

Fifth Edition

Managerial ACCOUNTING



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MANAGERIAL ACCOUNTING, FIFTH EDITION

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Dedication

To Mark, Riley, and Carley! Thanks for your love, patience, and inspiration.

STACEY WHITCOTTON

Laura Libby and Brian Plummer, Oscar and Selma Libby.

ROBERT LIBBY

I dedicate this book to the best teachers I've ever had: my Mom and Dad, Barb, Harrison, and Daniel.

FRED PHILLIPS

Meet the Authors



Courtesy of Stacey Whitecotton

Stacey Whitecotton

Stacey Whitecotton is an associate professor of accounting in the W. P. Carey School of Business at Arizona State University. She received her PhD and Masters of Accounting from The University of Oklahoma and her Bachelors in Business Administration from Texas Tech University. Stacey teaches managerial accounting and has received numerous awards for outstanding teaching at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Stacey's research interests center around the use of decision aids to improve the decision-making behavior of financial analysts, managers, and auditors. Her research has been published in *The Accounting Review*, *Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes*, *Behavioral Research in Accounting*, *Auditing: A Journal of Practice and Theory*, and *The Journal of Behavioral Decision Making*.

Stacey and her husband Mark enjoy traveling and the many outdoor activities Arizona has to offer with their two children, Riley and Carley.



Courtesy of Robert Libby

Robert Libby

Robert Libby is the David A. Thomas Professor of Accounting and Accounting Area Coordinator at Cornell University, where he teaches the introductory financial accounting course. He previously taught at the University of Illinois, Pennsylvania State University, the University of Texas at Austin, the University of Chicago, and the University of Michigan. He received his BS from Pennsylvania State University, where he was selected as the 2018 Outstanding Accounting Alumnus, and his MAS and PhD from the University of Illinois; he also completed the CPA exam (Illinois).

Bob was selected as the AAA Outstanding Educator in 2000 and received the AAA Outstanding Service Award in 2006 and the AAA Notable Contributions to the Literature Award in 1985 and 1996. He has received the Core Faculty Teaching Award multiple times at Cornell. Bob is a widely published author and researcher specializing in behavioral accounting. He has published numerous articles in *The Accounting Review*; *Journal of Accounting Research*;

Accounting, Organizations, and Society; and other accounting journals. He has held a variety of offices, including vice president, in the American Accounting Association, and he is a member of the American Institute of CPAs.

Fred Phillips

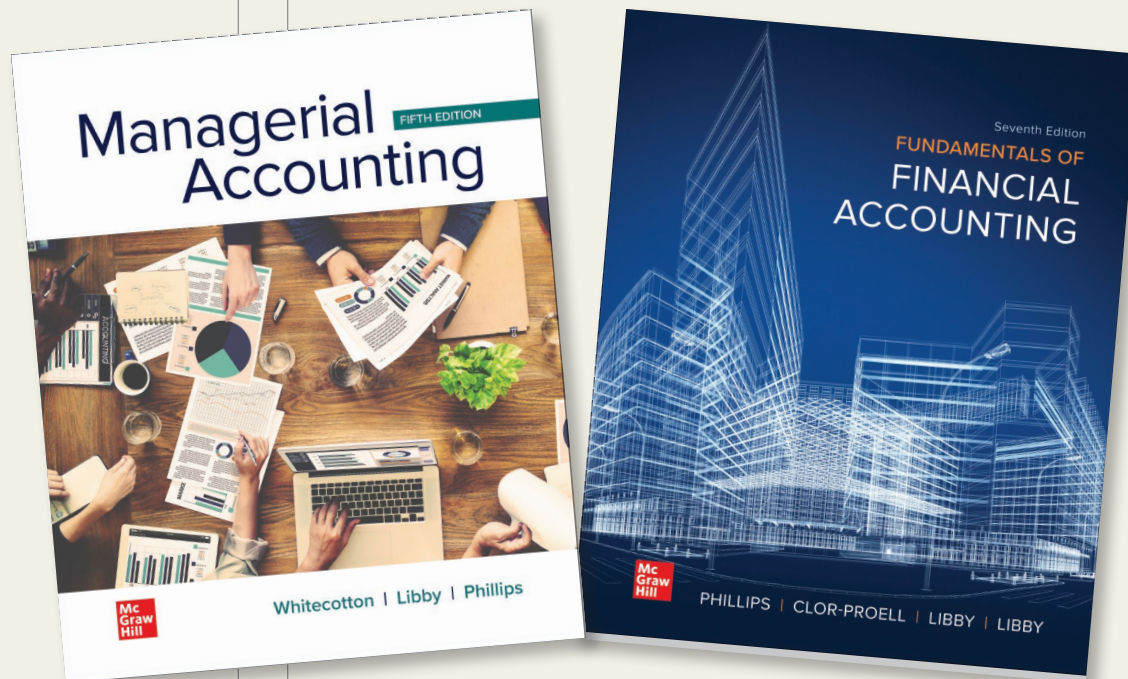
Fred Phillips is a professor at the University of Saskatchewan, where he has taught introductory financial accounting for more than 20 years. He also has taught introductory accounting at the University of Texas at Austin and the University of Manitoba. He previously worked as an audit manager at KPMG. Fred holds an undergraduate business degree in accounting and earned a PhD in accounting from the University of Texas at Austin. He is a nonpracticing CPA, CA (in Canada).

Fred's main career interest is accounting education. He has been recognized with more than 30 awards, as chosen by his students and peers. His peer-reviewed publications include education-focused research and instructional cases in *Issues in Accounting Education*, as well as professional judgment studies in the *Journal of Accounting Research* and *Organizational Behavior and Human Decision Processes*, among others. He is a current member of the Teaching, Curriculum, & Learning and Two-Year College sections of the American Accounting Association. In his spare time, Fred is a Tennis Canada official, calling lines at ATP, WTA, and ITF matches.



Courtesy Fred Phillips

Preparing Students for Success in Business



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From the award-winning, market-leading Libby/Phillips author team comes a modern, relevant, and engaging textbook for today's managerial accounting student. Whitecotton/Libby/Phillips *Managerial Accounting* brings lively and engaging coverage of managerial accounting topics and decision-making focus to the managerial accounting course. Pair *Managerial Accounting* with Phillips/Clor-Proell/Libby/Libby *Fundamentals of Financial Accounting*, 7e, to provide a truly comprehensive solution to your students.

*I would describe Whitecotton as the **best introductory managerial textbook that I have used** because of its writing style, its inclusion of only relevant material, its choice of focus companies that students easily relate to, and the common-sense manner in which the material is explained.*

—Laura Ilcisin, University of Nebraska at Omaha

Managerial Accounting

by Whitecotton/Libby/Phillips

This text prepares students for success in business by incorporating four key components that will motivate and guide them through managerial accounting and beyond:

1 Managerial accounting builds student interest

Managerial accounting instructors face significant challenges: how to engage students in the managerial accounting course, how to keep them motivated throughout the course, and how to teach them accounting in a way that connects conceptual understanding to the real world. **Managerial Accounting engages and motivates students by presenting accounting in the context of recognizable companies such as Starbucks, Toyota, Levi Strauss & Company, and Apple,** and then integrates those companies throughout the chapter discussions.

2 Managerial accounting fosters decision making and analytical skills

Most students taking managerial accounting will not become accounting majors and accountants; instead, they will use accounting information in their professional lives to make business decisions. **Managerial Accounting shows students how managers use accounting information to make business decisions in companies they know from their everyday lives.** This approach helps students develop the analytical and critical thinking skills they will need to succeed in their future careers.

3 Managerial accounting helps students become better problem solvers

Students' problem-solving skills are put to the test through robust end-of-chapter content. Additionally, Demonstration Cases and Skills Development Cases provide students with an opportunity to practice their comprehension and understanding of the material.

4 Managerial accounting uses technology to enhance student learning

Today's students have diverse learning styles and numerous commitments. They want technology supplements that will help them study more efficiently and effectively. **McGraw Hill Connect, which includes adaptive and interactive study features such as SmartBook, Concept Overview Videos, Integrated Excel problems, and Guided Example Hint Videos, as well as a repository of additional resources tied directly to Managerial Accounting,** will improve students' engagement in and out of class, help them maximize their study time, and make their learning experience more enjoyable.

