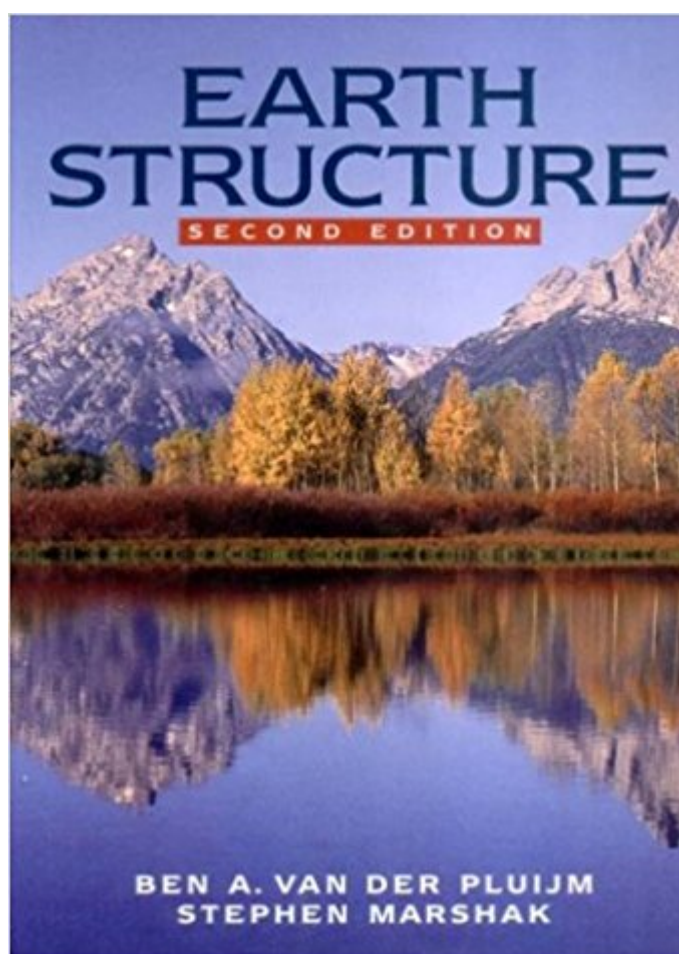


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# Earth Structure: An Introduction To Structural Geology And Tectonics (Second Edition)



## Synopsis

The Second Edition of *Earth Structure: An Introduction to Structural Geology and Tectonics* takes a balanced approach to the subject—emphasizing links between structural features at all scales (microscopic, hand-specimen, outcrop, mountain-range) and deformation processes. *Earth Structure* shows how assemblages of structures relate to different geological settings in the context of plate tectonics. Chapters are self-contained modules that can be arranged in various sequences depending on instructor preference, and the book uses a conversational writing style, employing familiar analogies and field examples. Mathematical analysis, where used in the book, is kept at a basic level. Popular features include:

- Self-contained chapters on deformation mechanisms (both brittle and plastic) and deformation products (fractures, faults, folds, and fabrics) that allow instructors to provide a foundation of understanding on "how" deformation takes place, as well as a thorough description of what deformation causes.
- Whole chapters on tectonic settings. These chapters allow the book to be used either for a one-semester course that relates deformation to tectonic settings or for a succession of two courses (one on structure and one on tectonics), thus enabling students to buy just one book.
- Essays on Regional Perspectives that provide information on tectonic analysis for eleven regions around the globe written by specialists in the area—discussions include the European Alps, the Altids, the Appalachians, and the Cascadia Wedge.
- Over 570 detailed figures providing informative illustration of concepts.

