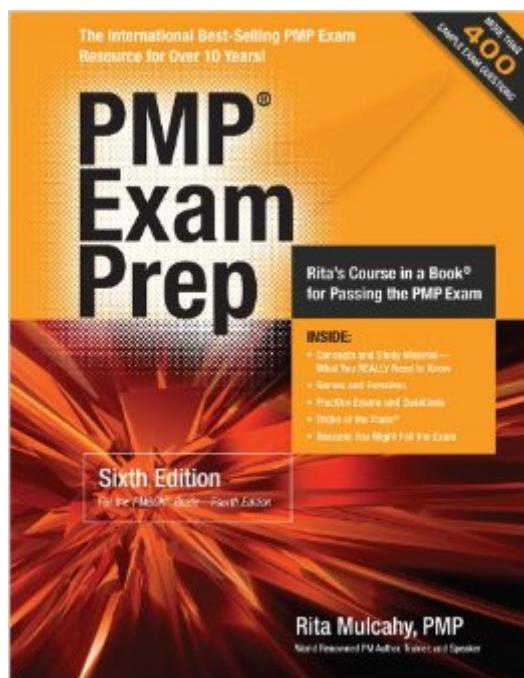


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# PMP Exam Prep, Sixth Edition: Rita's Course In A Book For Passing The PMP Exam



## **Synopsis**

Hundreds of thousands of project managers understand why PMP Exam Prep by Rita Mulcahy, PMP, is a worldwide best-seller. Is it Rita's years of PMP exam preparation experience? The endless hours of ongoing research? The interviews with project managers who failed the exam, to identify gaps in their knowledge? Or is it the razor-sharp focus on making sure project managers don't waste a single minute of their time studying any more than they absolutely have to? Actually, it's all of the above. PMP Exam Prep, Sixth Edition by Rita Mulcahy contains hundreds of updates and improvements from previous editions--including new exercises and sample questions never before in print. Offering hundreds of sample questions, critical time-saving tips plus games and activities available nowhere else, this book will help you pass the PMP exam on your first try.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Rita's book is boon to men and women preparing to take PMI's certification examination. --J.

Davidson Frame, Ph.D., PMP and Past PMI Director of Certification

Rita Mulcahy, PMP World Renowned PM Author, Trainer, and Speaker Rita Mulcahy has helped tens of thousands of project managers pass the PMP exam. She is an internationally recognized expert on project management techniques, advanced project management theory, risk management, and the PMP exam. Rita has over 14 years and US \$2.5 billion worth of hands-on project experience, as well as over 30 best-selling project management resources to her credit. Rita

speaks to thousands of executives and project managers each year, and has a reputation for helping people to learn and to have fun while doing it.

Just took and passed this exam yesterday. I studied this book exclusively for about 50 hours over the past month. I used no other training materials, no test simulations, no classes - not even the PMBOK! I am fairly experienced, so your hours may vary, but everything you need to pass this test is in this book. First the book from an editorial view: I have taken literally dozens of IT certification exams and have used at least one book for every one. Most technical books, IMO, are written in a very sloppy fashion - typos, grammar seemingly from a language other than English, non-functioning code, etc. Not Rita's book. Rita's Exam Prep is easily the highest quality certification book I have ever read. I found only two errors in over 500 pages of real content! Ok, so now you know the book is well constructed, highly edited, and you can trust the content to be relatively error-free. Let me now explain about the actual content and how it matches to the test content (it's relevancy, if you will). Rita obviously understands the PMP content and exam objectives exceedingly well. But just as importantly, she understands how to present the material in a way that allows to reader to concentrate and absorb the important points. I have taught before and there is a world of difference between someone who knows the material and one who can actually teach others the material. In my opinion, this book is as good as it gets for those on a self-study certification path. If you follow her study plan, there is no reason for you to fail this exam. Out of the 200 questions on the exam, I would estimate that you should be able to successfully answer 180-190 of the questions with just Rita's book. You only need ~61% to pass, so you should have a high degree of confidence that you will pass this exam on the first try if you read and understand what Rita is presenting to you. One final note: I read where some people thought this book was expensive. This is a high-end certification and has a high-end testing fee to go along with it. You don't want to spend ~\$500 on an exam and then skimp out on test preparation! Many people spend thousands on a class and won't walk away with as much knowledge as what is in this book. For what you are getting, this book is a bargain!