*This is one of the **best textbooks for the introductory managerial accounting course.** The book covers all of the relevant topics for this course and is extremely well organized. Each chapter begins with solid learning objectives linked to the text and uses a focus company, which relates to the students, to illustrate the concepts of the chapter.*

—Ronald O. Reed, University of Northern Colorado

Engaging Features and Relevant Pedagogy

Chapter Openers—Focus Companies

Each chapter of *Managerial Accounting* opens with an engaging scenario or story using a familiar company. The same focus company is used throughout the entire chapter so that students can see how the concepts and calculations apply to a real-world company they are already familiar with.



John Sciuilli/Getty Images for GAP

Chapter 1 Focus Company: Bombas



Kyle Oster/Shutterstock

Chapters 8 & 9 Focus Company:
Clif Bar & Company

“One of the **greatest strengths** of Whitecotton is the **focus companies**. The utilization of these companies allows students to connect managerial accounting concepts to real-world enterprises.

—Tal Kroll, Ozarks
Technical Community College

”This is a freshly written managerial accounting textbook. It addresses a complete range of managerial accounting topics critical to today’s business environment. The language is as easy to understand as the discussion is in depth. **I would definitely recommend [this book] to my colleagues** as a good choice for the course.

—Ronald Zhao,
Monmouth University

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New! Integrated Analytics Case

A new integrated case featured at the end of the book asks students to integrate concepts across chapters and throughout the course with the objectives of increasing students’ appreciation for the role of managerial accounting in business and enhancing students’ analytical skills. The case includes chapter-level discussion questions and activities in Connect.

INTEGRATED ANALYTICS CASE: BENE PETIT

Case Overview

This case describes an entrepreneurial venture that has both a business and social mission. The case setting is a hypothetical meal delivery service that utilizes a “one-for-one” business model in which the owner pledges to donate one meal for every meal sold. The case storyline is modeled after **Bombas**, which was featured on *Shark Tank* and is one of the show’s biggest success stories.

The case covers the early stages of the business’s life cycle, including concept/beta-testing, start-up/introduction, and expansion/growth. It is divided into five parts that can be assigned separately or as one culminating project:

- Part 1: Understanding the Business
- Part 2: Product and Service Costing
- Part 3: Managerial Decision Making
- Part 4: Planning and Control
- Part 5: Performance Evaluation and Analysis

Bring Managerial Accounting Content to Life

How's It Going? Self-Study Practice

Research shows that students learn best when they actively engage in the learning process. Self-Study Practice quizzes ask students to pause at critical points throughout each chapter to ensure they understand the material presented before moving ahead.

Solution to Self-Study Practice

How's it going?

Self-Study Practice

1. Which of the following would be classified as a unit-level activity by an ice cream manufacturer such as **Ben & Jerry's**?

- Purchasing the ingredients to make a batch of cookie dough ice cream.
- Performing quality checks on each batch produced to make sure the flavor is right.
- Conducting research and development on a new flavor of ice cream.
- Maintaining the equipment used to produce various flavors of ice cream.
- Pouring the ice cream into containers before freezing it.

2. Which of the activities in question 1 (a through e) would be classified as a product-level activity by an ice cream manufacturer?

After you have finished, check your answers against the solutions in the margin.

Coach's Tips

Every student needs encouragement, and Coach's Tips are just one of the ways *Managerial Accounting* fulfills that need. Coach's Tips appear throughout the text offering tips, advice, and suggestions about how to learn the key concepts.

COACH'S TIP

The key thing to remember is that **different cost terms are used for different purposes**. Thus, a single cost can be classified in more than one way, depending on how the information will be used.

so, we need to think about what costs are under the manager's direct control. In this chapter, we introduce the terminology you will use to categorize or sort cost into different "buckets," including

- Direct or Indirect Costs
- Manufacturing or Nonmanufacturing Costs
- Product or Period Costs
- Variable or Fixed Costs
- Relevant or Irrelevant Costs

Each of these classifications will be based on different criteria depending on how the information will be used. In later chapters, you will learn how to use this cost information for different managerial purposes, including product costing, cost management, decision making, planning

Spotlight Features

Each chapter includes Spotlight features focusing on important concepts, such as decision making or ethics. These features are designed to further engage students and provide instructors with material for in-class discussion.

SPOTLIGHT ON

Sustainability

While sustainability is most often associated with environmental initiatives, the triple bottom line should measure performance along three dimensions: economic (profit), environmental (planet), and social (people). The third pillar (people) is often overlooked, but a truly sustainable business strategy should make social issues a priority as well.

Toyota's sustainability strategy also includes measures of social impact, including the well-being of its employees and the surrounding communities in which the company operates. Toyota's people-focused sustainability initiatives include the following goals:

- Ensuring employee safety and well-being, including workplace safety and physical and mental health programs.
- Development of human resources through education, on-the-job-training, and programs to develop and promote local personnel.
- Fostering an environment of diversity and inclusion by increasing opportunities for women in the workforce and programs to help employees achieve an appropriate work/life balance.
- Creating a positive work environment, including programs to increase employee loyalty and a culture of teamwork through communication and friendly competition.

Toyota keeps track of various metrics to gauge performance toward all of these goals, just as it tracks measures of economic performance and environmental impact. These measures are reported in Toyota's annual corporate social responsibility (CSR) report and on the company website. Refer to Skills Development Case 4–5 for more details on how Toyota measures performance in all areas of sustainability (economic, environmental, and social).

www.toyota-global.com/sustainability/society/employees/#approach03

- Spotlight on Decision Making**—Good decision making is essential in business, whether you are preparing, using, or analyzing accounting information. Spotlight on Decision Making features use real-world examples to illustrate the relevance of accounting to decision making.
- Spotlight on Ethics**—Making ethical business decisions is more crucial than ever. Spotlight on Ethics features convey the importance of acting responsibly in business.
- Spotlight on Service**—The majority of today's students will graduate prepared to take a job in the country's ever-growing service sector. Spotlight on Service features describe how key managerial accounting topics are applied in service settings.
- Spotlight on Sustainability**—Sustainability is a growing area of concern for businesses. Spotlight on Sustainability features describe how and why managers in modern organizations make decisions based on more than economic results, including measures of environmental performance and societal impact.
- Spotlight on Big Data Analytics**—A topic that is becoming increasingly important to managers and accountants is the use of big data and analytics to help managers make more informed business decisions. At opportune places throughout this text, we will highlight how managers in our focus company or other real-world organizations use big data and analytics to make managerial decisions.

Review and Practice Material Build a

Each chapter of *Managerial Accounting* is followed by an extensive variety of end-of-chapter material that examines and integrates concepts presented in the chapter.

“

The text is very well written and makes many of the difficult concepts accessible to students. . . . The end-of-chapter material is also written at several levels and allows the instructor to mix and match learning objectives and difficulty levels to create challenging but informative assignments.

—Kristian Mortenson, Oregon State University

Demonstration Case

End-of-chapter review material begins with a demonstration case that provides another self-study opportunity for students. The demonstration case is practice material that mimics what students will see in the homework. The accompanying solution allows students to check their understanding of the material before completing and submitting homework for a grade. It can also serve as a study tool for exams.

REVIEW THE CHAPTER

DEMONSTRATION CASE

Barnaby's Bicycle Company manufactures high-quality mountain bikes. The company's managerial accountant has come to you for help. She needs to classify and identify each of the following costs before she can calculate the cost to produce each mountain bike.

Classify each of the costs listed in the chart below into three categories based on the following questions:

1. Can this cost be directly and conveniently traced to each bicycle that is manufactured, or is doing so either not possible or not worth the effort?
2. Is this cost related to manufacturing the bicycles? If so, what type of cost is it? Or is it a non-manufacturing or period expense?
3. Will the total cost vary with the number of bicycles manufactured and sold, or will it remain the same regardless of how many bikes are produced and sold?

The first item in the chart is completed as an example.

Chapter Summary by Learning Objectives

Each chapter concludes with an end-of-chapter summary that revisits the learning objectives from the beginning of the chapter.

