



By Dr. Telly Kamelia

If you only need the buying answer, the 180-day eText is the cheapest path in the current snapshot. The paperback is still very competitive because it is only slightly above that short-term digital option while staying below rental, far below used print, and well below long-term digital access. That gives print a real case for students who expect to reuse electromagnetics beyond one course.

Format	Seller	Current Price	Link
eText 180 Days	eCampus	\$59.94	Check price
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This is a classic engineering decision where the cheapest immediate route is not necessarily the strongest academic buy. The 180-day eText wins if you only need temporary access for one semester. But the paperback is priced closely enough to that temporary digital option that it becomes more attractive once you remember how often electromagnetics shows back up in communications, RF, antennas, microwave engineering, and broader electrical engineering work.

What this book actually teaches

Fundamentals of Applied Electromagnetics is a core engineering text built around fields, waves, transmission, and applied problem solving. Students typically encounter electrostatics, magnetostatics, Maxwell-based reasoning, wave propagation, transmission lines, and practical applications that feed later work in communications and electronics. This is not a disposable survey book. It is one of those texts that often becomes easier to appreciate after the first pass, once students start seeing where the concepts reappear.

That is why print has a stronger case here than it would in a one-off general education course. A physical copy can keep value because students may want to revisit derivations, worked examples, diagrams, and notation over time. If you know this course is the end of your interaction with the subject, short-term digital is fine. If not, the current paperback pricing is unusually reasonable.

Who should buy print and who should not

Choose the 180-day eText if cost is the priority and you only need the book long enough to complete one electromagnetics course. Choose print if you are moving deeper into electrical engineering, communications, RF, microwaves, or any area where fields and waves will return. In the current snapshot, the paperback gives a lot of long-term value for only a small premium over the cheapest digital route.

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