570 black & white figures

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Ben A. van der Pluijm is Professor of Geological Sciences and Professor of the Environment at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He is (co-)author of more than 120 research articles and editor/board member of several international journals. His research focuses on brittle and ductile faults, crustal architecture of collisional belts, intraplate deformation, microstructures and textures, and geochronology, with main field areas in North America, South America and Europe. In addition to teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in Geological Sciences, he coordinates Michigan's interdisciplinary Global Change Curriculum and is involved with various technology-supported educational initiatives. Stephen Marshak is professor of geology at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, where he is also the director of the School of Earth, Society, and Environment. He holds an A.B. from Cornell University, an M.S. from the University of Arizona, and a Ph.D. from Columbia University. Steve's research interests lie in structural geology and tectonics. This work has taken him into the field on a number of continents. Steve loves teaching and has won his college's and university's highest teaching awards. In addition to research papers and Earth Science, Steve has also authored *Earth: Portrait of a Planet*, *Essentials of Geology*, and has co-authored the *Laboratory Manual for Introductory Geology*, *Earth Structure: An Introduction to Structural Geology and Tectonics*, and *Basic Methods of Structural Geology*.

This book is comprehensive, but it is not written very well. The authors use a confusing language time and time again. Sometimes, they even seem to contradict themselves. It takes re-reading of many parts to grasp what the authors are trying to say. One thing I really did not like was their treatment of ductility, plasticity, and brittleness...very, very confusing. The book has many great figures--like a lot. But the book is just not well-written. Worth owning for the figures.

This book touches on every subject in regards to structure. It is not a stand alone book and I feel it is in need of lecture to explain much that is written. Also needed is a good lab to go along with it. We used it for our structure class and the professor did a great job of lecturing through the chapters to better help us understand what was being discussed. But still, after taking the class and going back to review topics, I am able to fully digest what is written.

Great book! Passages are easy to read for undergrads and even have some jokes in them. Definitely a good book for the hard topic of Structure.

I had to teach myself structural geology for a professional exam. This was a great resource to teach

myself. I would recommend it.

I didn't really care for the layout of the book compared to others. Material is pretty good but not much help to use on your own.

bought it as a textbook. there was wear in the HARD cover so i don't think it should be called a new book.

I purchased these book hoping it would be complete and accurate. I have noticed a trend among Geology Professors to produce books and lab manuals that are full of errors. I have often wondered if the Professor's know their stuff. This book is adequate in its coverage of the information typical of a introductory Structural Geology course. It, as most geology text books, is lacking in worked problems on mechanics and everything else. I would like to see this author expand his book in the tradition of K. A. Stroud's ENGINEERING MATHEMATICS and show complete solutions to all/many types of problems that an student may encounter as a Structural Geologist/Geologist. Maybe they could add a supplement and title it STRUCTURAL GEOLOGY FOR STUDENTS. When I was in school, the only Lab Manual was the one by Ragan, 1973, and his explanations of problems, combined with his writing style, left me confused and frustrated. I was too dumb to know he had many equation written backwards, which explains why I always could not seem to get the same answer I derived using graphical methods when I attempted to test my answers with the trig methods presented in his work. In this Structural Geology text, I experienced some of that same old frustration from school on page 51, "Adventures with the Mohr circle." The explanation of how to calculate and draw the circle was too brief. Also, this would have been a good opportunity for the authors to take the student by the hand, in the K.A. Stroud tradition, and walk them through this problem. Also, it is my opinion that these two authors spend too much time discussing regional perspectives in Part E of their book. Most courses fail to get that far in one semester. It is subject matter best left to a course on tectonics, at a more advanced level in a geologist training. Many Geology Departments forget that they are training scientist and have the tendency to become secretive of their materials and sources, all for the sake of arrogance and that perfect Bell Grading Curve. This damages their ability to train students to be the best geoscientist possible in a changing world.

The book is an excellent book for advanced students of structural geology and faculty. The book

may be a bit too fast for beginners. I personally like the book because i have a little background in structural geology. But I know undergraduate students who have struggled with this book. I feel this book should be read after going through books by Twiss and Moores or Davis and Reynolds. I am in no way against this book. It provides an interesting reading for a relatively advanced reader and this book is indeed at present one of the very good books available.

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