CHAPTER SUMMARY

- LO 4-1 Assign indirect costs to products or services using a single volume-based cost driver. p. 159**
- A traditional cost system assigns indirect (overhead) costs to products or services using a volume-based measure, such as the number of direct labor hours, machine hours, or units produced. This system, while simple, assumes that all indirect costs are driven by volume and ignores other factors, such as the complexity of the production process and other non-volume drivers of cost.
 - Unlike traditional cost systems that rely strictly on volume-based allocation measures, activity-based costing (ABC) systems include measures that capture something other than the sheer volume of units produced or customers served.
- LO 4-2 Classify activities as unit-, batch-, product-, or facility-level activities. p. 163**
- Activity-based costing systems capture the following types of activities:
 - Unit-level activities are performed for each individual unit.
 - Batch-level activities are performed for a group of units all at once.
 - Product-level activities are performed to support a general product or service line rather than specific units or batches.

Key Terms

Each chapter includes a list of the key terms introduced in the chapter and page references for those terms. Full definitions for all key terms are found in the back of the text.

KEY TERMS

Actual Manufacturing Overhead p. 59	Indirect Materials p. 56	Predetermined Overhead Rate p. 53
Allocation Base p. 53	Job Cost Sheet p. 51	Process Costing p. 49
Applied Manufacturing Overhead p. 56	Job Order Costing p. 48	Raw Materials Inventory p. 56
Cost Driver p. 53	Labor Time Ticket p. 53	Source Document p. 52
Cost of Goods Completed p. 60	Materials Requisition Form p. 52	Underapplied Overhead p. 61
Cost of Goods Manufactured p. 60	Operations Costing p. 50	Work in Process Inventory p. 56
Finished Goods Inventory p. 56	Overapplied Overhead p. 61	

Strong Foundation for Future Success

New! Homework Helper

This new feature identifies interchangeable or common terminology, highlights key concepts and formulas, and points out common errors to avoid.

HOMEWORK HELPER

Common Terminology

Financial accounting ~ External reporting
 Managerial accounting ~ Internal reporting
 Manufacturing costs ~ Inventoriable costs ~ Product costs
 Nonmanufacturing costs ~ Period costs ~ Period expenses

PRACTICE MATERIAL

QUESTIONS

- Briefly describe the differences between job order and process costing. Give an example of a type of company that would use each one.
- Briefly explain the underlying logic of a process costing system and its assignment of costs to products.
- Explain the differences between Raw Materials Inventory, Work in Process Inventory, and Finished Goods Inventory accounts.
- Explain the flow of costs in a process costing system, including the type of accounts used and the respective financial statement on which the cost appears.
- What are the five steps in preparing a weighted-average production report?
- Why is a production report important to a company?
- What is the difference between conversion cost and manufacturing overhead?
- What two methods can be used to prepare a process costing production report? What is the key difference between them?
- How is the number of physical units reconciled to prepare a production report?
- Why must a company calculate equivalent units when using process costing?
- How can a unit be 100 percent complete with respect to materials but only partially complete in terms of conversion effort?
- How do the weighted-average and the FIFO methods treat beginning inventory?
- Is the weighted-average method or FIFO method usually more accurate? Why?
- What are the steps in preparing a FIFO production report? Are they different from the steps to prepare a weighted-average production report?
- When are the weighted-average and FIFO methods likely to arrive at different estimates of product cost?
- What does a credit to the Work in Process Inventory account represent?
- What triggers the cost of manufacturing to be transferred from the balance sheet to the income statement?

MULTIPLE CHOICE

- Which of the following is most likely to use a process costing system?
 - A company that builds and installs custom cabinetry.
 - A company that makes one style of office chair.
 - A janitorial service.
 - A paving company.
- Masterson Company has calculated a cost per unit of \$4.00 for materials and \$8.50 for conversion to manufacture a specific product. Ending work in process has 1,000 units that are fully complete for materials and 70 percent complete for conversion. How much will Masterson have in its ending Work in Process Inventory?

Questions

Each chapter includes 10–20 questions that ask students to explain and discuss terms and concepts from the chapter. These open-ended questions provide a great jumping-off point for class discussion.

Multiple-Choice Questions

Each chapter includes 10 multiple-choice questions that let students practice basic concepts. Solutions for all questions are provided in the back of the text.

Mini-Exercises

Mini-exercises in each chapter illustrate and ask students to apply learning objectives from the chapter to a simple scenario.



Find More Learning Solutions on Connect.

MINI-EXERCISES

M2-1 Identifying Companies That Use Job Order versus Process Costing

LO 2-1

Indicate whether each of the following companies is likely to use job order (J) or process (P) costing.

- Golf ball manufacturer.
- Landscaping business.
- Tile manufacturer.
- Auto repair shop.
- Pet food manufacturer.
- Light bulb manufacturer.
- Water bottling company.
- Appliance repair business.
- DVD manufacturer.
- Music video production company.

EXERCISES

E2-1 Posting Direct Materials, Direct Labor, and Applied Overhead to T-Accounts, Calculating Ending Balances

LO 2-2, 2-3, 2-4

Oak Creek Furniture Factory (OCFF), a custom furniture manufacturer, uses job order costing to track the cost of each customer order. On March 1, OCFF had two jobs in process with the following costs:

Work in Process	Balance on 3/1
Job 33	\$ 7,500
Job 34	6,000
	<u>\$13,500</u>

Exercises

Exercises illustrate and ask students to apply single and multiple learning objectives from the chapter. Animated, narrated Guided Examples that walk through a similar exercise in a step-by-step fashion are available for select exercises when enabled by instructors in Connect.

What's New in the Fifth Edition?

In response to feedback and guidance from numerous managerial accounting faculty, the authors have made many important changes to the fifth edition of *Managerial Accounting*, including the following:

- New Integrated Analytics Case designed to run throughout an entire course allows students to apply the concepts and skills they are learning across chapters through the lens of one hypothetical meal-delivery service.
- Integrated new focus companies, including Bombas (which serves as the springboard for the Integrated Analytics Case) and Clif Bar & Company.
- New Homework Helper feature guides students through each chapter's major takeaways by identifying interchangeable or common terminology, highlighting key concepts and formulas, and pointing out common errors to avoid.
- Modified Starbucks focus company examples to incorporate issues that managers have faced related to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Modified Toyota focus company examples to incorporate three types of vehicles: conventional, hybrid, and electric.
- New to Connect in the fifth edition, Integrated Excel allows students to complete assignments in live, auto-graded Excel spreadsheets. Tableau Dashboard Activities introduce students to data visualizations using Tableau. Students learn to gather the information they need from a live embedded Tableau dashboard and answer related, auto-graded questions.

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION TO MANAGERIAL ACCOUNTING

New Focus Company: **Bombas**

- Added a feature story describing how the founders of Bombas launched their socially responsible business on *Shark Tank* to highlight the importance of accounting in entrepreneurial ventures.
- Updated all examples to reflect the new focus company.
- Restructured several elements to improve flow and exposition.
- Updated statistics on the importance of service and merchandising in managerial accounting.
- Restructured the section on ethics and the accounting profession to a stand-alone supplement.
- Added a Homework Helper feature to highlight key concepts, common errors, and interchangeable terms.
- Edited chapter to improve exposition and to clarify problem areas based on reviewer and student feedback.
- Introduced the continuous analytics case that is modeled after the Bombas story.
- **New** discussion questions and assignments for the continuous analytics case.
- Reviewed and updated end-of-chapter material and solutions.

CHAPTER 2: JOB ORDER COSTING

Focus Company: **HGTV**

- Restructured several elements to improve flow and exposition.
- Expanded the discussion of operations costing.
- Simplified the exhibits showing the flow of manufacturing costs in job order costing to enhance student learning.

CHAPTER 3: PROCESS COSTING

- Added a Homework Helper feature to highlight key concepts, common errors, and interchangeable terms.
- Edited chapter to improve exposition and to clarify problem areas based on reviewer and student feedback.
- **New** discussion questions and assignments for the continuous analytics case.
- Reviewed and updated end-of-chapter material and solutions.

