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If you only need the buying answer, the current Merybook print listing is the best value in the clean market. It is below Pearson print, below rental, and far below the sampled MyLab package. Print only stops being the obvious answer if your class specifically requires MyLab for graded work.

Current price comparison

Format / Seller	Price	Link
Print from Merybook	\$73.30	Check price
Pearson print	\$84.99	Check price
MyLab IT	\$129.99	Check price
eCampus semester rental	\$84.99	Check price
eCampus used print	\$174.99	Check price

The pricing here is easy to read. The current print listing is already below the rest of the sampled clean market. MyLab is much higher, which means it only becomes the right answer when the course requires that platform for submissions or grading. Without that requirement, print is the stronger value.

What this book actually teaches

Technology in Action is useful because it tries to move students from casual device use toward more disciplined digital literacy. That means understanding systems, security, cloud workflows, file habits, practical software use, and the everyday logic of computing rather than just knowing how to click through familiar apps.

That kind of content can look basic at first, but it often becomes more valuable once students realize how much later coursework assumes they already know. A kept print copy can still work well for students who want a durable reference on practical technology concepts rather than a temporary courseware account.

Who should buy print and who should not

Buy print if your section is text-centered and you want a practical computing reference to keep. At the current prices, print is the clean value winner.

Do not buy print alone if your instructor requires MyLab IT for assignments. In that case, the platform cost has to be counted separately and may override the simple price advantage of the book itself.

Sources checked

- Merybook product listing for ISBN 9780137932788
- Pearson pricing snapshots for print and MyLab IT
- eCampus pricing snapshots for semester rental and used print
- Pricing reviewed on April 19, 2026