

Bibliography

Three classics

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Books at about the same level

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More advanced texts

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Papers

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History

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Algebra

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Comments

[1] is unbeatable for sheer enjoyment and has a chapter on elementary topology. Massey [9] is particularly good for surfaces, van Kampen's theorem, and covering spaces; his approach is different from ours, and his applications mainly directed towards proving results in group theory. Yet another way of classifying surfaces is provided by Gramain's elegant treatment in [8]. Algebraic topology at this level is nicely presented in [4] and [13], the first being particularly strong on applications and background history, and the second providing a contrasting approach with an account of singular homology.

Turning to more advanced material, for point-set topology [10], [16], and Kelley's classic [17] are very good indeed. In algebraic topology, the exact sequences of homology, cohomology, and duality are the next topics to look for. Of [14], [18], [22], Maunder is probably the easiest to break into. Finally, for topology with a more geometrical flavour we recommend [15], [20], [21], and especially [19].