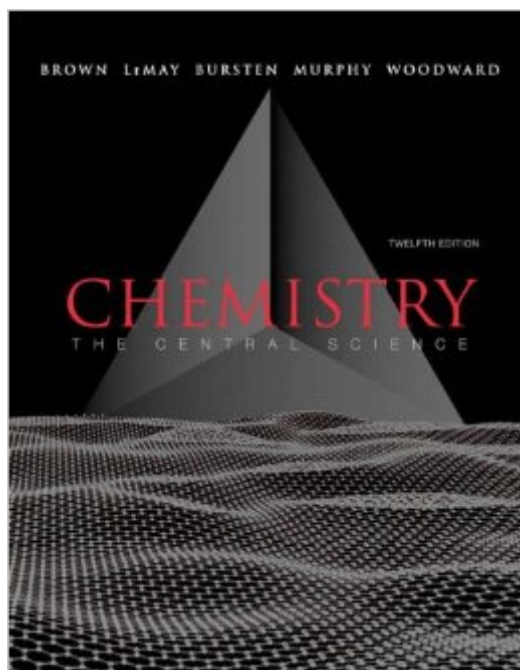


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# Chemistry: The Central Science (12th Edition)



## Synopsis

Trusted, innovative, and calibrated, *Chemistry: The Central Science* has helped millions of students understand and succeed in general chemistry. Its unrivaled problems, scientific accuracy, and clarity are maintained in this new edition, which is the book's biggest revision to date. In the Twelfth Edition, every word and piece of art has been studied for effectiveness. Based on feedback from students like you, this revision reflects the unparalleled expertise of its author team; each chapter has been updated and streamlined to remove any content not proven to increase student comprehension. Joined in this edition by new co-author Patrick Woodward, the book's solid authorship gains a fresh, new perspective yet maintains its unified, consistent voice. **Note:** This is a standalone book, if you want the book/access code order the ISBN below: 0321741056 / 9780321741059 *Chemistry: The Central Science with MasteringChemistry* Package consists of 0321696727 / 9780321696724 *Chemistry: The Central Science* 0321705106 / 9780321705105 *MasteringChemistry with Pearson eText Student Access Code Card for Chemistry: The Central Science*

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## Customer Reviews

I transferred schools and I needed *Chemistry: The Central Science* for Chem II. The class listed that I needed the 12th edition but they also gave us *Mastering Chemistry* for free so I figured would just use the E-Book. It turned out to be a pain so about five weeks into the semester I decided I needed a hard copy of the book and decided to check the difference between editions. These are literally

the same book with exception to Ch. 22 & 23 in 11E and Ch. 23 in the 12E. Most of Ch.23 in 12E is Ch. 23 with parts of Ch. 22 in 11E, you just have to know where you are supposed to be. Also Ch.25 in 11E is Ch.24 in 12E. Even all of the end of chapter exercises are the same in 11E as 12E just numbered differently and some in different order, but all within the same section. There are some that vary slightly, usually just values, but I'd say 97% are the same. Not all of the sample questions are identical either throughout the chapter but most are. This is a great chemistry book, it is very easy to read and understand and if you put in the work you will see results. Buy the Student's Guide and Solutions To Exercises (all exercises) and you will have no problems with this course. LASTLY: BUY 11e OVER 12e!!!!!! I paid just under \$40 TOTAL (including shipping) for the 11e text, Student's Guide, and Solutions To Exercises (all exercises). These books would run me almost \$500 at the university bookstore and probably \$300 by looking around online.

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I teach general chemistry as both a private tutor and as a free tutor at Purdue University. In my time, I've seen every general chemistry book known to man come across the table. Without fail, though, BLB is my reference text. Like many gen chem books it has excellent diagrams, but in addition the text is lucid, organized, well written and makes no pedagogical leaps that the reader must figure out on their own. It is easy to read and easy to understand and the material is presented in a fairly

logical order (I have minor quibbles with some of it). I foresee this book becoming a classic in the future.

I wrote the review below for the previous edition (9), and having seen the tenth edition, most of my subjects of complaints and praises pretty much remain the same. First off, having maintained contact with my freshman year chem prof, I have to say that she still tells the students that they can easily get away with buying the previous edition. Interestingly enough, back when I was taking the course and the 10th wasn't even released yet, she told us we can get away with using the 8th. I have not seen the 8th though, so no comments on that. So it seems as if there are no major overhauls from the 8th-10th editions as far as my prof's concerned. I say this is a solid text primarily because of the glut of problems for you to practice on, and the nice flow of information through the chapters. The text is written with clarity in mind, and with clarity it does convey its topics. With well-placed worked sample problems and excellent charts and diagrams, this is a great book to have in hand if you're taking a college-level chemistry course. However, this book has its limitations in that there are several topics that are covered at the college level that are not really expounded on by the book. For example, the text gives a half-page introduction on semiconductors and how electron excitation works in semiconductors ; we did one full lecture on it. Furthermore, some of the problems that hit you in the form of the professor's custom-made, self-written problem sets occasionally involve problem solving methods that are not even covered in the book. I experienced a fair share of this when I saw application questions that involved a lot more variables than any of the book's questions involved. This brings me to talk about my last perceived limitation of the textbook: its lack of good application / integrative exercises. I like the book's armada of additional exercises at the end of the chapter, but I think a better textbook should include more application problems - sort of like 'problem-based learning', if that's a better way to put it. A good example would be the types of questions you can expect to see on a final exam - questions that implicitly expect you to apply all sorts of concepts obtained from the whole chapter, and possibly even concepts from previous chapters - to solve a real world problem. To conclude, the pros of this book include its clarity in explaining concepts, the decent flow from topic to topic, and its solid arsenal of practice problems and worked sample problems. The cons include its lack of application problems (problem-based learning), need for more in-depth discussions of some topics, and need for more problem solving strategies. Overall a great text, but a better text can bring my B up to an A in this class.

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