**QUICK SUMMARY:** In 2005, I used an older version of Rita's PMP Exam Prep book to prepare for and subsequently pass the PMP examination. Her book was the only exam prep book I used, and I was plenty prepared to successfully pass the exam because of it. Although stylistically there are things you may not like about Rita's delivery, it is unquestionably effective.

**Recommended!BACKGROUND:** I bought this latest PMP Exam Prep book because I facilitate PMP

exam prep seminars at my workplace once each year. I was using the 4th edition even when the 5th edition was released, but figured I ought to buy this 6th edition to ensure that my teaching materials were exactly aligned with the materials exam students were using. Although this 6th edition contains more material than the 4th edition, it's substantially the same, especially in the way it's written. **WHAT I LIKE:-** It successfully prepares someone to take -- and pass -- PMI's PMP exam...as long as you're diligent about reading this book cover-to-cover several times!- It provides lots of tips and tricks and explains lots of what Rita calls "PMI-isms" to equip you to take the exam.- It provides sample test questions at the end of every chapter, including some intentionally difficult (and seemingly arbitrary) questions, and explanations for what the correct answer is, and WHY.- It makes use of some visual cues so visual learners, too, benefit. I'll always remember her portrayal of Theory X and Y: "X" uses two eyes made of an "x" to show the fierce, autocratic-style manager, while "Y" uses a "y" mouth to show a happy, trusting-type manager. **WHAT I DISLIKE:-** The book is rather expensive, but that's understandable given the very limited audience appeal.- Rita's style of writing is very conversational, but she tends to write in a very condescending manner which some people will probably bristle at.- I suspect Rita used a lot of hyperbole by often saying, "Lots of people fail this exam because of..." I doubt the statistical data is available to summarize so blithely. **CONCLUSION:** I passed my exam by reading this book several times, highlighting key parts profusely so I could keep reviewing those prior to the exam, glancing through the PMBOK, and taking two, full-length practice exams on CD (which was overkill, but I wanted the extra confidence they provided). I over-studied to pass the exam, but then, I didn't just want to pass the exam -- I was trying to ace it (as much as possible). In my experience of teaching others and watching them take and pass the PMP exam, you probably need only read through this book a few times and key-in on key concepts you're weak on in order to be plenty prepared to pass the exam. In short, this book works. BTW, for what it's worth, Rita passed away in 2010 from a long battle with cancer. This book will be her lasting mark among project management professionals, for which I'm grateful. Highly recommended!

I bought Rita Mulcahy's PMI EXAM PREP (Sixth Edition) in April of this year (2010) primarily based on the excellent reviews that I read on this site. I took and PASSED the exam today. Here's what I will share in hopes you will be able to pass the exam as well. 1) If you follow Rita's instructions in the book you WILL pass the exam on your first attempt. 2) I read the book (cover to cover) (3) times, took all the exercises and end-of-chapter tests with each reading. 4) On my third reading I was able to achieve scores on the end-of-chapter tests in the 80% - 90% range. 5) Don't obsess about the

formulas too much. Rita says in her book there will be 8 or so questions that require calculations and she was right on the money.5) Ignore the negative reviews that have been posted on this site. It is true that Rita does some self-promotion in her book and that she reminds readers that they are probably not doing PM the "correct" way. I interpret this as coming from one who is confident in her PM expertise and is goal/success oriented. And last, but not least, I discovered that Rita passed away earlier this year. For some strange reason I felt a personal sense of loss and I never met or talked to her. May she rest in peace.

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