



By Dr. Telly Kamelia

Introductory electronics books usually become more useful after the first few labs, not before them. Students begin by trying to follow diagrams and component behavior, then quickly discover they need to move back and forth between theory, examples, and troubleshooting logic. For ISBN 978111128531, the real purchase decision is whether you need the cheapest short-term access or a copy worth keeping for later electronics and circuits work.

If you only need the buying answer

The cheapest short-term routes here are rental, around **\$25.74** to **\$28.61**. If the goal is to get through one term at the lowest cost, rental wins clearly. But the current new print listing at **\$62.16** is lower than the used market at **\$71.67**, far below digital at **\$87.03**, and dramatically below the sampled new market at **\$128.88**. So this is a clean split case: rental for short-term savings, print for strong long-term ownership value.

Price comparison

| Store | Format | Condition | Price | Link |
|-----------------|--------------|-----------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Merybook | Paperback | New | \$62.16 | Check price |
| Rental | Print rental | Temporary | \$25.74 - \$28.61 | Check rental options |
| Textbooks.com | Print | New | \$128.88 | Check new market |
| Used print | Print | Used | \$71.67 | Check used market |
| eTextbook | Digital | Access | \$87.03 | Check digital option |

What this price means in practice

This is not a case where the current print listing is the cheapest possible path. Rental is much cheaper if your horizon is one semester. But once you compare print against every ownership route, the current listing is very strong. It is below the used market and below the visible digital price, which is unusual for a technical text.

That means the decision should be made honestly: if you only need access for one term, rent. If you expect later circuits or electronics work, print has real value here.

What this book actually teaches

Introduction to Electronics teaches the foundational logic of components, circuits, measurements, and applied electronic behavior. A good course in this area usually asks students to move repeatedly between diagrams, component characteristics, lab expectations, and problem solving. That is exactly the kind of learning that benefits from repeated return to a text.

For that reason, introductory electronics books often become more useful than students expect. They are not just read once; they are consulted when the next course assumes you still remember the basics.

Who should rent, and who should buy print

Rent if you only need the book for one semester and the budget decision is strict.

Buy print if you are continuing into circuits, electronics, instrumentation, or related technical work and want a low-cost owned reference. At the current price, print is a strong long-term choice.

Sources checked

Sources checked: Merybook listing search for ISBN 9781111128531, Textbooks.com new pricing, sampled used print pricing, rental pricing, and eTextbook pricing. Pricing reviewed April 19, 2026.