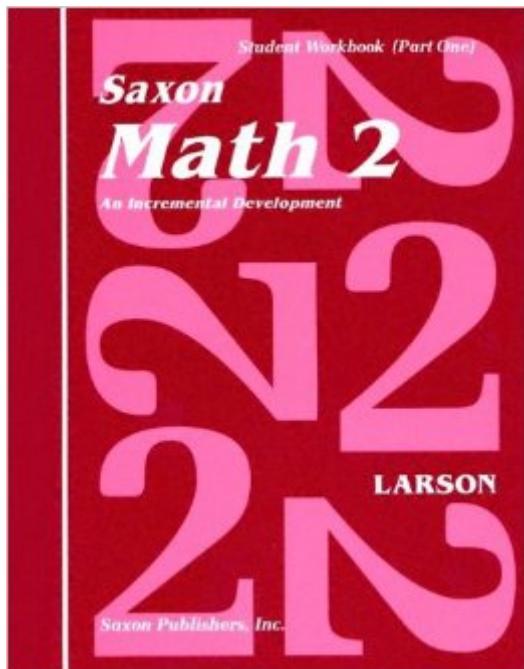


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# **Saxon Math 2: An Incremental Development Part 1 & 2 (Workbook And Fact Cards-2 Volume Set)**



## Synopsis

Book Details: Format: Special Format Publication Date: 2/1/2003 Reading Level: Age 7 and Up

## Book Information

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Grade Level: 2 and up

## Customer Reviews

This is a general review of Saxon, not specifically this book. Saxon math program has worked for both of my kids for the lower grades. However, as soon as the student gets mature enough to say "now I am studying this topic.", I switch him or her to Singapore Primary Math. Saxon Math grades 1 through 3 comes as worksheets, which are very easy to use. Each worksheet has "more of the same" on the back, which you can skip if the child already "gets it". Saxon 2nd grade covers the material that is being taught in public school nowadays in 1st grade (except that with Saxon, your child will actually master the material). Use the placement tests available online. For each grade, the first 20 lessons repeat what was done in the previous year, so feel free to skip most of them. In Saxon, if your student is very good at math, I recommend that you skip every other day's lesson, or else at least cross out the review problems. Some students like the success that comes with repetition, but for many students, Saxon provides way too much tedious practice. When your student can do the work quickly, consistently scores 100%, and is bored, it is time to consider transitioning to Singapore Math. Singapore Math gives a much more profound understanding of math, so if your student can handle it, I suggest using Singapore instead. Beware that 7/6 or 6/5 in Saxon is equivalent to level 3b in Singapore, so you will need to step down. There are good placement tests

available for both systems. One caveat: The last 20 or so lessons for each grade look like they are not really meant to be covered. They seem to jump around and not really cover things methodically. It seems like they are only meant as enrichment for students who have completed the year's work fast. So if you find the last few lessons in the book too hard for your student, strangely enough, just jump to the next year for easier problems. This math program is great for homeschooling because the student can work somewhat independently, and each day's work is clearly delineated. If your child is using Everyday Math or some other flavor of "Chicago Math" in school - in other words, your child is not learning math in school, Saxon is a solid program that you can use at home. From what I understand, the better private schools use Saxon one year ahead of grade level. Another caveat: the worksheets are great, but some advanced students, particularly the 6-year-olds who can do Math 3, and particularly boys, may find that they have trouble doing their work within the space provided or with organizing their work. They are still developmentally not ready to write their numbers smaller, or they have trouble positioning things. I find that with my kids, I sometimes need to draw blank worksheets for some of the questions. Children working at grade level, especially if they are girls, are not as likely to have this problem.

I've homeschooled for the last 9 years and have used Saxon math a few times. It is known as "Spiral Math" It may start new lesson concepts but each worksheet spirals back down through past lessons to keep them fresh in the child's mind. If your child is strong in math and can grasp new concepts, retain the information and test out of each chapter successfully then this math curriculum is not for you. IF your child struggles to remember past concepts and usually needs a lot of review before tests then this is most likely what you're looking for. Of my 2 children, one was bored because she was strong in math (she got tired of the repetition) my other needed the repetition. Hope this helps a bit.

When you order the Saxon Math program be sure you get the complete kit. You will need the student workbooks and the teacher's book. This program is a comprehensive math program that develops on itself. It continually provides assessments as a means of checking and rechecking learning and retention. The one thing it does not do very well is provide a guide to what to do when the child fails the assessment. It moves at a fairly even pace.

I choose Saxon for all of the lower level math I teach. Easy to follow lessons, repetition, and rote memorization of facts helps kids with later math. With the lessons, speed drills, and assessments, it

is easy to make the curriculum work for any student. Free on-line placements are also available to assure which level to start with. You can go as fast or as slowly as the student needs.

The students like these because the workbook is constantly reviewing material learned. This is a one-room school house and the kids all have different levels of the same series. It works!

As a veteran teacher public school who has tried many math curriculums, I love Saxon's repetition and hands on learning! It is so easy to use for both teachers and students. Now that I homeschool my children, we are having both fun and success with Saxon.

These workbooks (Part 1 and 2) are a necessary and consumable part of Saxon's second grade math program. The "fact cards" could be re-used but the workbooks must be purchased for each child. In addition, you will need the teacher's guide and many manipulative items. Overall, Saxon Math has been totally worth the effort and expense.

I feel Saxon does an excellent job laying out each lesson, reiterating the technique / skill a good amount and the lessons are enjoyable for my son.

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