CHAPTER 4: ACTIVITY-BASED COSTING AND COST MANAGEMENT

Focus Company: **Fetzer Vineyards**

- Restructured several elements to improve flow and exposition.
- Moved learning objectives for FIFO from the supplement to the body of the chapter.
- Added supplement describing how manufacturing costs are recorded in subsequent production departments.
- Added a Homework Helper feature to highlight key concepts, common errors, and interchangeable terms.
- Edited chapter to improve exposition and to clarify problem areas based on reviewer and student feedback.
- **New** discussion questions and assignments for the continuous analytics case.
- Reviewed and updated end-of-chapter material and solutions.

CHAPTER 5: COST VOLUME VARIATIONS

Focus Company: **Toyota Motor Corporation**

- Updated the Toyota example that runs throughout the chapter to include three vehicle types: conventional, hybrid, and electric.

- Added a Homework Helper feature to highlight key concepts, common errors, and interchangeable terms.
- Edited chapter to improve exposition and to clarify problem areas based on reviewer and student feedback.
- **New** discussion questions and assignments for the continuous analytics case.
- Reviewed and updated end-of-chapter material and solutions.

CHAPTER 5: COST BEHAVIOR

Focus Company: **Starbucks Coffee**

- **New** feature story describing the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on Starbucks and other service industries.
- Updated all exhibits to reflect the latest version of Excel.
- Added section on using multiple regression to incorporate additional cost drivers.
- Added conceptual discussion of adjusted r-squared for determining goodness of fit.
- Added two new problems that require students to use multiple regression.
- Added a Homework Helper feature to highlight key concepts, common errors, and interchangeable terms.
- Edited chapter to improve exposition and to clarify problem areas based on reviewer and student feedback.
- **New** discussion questions and assignments for the continuous analytics case.
- Reviewed and updated end-of-chapter material and solutions.

CHAPTER 6: COST-VOLUME-PROFIT ANALYSIS

Focus Company: **Starbucks Coffee**

- **New** feature story describing the effect of the pandemic on Starbucks and other service industries.
- Updated several of the CVP examples to incorporate the effect of the pandemic on managerial decision making.
- Added a Homework Helper feature to highlight key concepts, common errors, and interchangeable terms.
- Edited chapter to improve exposition and to clarify problem areas based on reviewer and student feedback.
- **New** discussion questions and assignments for the continuous analytics case.
- Reviewed and updated end-of-chapter material and solutions.

CHAPTER 7: INCREMENTAL ANALYSIS FOR SHORT-TERM DECISION MAKING

Focus Company: **IKEA**

- Updated Spotlight on Decision Making illustrating how incremental analysis relates to the current debate about whether the U.S. Postal Service is making or losing money by delivering products for Amazon and other high-volume sellers.
- Added a Homework Helper feature to highlight key concepts, common errors, and interchangeable terms.
- Edited chapter to improve exposition and to clarify problem areas based on reviewer and student feedback.
- **New** discussion questions and assignments for the continuous analytics case.
- Reviewed and updated end-of-chapter material and solutions.

CHAPTER 8: BUDGETARY PLANNING

New Focus Company: **Clif Bar & Company**

- Updated all chapter examples and exhibits illustrating how to prepare the master budget for Clif Bar & Company.
- Added a Homework Helper feature to highlight key concepts, common errors, and interchangeable terms.
- Edited chapter to improve exposition and to clarify problem areas based on reviewer and student feedback.
- **New** discussion questions and assignments for the continuous analytics case.
- Reviewed and updated end-of-chapter material and solutions.

CHAPTER 9: STANDARD COSTING AND VARIANCE ANALYSIS

New Focus Company: **Clif Bar & Company**

- Updated all chapter examples to compute variances for Clif Bar & Company.
- Updated all exhibits to better illustrate the variance framework and how all the variances tie together.
- Added a Homework Helper feature to highlight key concepts, common errors and interchangeable terms.
- Edited chapter to improve exposition and to clarify problem areas based on reviewer and student feedback.
- **New** discussion questions and assignments for the continuous analytics case.
- Reviewed and updated end-of-chapter material and solutions.

CHAPTER 10: DECENTRALIZED PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Focus Company: **Apple Inc.**

- Updated Apple data, including operating information, business strategy, and financial results.
- Added a section applying DuPont analysis to Apple and a key competitor (Microsoft).
- Updated the discussion of the balanced scorecard to reflect language used to describe the four perspectives.
- Added a Homework Helper feature to highlight key concepts, common errors, and interchangeable terms.
- Edited chapter to improve exposition and to clarify problem areas based on reviewer and student feedback.
- **New** discussion questions and assignments for the continuous analytics case.
- Reviewed and updated end-of-chapter material and solutions.

CHAPTER 11: CAPITAL BUDGETING

Focus Company: **Apple Inc.**

- Added a Homework Helper feature to highlight key concepts, common errors, and interchangeable terms.
- Edited chapter to improve exposition and to clarify problem areas based on reviewer and student feedback.
- **New** discussion questions and assignments for the continuous analytics case.
- Reviewed and updated end-of-chapter material and solutions.

CHAPTER 12: STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

New Focus Company: **Dave & Buster's, Inc.**

- Updated illustration of cash flow patterns in Exhibit 12.8.
- **New** Spotlight on Financial Reporting relating to Dave & Buster's free cash flow.
- **New** discussion questions and assignments for the continuous analytics case.
- Reviewed and updated all end-of-chapter material, including financial data for Colgate-Palmolive, Walt Disney Company, Zumiez, Cedar Fair, and others.

CHAPTER 13: MEASURING AND EVALUATING FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

New Focus Company: **Lowe's**

- Updated focus company analyses.
- **New** discussion of COVID-19 impact on going-concern status in Spotlight on Financial Reporting.
- **New** discussion questions and assignments for the continuous analytics case.
- Reviewed and updated all end-of-chapter material, including financial data for Chevron, Cintas, Procter & Gamble, Dollar General, Kohl's, and others.



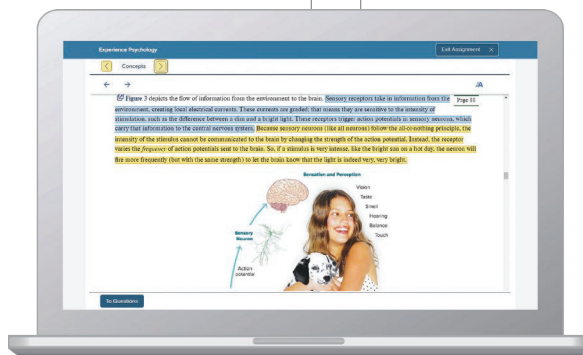
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Oasis Company adds all materials at the beginning of its manufacturing process. Production information for selected months of the year follows.

Required:

1. Reconcile the number of physical units worked on during the period.

Month	Beginning			Ending		
	Work in Process			Work in Process		
	Units	Conversion Complete (percent)	Units Started	Units Transferred Out	Units	Conversion Complete (percent)
February	3,000	50		38,000	13,000	30
June	8,400	75	46,600		8,000	45
September	1,800	20	52,800	50,000	4,600	60
December	5,800	30	44,000	42,800		70

The screenshot shows an Excel spreadsheet with the following data and questions:

Input	Value
Bond Value	\$825,000
Number of Years	10
Stated Interest Rate	7%
Number of Payments per Year	2

Required:

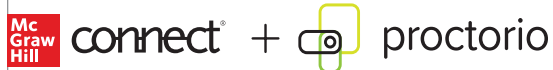
- Calculate or provide the information requested using a formula or cell reference unless you are instructed to use a specific function.
- Assume the Market Interest Rate is: 8%
 - How many total payments or periods will this bond pay interest?
 - Calculate the amount of interest that will be paid on March 31st.
 - Calculate the selling price of this bond using the PV Function.
 - Use the IF function to show the balance in the Premium or Discount account at the time the bond is issued based on the selling price you calculated in letter c.
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1

CHAPTER ONE

Introduction to Managerial Accounting

At the beginning of each chapter, you'll see a list of learning objectives that identify the key topics you need to master. You can also use the list as an outline for taking notes as you read through the chapter.

YOUR LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- LO 1-1** Describe the key differences between financial accounting and managerial accounting.
- LO 1-2** Describe how managerial accounting is used in different types of organizations to support the key functions of management.
- LO 1-3** Describe the importance of sustainability and decision analytics in managerial accounting.
- LO 1-4** Define and give examples of different types of costs:
 - Out-of-pocket or opportunity costs
 - Direct or indirect costs
 - Manufacturing or nonmanufacturing costs
 - Product or period costs
 - Variable or fixed costs
 - Relevant or irrelevant costs
- LO 1-S1** Describe the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the importance of ethics in the accounting profession.



