a)]$   |
| 54  | Exercise 1.5.11 (4) | $\neg(\forall x \text{ in } W)[M(y)]$                | Should be $\neg(\forall x \text{ in } W)[M(x)]$  |
| 54  | 1. -3               | “likes dirt and does not like dust”                  | Should be “likes dirt or does not like dust”   |
| 68  | 1. -15              | “ $n^2$ is even”                                     | Should be “ $n^2$ is odd”  |
| 68  | 1. -14              | “ $n^2 = 2j$ ”                                       | Should be “ $n^2 = 2j + 1$ ”   |
| 73  | 1. -14              | “A important proof”                                  | Should be “An important proof”   |
| 77  | 1. -7               | “some”   | Should be “for some”   |
| 74  | Exercise 2.3.6      |  | Should be “Let $c$ be an integer such that $c \geq 2$ , and that $c$ is not a prime number. Show that there is an integer $b$ such that $b \geq 2$ , that $b c$ and $b \leq \sqrt{c}$ .” |
| 80  | Exercise 2.4.7      | “Let $n$ be an odd integer”                          | Should be “Let $n$ be an integer”  |
| 81  | Exercise 2.4.11 (3) |  | Insert “If $x, y \geq 0$ , then” at the start of the line  |
| 90  | 1. -1               | “does affect its truth”                              | Should be “does not affect its truth”  |
| 94  | 1. 20               | “does get in the way”                                | Should be “does not get in the way”  |
| 102 | 1. -8               | “ $10^2 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot 3 \neq 0$ ”                | Should be “ $10^2 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot 3 > 0$ ”   |
| 102 | 1. -6               | “ $10^2 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot 3 \neq 0$ ”                | Should be “ $10^2 - 4 \cdot 1 \cdot 3 > 0$ ”   |
| 102 | 1. -7               | “equations”  | Should be “equation”   |
| 105 | 1. -6               | “the have”   | Should be “the need”   |
| 114 | 1. -2               | “Then $b \in B$ ”                                    | Should be “Then $a \in B$ ”  |

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|-----|--------------------|---|---|
| 114 | l. -1              | “Then $a \in A$ ”   | Should be “Then $b \in A$ ”   |
| 116 | Exercise 3.2.1(3)  | “ $\{2, 3, \dots, 11\}$ ”   | Should be “ $\{2, 3, 4, 5, \dots, 11\}$ ”   |
| 127 | Exercise 3.3.9     | “that $(X - A) \cap B$ ”  | Should be “that $(X - A) \cap B$ ”  |
| 131 | l. -5              | “(i)”   | Should be “(ii)”  |
| 131 | l. -3              | “(i)”   | Should be “(ii)”  |
| 132 | Exercise 3.4.2 (6) | “ $\bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} E_k = \mathbb{N}$ ”                                       | Should be “ $\bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} E_k = \mathbb{Z}$ ”   |
| 145 | Exercise 4.1.8     | “ $\begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x \in X \\ 0, & \text{if } x \in X - A. \end{cases}$ ” | Should be “ $\begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x \in A \\ 0, & \text{if } x \in X - A. \end{cases}$ ”                 |
| 168 | Exercise 4.4.13    |   | Change “must be” to “is” in four places   |
| 174 | l. -11             | “ $\mathcal{B}(A)B$ ”   | Should be “ $\mathcal{B}(A, B)$ ”   |
| 190 | Exercise 5.2.6(1)  | “Let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ , and let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .”                           | Should be “Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ .”   |
| 190 | Exercise 5.2.6(2)  | “Let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ , and let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .”                           | Should be “Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and let $a, b, c \in \mathbb{Z}$ be such that $c$ is not a multiple of $n$ .” |
| 190 | Exercise 5.2.7     | “Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ”   | Should be “Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ be such that $n > 1$ ”  |
| 201 | Exercise 5.3.18    |   | In the commutative diagram change “ $f$ ” to “ $h$ ”  |
| 234 | l. -3              | “know”  | Should be “known”   |
| 235 | Exercise 6.3.5     |   | Delete “positive”   |
| 235 | Exercise 6.3.11    | “ $\prod_{i=2}^n \left(1 - \frac{i}{i^2}\right)$ ”                                      | Should be “ $\prod_{i=2}^n \left(1 - \frac{1}{i^2}\right)$ ”  |
| 239 | l. -16             | “phyllo-taxis”  | Should be “phyllotaxis”   |
| 255 | l. -16             | “cancels out”   | Should be “cancel out”  |

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| 261 | 1. 6        | “lemma”                                      | Should be “theorem”                                    |
| 267 | 1. -5       | “ $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ ” | Should be “ $h: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ ” |
| 334 | 1. 5        | “ $g, h \in \mathbb{N}$ ”                    | Should be “ $q, h \in \mathbb{N}$ ”                    |
| 379 | Hint 1.2.2  |  | Delete “(though a false one)”                          |
| 394 | Hint 6.4.10 |  | This hint should be placed after the hint for 6.4.8    |