



## Cogwheels of the Mind: The Story of Venn Diagrams

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By A. W. F. Edwards, Ian Stewart

Johns Hopkins University Press. Hardback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Cogwheels of the Mind: The Story of Venn Diagrams, A. W. F. Edwards, Ian Stewart, Used today in spheres of life as diverse as business strategy, creative writing, medicine, computer science, and theoretical physics, Venn diagrams possess fascinating properties. The basic Venn diagram is both elegantly simple—three overlapping circles that intersect to create eight distinct areas—and conceptually innovative. Devised by English logician John Venn (1834-1923) to visually represent complex logical propositions and algebraic statements, the diagrams drew the excited interest of both scholars and the general public. In *Cogwheels of the Mind*, statistician and geneticist A. W. F. Edwards provides an accessible and engaging history of the Venn diagram, its reception and evolution, and its presence in such objects and images as Christian iconography, tennis balls, and flags which provide a rich source of Venn diagrams for Edwards, including those of Switzerland, Poland, and Japan (all one-set Venn diagrams), Greenland (a two-set Venn diagram), and Maryland (a three-set device). Edwards begins with a sketch of Venn's life, his discovery of the three-circle design while developing a series of lectures on symbolic logic at Cambridge University, and the publication of his...



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