John Scull//Getty Images for GAP

FOCUS COMPANY: BOMBAS

As you start what is probably your second accounting course, you may be wondering why you need to take yet another accounting class. Wasn't one course enough? Which of the following best describes your motivation for learning about managerial accounting?

Reasons to Take a Managerial Accounting Course

10. I dream of debits and credits in my sleep.
9. I always wanted to be an accountant when I grow up.
8. It will fulfill my foreign language requirement. (It's Greek to me.)
7. My advisor said I had to take it.
6. Accountants get good-paying jobs, even in the worst economy.
5. The accountant is always the hero in action movies.
4. I want to get rich and stay that way.
3. I want to start my own business and need to create a business plan.
2. Accounting is the language of business.
1. What?? I'm enrolled in an accounting course?

Whatever your reason for taking this course, it will come in handy at some point in your future. This is true regardless of your intended career path, whether it is to start your own business, work for a large corporation, go into politics, work in health care, become a fashion designer, teach high school, work on a farm, or start a charitable foundation. Accounting is the language of business, and understanding it will help you make better business and personal decisions.

Throughout this book, you will see how managerial accounting is applied in several real-world companies. Most of these companies sell a product or service you encounter in your everyday life, like the cup of coffee you grabbed on your way to class (**Starbucks**), the phone in your pocket (**Apple**), the car you've been dreaming of purchasing (**Toyota**), or something as forgettable as the socks you put on this morning.

David Heath and Randy Goldberg, co-founders of **Bombas**, never thought much about socks either, until they learned that socks are the most frequently requested clothing item in homeless shelters. David and Randy had been dreaming of starting their own business and were looking for just the right opportunity. Who could have imagined they could take a product as ancient as socks and turn it into one of the most successful entrepreneurial stories of the decade?

Bombas's success is due to three factors. First, building on the "one-for-one" business model pioneered by **Tom's** shoes and **Warby Parker** eyeglasses, Bombas promised to donate one pair of socks for every pair purchased. This altruistic approach to business appealed to socially conscious consumers, allowing Bombas to donate more than 40 million pairs of socks as of December 2020. Second, David and Randy took two years to design a sock so comfortable that consumers would be willing to pay a premium price for what is normally considered a commodity product. In addition to using the highest quality materials, they found a way to eliminate the irritating toe-seam and added unique features like a honeycomb arch support. And finally, after pitching their product idea on *Shark Tank*, Randy and David struck a deal with fashion entrepreneur Daymond John, which allowed them to expand their marketing efforts and capitalize on the publicity they received from the popular show.

Bombas is a classic story of entrepreneurship, innovation, and marketing. However, its founders had to know a lot about accounting to make their business a success. In fact, some of the most challenging questions Randy and David faced on *Shark Tank* were about accounting, including the following:



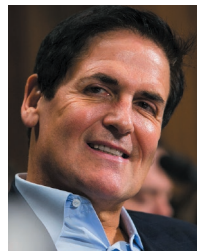
Jim Spellman/WireImage/Getty Images

Kevin O'Leary (aka Mr. Wonderful) didn't believe their business was worth the \$4,000,000 valuation reflected in their initial business pitch. David and Randy initially asked for \$200,000 in exchange for a 5 percent share of the business ($\$200,000/5\% = \$4,000,000$).



Frederick M. Brown/Getty Images

Robert Herjavec wanted a lot more detail about their sales revenue and how they planned to achieve their growth targets.



Alamy Stock Photo

Mark Cuban said, "I'm out," because a product that sells for \$9.00 doesn't provide enough "margin dollars" to make it worth his investment of time and money.



Frederick M. Brown/Getty Images

When Lori Greiner asked about their product's margin, David and Randy claimed that the "average margin is 54%... shipped to the customer... including the give-away."



Jim Spellman/WireImage/Getty Images

In the end, David and Randy made a deal with Daymond John, who agreed to invest \$200,000 in exchange for a 17.5 percent equity stake in the business, plus guaranteed financing of the inventory. This translates into a valuation of \$1,142,857 ($\$200,000/17.5\%$), far below the \$4,000,000 they had initially hoped for.

Accounting terms like margin, valuation, inventory, equity, and sales revenue should sound familiar from your previous accounting course. Financial reports such as the income statement, balance sheet, and statement of stockholders' equity provide valuable information to outside parties, including potential investors or venture capitalists.

This course will focus on the more detailed information that business owners and managers need to run the business. For example, how did David and Randy decide that \$9.00 was the right starting price for their product? Was it based on competitor prices, customer value, or how much it costs to make the product? What suppliers did they use to source the high-quality cotton, wool, and other materials? Who manufactures the socks, and how much does it cost? How do they drive down costs to increase margins and cover the cost of the give-away? What other additional marketing, distribution, and technology costs will be incurred? How do they create a business plan to attract investors and lenders so they can expand and grow the business?

Throughout this book, you will learn how managerial accounting can help managers answer these and many other questions. We will begin to lay the foundation in the current chapter by introducing some key concepts and terminology that are important in managerial accounting. You will also have an opportunity to apply what you are learning to a hypothetical meal-delivery business that uses a "one-for-one" business model like Bombas, Tom's, and Warby Parker. We will return to this business case throughout future chapters to apply the concepts and techniques you are learning, so you can see how managers use accounting information to make business decisions.

ORGANIZATION OF THE CHAPTER

Role of managerial accounting in organizations

- Comparison of financial and managerial accounting
- Types of organizations
- Functions of management
- Sustainability and corporate social responsibility
- Decision analytics

Role of cost in managerial accounting

- Direct versus indirect costs
- Manufacturing versus nonmanufacturing costs
- Product versus period costs
- Variable versus fixed costs
- Relevant versus irrelevant costs

At the start of each chapter, you'll find an organizational graphic that provides a visual framework to show how the chapter concepts fit together.

Role of Managerial Accounting in Organizations

Learning Objective 1–1

Describe the key differences between financial accounting and managerial accounting.



COACH'S TIP

Financial accounting is sometimes referred to as **external** reporting while managerial accounting is referred to as **internal** reporting. The difference is whether the intended users are inside or outside the company.

Throughout this text, we will provide you with tips to highlight explanations of selected topics. Please read them carefully.


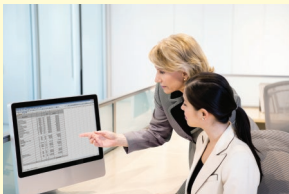
COMPARISON OF FINANCIAL AND MANAGERIAL ACCOUNTING

The primary goal of any accounting system is to capture, summarize, and report useful information to users so that they can make informed decisions. The key difference between financial accounting and managerial accounting is the intended user of the information. **Financial accounting** information is aimed at **external users**, or those outside the organization, such as investors, creditors, and regulators. **Managerial accounting** information is aimed at **internal users**, or those working inside the organization, such as business owners, managers, and employees.

Because the intended users of the information are different, there are several other differences between financial and managerial accounting. Accountants prepare external financial statements according to generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), which provide external users certain advantages in terms of their comparability and objectivity. However, internal managers often need more detailed information than those financial reports can capture. Managers need information that is timely and relevant to the specific decision at hand. Rather than knowing what happened last year or last quarter, managers need to know what is happening today and be able to predict what will happen tomorrow. See Exhibit 1–1 for a summary of the key differences between financial accounting and managerial accounting.

EXHIBIT 1–1

Differences between Financial and Managerial Accounting

	Financial Accounting	Managerial Accounting
		
User perspective	Used by external parties, such as investors, creditors, and regulators	Used by internal parties, such as managers and employees
Types of reports	Classified financial statements prepared according to GAAP	Various internal reports, such as budgets, performance evaluations, and cost reports
Nature of information	Objective, reliable, historical	Subjective, relevant, future oriented
Frequency of reporting	Prepared periodically (monthly, quarterly, annually)	Prepared as needed, perhaps day-to-day or even in real time
Level of detail	Information reported for the company as a whole	Information reported at the decision-making level (by product, region, customer, or other business segment)

Left: Andersen Ross/Getty Images; Right: Robert Nicholas/Getty Images

To illustrate these differences, let's think about **Bombas's** financial and managerial accounting systems. Bombas is a privately held company, owned by its founders and a few key investors. Because it is not publicly traded, Bombas is not required to file its financial reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). However, the company is likely to provide its financial statements privately to its owners, as well as any other investors or significant creditors who request them. Although private companies are not *required* to have their financial statements audited to ensure that they comply with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), many private companies do so because an audit enhances the credibility of the financial statements. If Bombas's owners were to take the company public through an initial public offering (IPO), they would be required to meet the reporting requirements of the SEC, including filing quarterly financial statements, having the annual financial statements audited by a certified public accounting (CPA) firm, and complying with other regulatory requirements such as Sarbanes-Oxley Act (SOX).

Unlike financial accounting, managerial accounting information is not mandated by the SEC or other regulatory agencies. Instead, the managerial accounting system must provide managers with the detailed information they need to make both operational and strategic decisions. This internally oriented information is not publicly available and is considered proprietary in nature. To gain insight into how managerial accounting information is used at Bombas, consider the following story that David Heath, co-founder and CEO, shared with *Forbes*.

At the end of 2018, Bombas was overwhelmed with holiday orders because managers had underestimated revenue growth by about 50 percent. The warehouse was running about a week behind, and customers started complaining. According to David Heath, customers began posting online saying, "*Bombas is stealing our money. They're out of business. They're not responding to us. They haven't shipped my order.*" "It was a nightmare," says Heath. Bombas responded by sending a blanket email telling customers they were going to refund the order and giving them a gift card for the same amount, hoping they would come back. This planning error cost Bombas about \$3.5 million in lost revenue. But the good news was that the customers who received the refund turned out to be good *future* customers. David Heath said that "customers who received that refund had almost two times higher lifetime value than [customers] who had a normal experience in Q4 that year."¹

This story illustrates several important functions of managerial accounting. The first function is to help managers plan or budget for the future. If the accounting system had provided more accurate forecasting information, managers would have been able to anticipate demand for the product and adjust their production and shipping schedules accordingly. Managers might also decide to hold a higher stock of inventory during the holiday season to provide a buffer against unexpected shocks in demand.

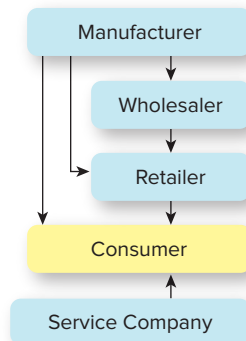
Second, the managerial accounting system should provide managers with timely and relevant information needed to make decisions. For an online retailer such as Bombas, the information system will collect a vast amount of data about customers who visit the website, including how they got there, how they interact with the site, whether they have visited before, what they search for, as well as customer satisfaction and product rating information. This information is key to helping managers market the product to consumers.

Finally, a management accounting system must provide a way to measure the costs and profitability of specific products and customers. By tracking the "lifetime value" of customers, managers can find ways to enhance customer loyalty to improve profitability. For example, managers might decide to send gift cards to previous customers around the holidays to enhance their loyalty. The managerial accounting system is key to measuring customer and product profitability, as you will see in future chapters.

¹ Simon Mainwaring, "Purpose at Work: How Bombas Gains Competitive Advantage with Purpose and Product," *Forbes*, September 30, 2020, www.forbes.com/sites/simonmainwaring/2020/09/30/purpose-at-work-how-bombas-gains-competitive-advantage-with-purpose-and-product/?sh=12658ced3a8e.

Learning Objective 1–2

Describe how managerial accounting is used in different types of organizations to support the key functions of management.

Selling Goods and Services to Customers**COACH'S TIP**

When you graduate, you are about four times more likely to go to work in a service or merchandising setting than a manufacturing company. Even so, you need to have a basic understanding of how managerial accounting works in manufacturing firms because you will most likely still work with manufacturing firms, perhaps as a buyer or other business partner. To make the manufacturing process more tangible, we will use examples of products that you encounter every day, so that you can more easily visualize how the products are made.

TYPES OF ORGANIZATIONS

Managerial accounting information is used by managers in all types of organizations: large and small, public and private, profit and nonprofit. Traditionally, businesses are classified into one of three categories:

- **Manufacturing firms** purchase raw materials from suppliers and convert them into finished products, such as **Apple** iPads, **Harley-Davidson** motorcycles, **Levi Strauss** jeans, and **Ford** cars and trucks.
- **Merchandising companies** sell the goods that manufacturers produce. Merchandisers that sell exclusively to other businesses are called **wholesalers**. Merchandisers that sell to the general public are called **retailers**. For example, **Sam's Club** started out as a wholesaler and then expanded into the retail market. Other well-known retailers include **Urban Outfitters**, **Amazon**, **Best Buy**, and **Kroger Foods**.
- **Service companies** provide a service to customers or clients. A few well-known service providers are **Hilton Hotels**, **Southwest Airlines**, **Netflix**, and **Federal Express**. Many small businesses provide services to consumers and other businesses, including hair salons, law firms, architects, and home repair specialists.

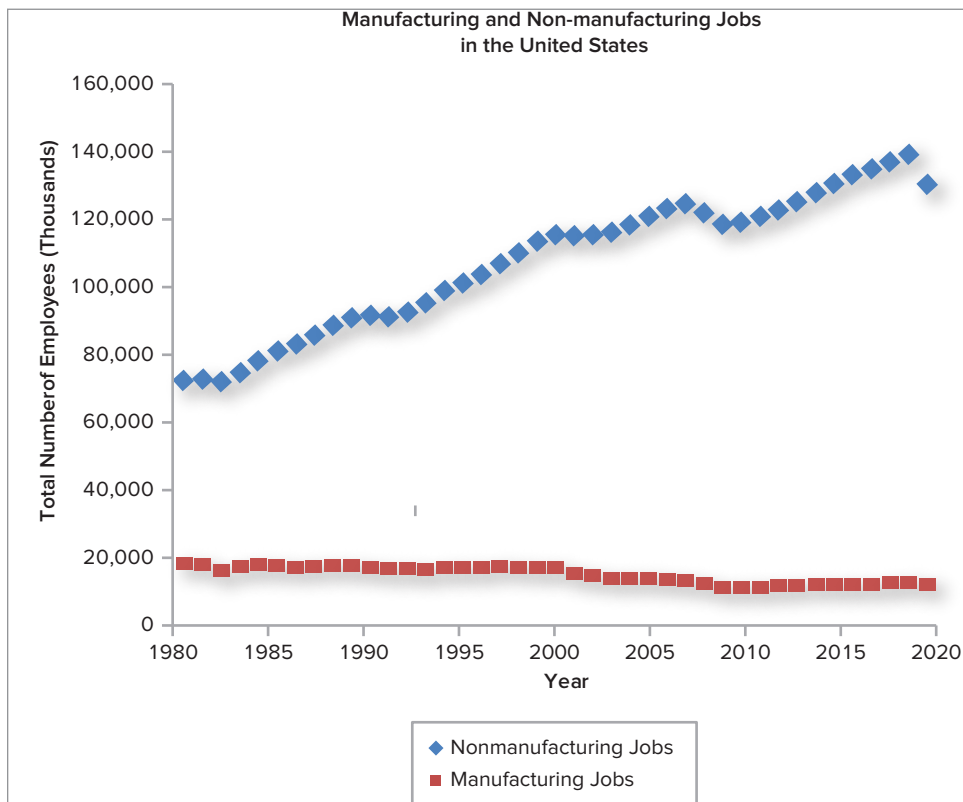
Increasingly, the lines between manufacturing, merchandising, and service companies are becoming less clear. For example, **Bombas** is an online merchandiser that sells directly to consumers. Eliminating wholesalers from the channel reduces costs and makes it easier for Bombas to cover the cost of the donated socks. The company partners with manufacturers around the globe, with factories in the U.S., Taiwan, China, and Peru. Later in the chapter, we will turn our attention to these manufacturing facilities to consider what manufacturing costs are incurred in the production of socks. Although Bombas is not a service company, services are becoming increasingly important in all businesses, even those that produce physical products. For example, Bombas prides itself on exceptional customer service, which is a critical part of its value proposition.

As we will see in later chapters, the focus of managerial accounting is somewhat different in manufacturing firms than in merchandising and service firms. In the past, managerial accountants focused much of their efforts on preparing reports to keep track of the costs of raw materials, labor, and other costs incurred to produce a physical product. Today, nonmanufacturing firms make up an increasingly large proportion of the marketplace. In 2017, the U.S. government estimated that 80.2 percent of the nation's gross domestic product (GDP) stemmed from service and merchandising activities.² The following chart shows the trend in manufacturing and nonmanufacturing jobs over the past 40 years. As you can see, the number of U.S. employees working in nonmanufacturing jobs has increased steadily, while the number of employees working in manufacturing jobs has remained relatively constant. Today, about 90 percent of the people employed in the United States work in nonmanufacturing fields such as health care, education, and retail, and the trend toward service industries is expected to continue.

Although nonmanufacturing firms make up an increasingly large percentage of our economy and workforce, many of our examples will be applied to companies that make a physical product, such as a pair of socks, an automobile, or an Apple watch. There are a few reasons why managerial accounting is often applied in a manufacturing setting:

1. It is easier for students to visualize a physical product and think about the various costs and activities that are required to make it. We intentionally chose products and companies that most students are familiar with so that you can immediately apply the concepts to something you understand and encounter on a daily basis.
2. Accounting in manufacturing firms is more complex than in nonmanufacturing firms because the product goes through several stages of completion (raw materials, work-in-process, and finished goods) before it is finally sold. Some of the terminology that you will learn in the first few chapters of this book, such as the difference between manufacturing and nonmanufacturing costs, is only relevant to manufacturing firms.

² CIA, *The World Factbook*, www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/field/gdp-composition-by-sector-of-origin.



Data from U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Employment Database. www.bls.gov/data/#employment, accessed January 19, 2021.

While we start out discussing managerial accounting in manufacturing settings, virtually all of the concepts and tools can be applied in nonmanufacturing settings as well. Once you've mastered the manufacturing example, extending it to a service or merchandising setting should be relatively simple. Throughout the book, we will provide examples of how the concepts and techniques can be applied in service settings as well.

Finally, it is important to note that managerial accounting information is vital to non-profit organizations, including hospitals, universities, and charitable organizations. Although these organizations do not exist strictly to earn profit for shareholders, their managers still need timely and relevant information to prepare budgets, manage resources, and make strategic and operational decisions.

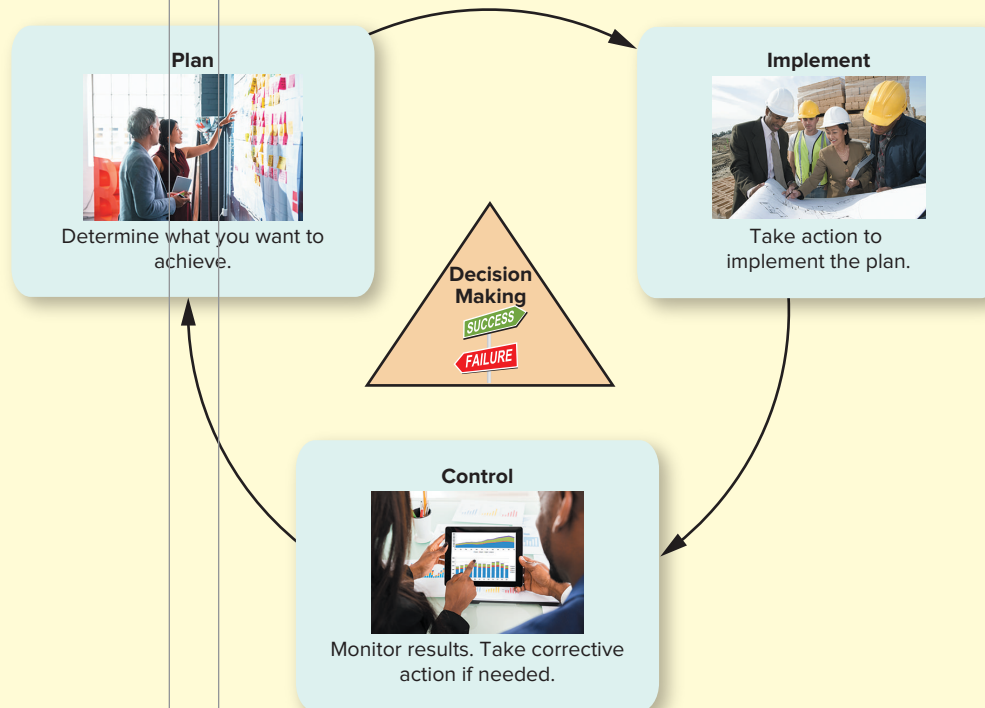
FUNCTIONS OF MANAGEMENT

Regardless of the type and size of the organization they manage, a manager's job can be broken down into three basic functions: Planning, Implementing, and Controlling. These functions are part of a continuous or ongoing cycle, called the Plan-Implement-Control cycle, as illustrated in Exhibit 1-2. Throughout this cycle, managers must make a variety of decisions, and the managerial accounting system must provide information to help them make those decisions.

- **Planning** is the future-oriented part of the management cycle. The first step in planning is to establish goals or objectives, along with the tactics that will be used to achieve those goals. Managers have to make a variety of "who, what, when, where, and how" decisions as they plan. For example: Who is my target customer? What product or service do they need, and how much will they pay for it? Where and when will I provide the product and service? What resources will I need? Once managers know the answers to these questions, the next step is to create a **budget** that lays out the plan in monetary or financial terms. The budget helps managers organize their plan and ensure that they have the necessary resources to carry it out.

EXHIBIT 1-2

Plan-Implement-Control Cycle



Top Left: 10'000 Hours/Getty Images; Top Right: bikeriderlondon/Shutterstock; Bottom: Andriy Popov/123RF

- **Implementing** means putting the plan into action. During the implementation phase, managers must lead, direct, and motivate others to achieve the objectives set in the planning stage. The decisions made during the implementation phase are sometimes called operational decisions. For example: Who should I purchase supplies from? When do I need them? How many employees should I hire? How much should I pay them? How do I train them? Again, the managerial accounting system should provide useful information to help managers answer these and other questions.
- **Controlling** is the final step in the management process. During the control phase, managers keep track of how they are doing and whether any actions must be taken to adjust the plan. The managerial accounting system plays a key role in helping managers measure and monitor the company's performance to see whether the planned objectives are being met. If not, managers may need to take corrective action to get back on track.

An easy way to think about the Plan-Implement-Control cycle is in terms of an air traffic control system. Before the flight, the pilot must file a flight **plan** that details when and where the plane will be flying. **Implementing** includes all of the actions the pilot takes to fly the plane. The **control** system includes the cockpit instruments the pilot uses to guide the plane, as well as the monitoring systems used by air traffic control. The goal of these control mechanisms is to make sure the plane does not deviate too far from the flight plan. When that happens, the system should provide a signal that the pilot needs to take corrective action.

To extend this analogy to the business world, managers are like pilots flying a plane and the managerial accounting system is the set of tools and information that help managers get the organization to its intended destination. The tools can be as simple as a report on a piece of paper or as sophisticated as an information system that provides real-time data to managers on their handheld devices. These tools must provide timely, relevant, and accurate information to help managers do their jobs.

At **Bombas**, everyone from the CEO to a manager in the warehouse needs information to plan, implement, and control within their area of responsibility. Because the warehouse manager will be making very different decisions than the CEO, the managerial accounting system must provide information for both day-to-day operational decisions and long-term strategic decisions.

As you can see, the managerial functions of planning, implementing, and controlling are interconnected. One function leads to another, and managers use feedback from the process to improve future decision making. Throughout, managers must make a variety of decisions and they need relevant, up-to-date information, including cost estimates, competitor pricing, market demand, and consumer preferences. Much of this information comes from the managerial accounting system.

Before we move on, try the Self-Study Practice to make sure you understand the major differences between financial and managerial accounting and the key functions of management.



How's it going?

Self-Study Practice

- Which of the following statements best describes the difference between financial accounting and managerial accounting?
 - Managerial accounting targets external stakeholders while financial accounting targets individuals within the company.
 - Financial accounting relies more on subjective, future-oriented information than managerial accounting does.
 - A major focus of managerial accounting is the preparation of the income statement, while a major focus of financial accounting is the preparation of the budget.
 - Managerial accounting tends to focus on relevant, subjective, and future-oriented information while financial accounting relies primarily on objective, reliable, and historical information.
- Indicate whether the following organizations are (A) manufacturers, (B) merchandisers, or (C) service providers:

Tesla
Twitter
Macy's
A university
- Which of the following statement(s) regarding the key management functions is true?
 - Planning involves setting long-term objectives and the short-term tactics necessary to achieve those objectives.
 - Implementing involves comparing actual results to planned objectives and making adjustments as necessary.
 - Controlling includes all of the operational decisions made to implement the plan.
 - All of the statements are true.

After you have finished, check your answers against the solutions in the margin.

The best way to know whether you are reading the chapter carefully enough is to see how well you do on a short exercise. Therefore, at important points throughout each chapter, you will find an exercise that will reinforce the concepts you have just learned and provide feedback on how well you learned them. We urge you not to skip these practices. When you are finished, check your answers against the solution below in the margin.

Solution to Self-Study Practice

- d
- Tesla (A), Twitter (C), Macy's (B), University (C)
- a

SUSTAINABILITY AND CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

As discussed in the previous section, the managerial accounting system should provide managers with the information they need to meet the organization's objectives. Managerial accounting has traditionally focused on helping managers create economic value or profit for shareholders. In today's changing world, managers are responsible for more than achieving financial results and are accountable to many groups other than shareholders. Modern managers must balance the priorities and needs of many stakeholders, including employees,

Learning Objective 1–3

Describe the importance of sustainability and decision analytics in managerial accounting.

COACH'S TIP

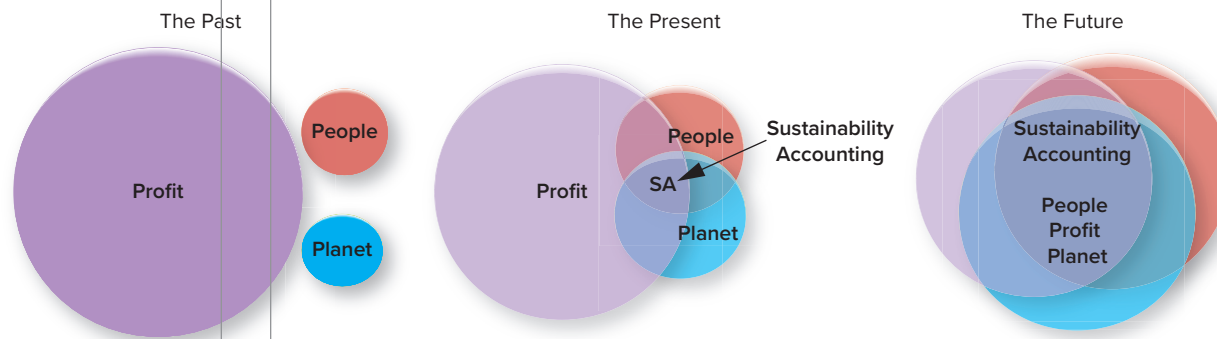
Although some people equate sustainability with being environmentally friendly or “green,” it is a much broader concept than that. A truly sustainable business strategy is one that simultaneously achieves economic results while creating benefits for society (e.g., reduce poverty, respect human rights, prevent disease) and the environment (e.g., limit climate change, reduce greenhouse gas emissions).

customers, suppliers, regulators, and society. **Sustainability accounting** is an emerging area of accounting that is aimed at providing managers with a broader set of information to meet the needs of multiple stakeholders, with the goal of ensuring the company’s long-term survival in an uncertain and resource-constrained world.

Sustainability typically is defined as the ability to meet the needs of today without sacrificing the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. When applied to business, it is the ability of an organization to meet the needs of its most immediate stakeholders (typically owners or **stockholders**) without sacrificing or ignoring the impact on other **stakeholders**. Thus, a sustainable approach to business requires managers to broaden their decision making to include three perspectives: economic issues, social issues, and environmental issues. These three perspectives are often referred to as the **triple bottom line** and are represented by **3 Ps: People, Profit, and Planet**.

Accountants can play a key role in helping organizations achieve their sustainability goals by measuring and managing triple bottom line performance. While traditional accounting systems focused almost exclusively on economic results (e.g., profit), sustainability accounting expands the focus to measure the impact of business decisions on social issues (people) and the environment (planet). Just as accountants have always measured and managed a firm’s economic performance, today’s accountants must measure and manage a firm’s social impact and environmental performance as well.

The following diagram provides a historical perspective on the relative importance of the three factors that make up the triple bottom line.



In the past, accounting focused primarily on profitability measures such as net income (revenue – expenses), return on equity, and other measures of economic success. Social and environmental factors were not usually at the forefront of managers’ decision making, and in many cases financial results were achieved at the expense of social issues (people) and the environment (planet).

Today, managers are beginning to recognize that a business strategy focused solely on achieving economic or financial results is not sustainable. In the long run, a business cannot survive without people (e.g., customers, employees, and suppliers) and natural resources (e.g., water, clean air, and fuel). As a result, modern organizations are building sustainable business practices into their business strategies and including sustainability metrics into their performance management systems. For example, most public companies now issue **corporate social responsibility (CSR)** reports that provide sustainability-related information, including measures of social and environmental impact.

While sustainability accounting is a rapidly emerging field, the reality is that most of today’s businesses are still driven *primarily* by economic results. For sustainability initiatives to really take shape and change the way a company does business, they must be linked to the company’s corporate strategy and embedded in the day-to-day operations and culture of the company.

Bombas is an excellent example of a company that has built a culture based on the social-responsibility dimension of sustainability. The founders chose the name Bombas (derived from the Latin word for bumblebee) because bees live in a hive and must work together for the common good. The company’s mantra “Bee Better” is instilled into the culture of the organization and stitched onto every pair of socks sold. While some might argue that it is great

marketing (and it is), it goes beyond hype or window dressing. For example, Bombas requires all new hires to take 10 pairs of socks and give them to homeless people within the first two weeks on the job. According to CEO David Heath, “It helps them feel motivated and personally connected to the mission.” This strategy, along with employee perks such as unlimited vacation, unlimited sick time, and unlimited remote work (even before the 2020 pandemic), has resulted in an extremely low employee turnover rate. This strategy has positive social benefits (people) and creates economic benefits (profits) through reduced training costs, satisfying two elements of the triple bottom line.

DECISION ANALYTICS

A topic that is becoming increasingly important to managers and accountants is the use of big data and analytics to help managers make more informed business decisions. **Big data analytics** involves the use of analytical techniques to gain valuable insights from data that are so large or complex that they cannot be analyzed using traditional databases and spreadsheets. So what makes data “BIG”?

- *Volume*: The sheer amount or volume of data can be overwhelming and exceed the capacity of many companies’ servers. For example, it is estimated that **Walmart** collects more than 2.5 petabytes (2.5 quadrillion bytes) of customer data per hour.³
- *Velocity*: The data arrive with great velocity or speed, including not just data on past events but also those created in real time, as events are occurring.
- *Variety*: The data come in a variety of formats (e.g., text, numerics, images, audio, and video) and are generated from a variety of sources, devices, and sensors, including geographic, financial, and social media data.

If “BIG” data relate to the volume, velocity, and variety of data, what is analytics? **Analytics** is the process of discovering and communicating meaningful patterns and insights from data to find more intelligent ways of operating a business, managing resources, enhancing customer service, reducing operating costs, or pursuing other business opportunities. Although differences exist at a technical level, the terms *data analytics*, *business analytics*, and *business intelligence* are often used interchangeably to refer to the extraction of meaningful and actionable insights from data so that managers can make more intelligent business decisions.

Three types of analytics are common:

- Descriptive analytics (describing what has happened). For example, **UPS** describes the operating efficiency of its delivery trucks by monitoring gas mileage.
- Predictive analytics (predicting what will happen). For example, UPS predicts future repairs and maintenance work by analyzing idling time and miles driven.
- Prescriptive analytics (recommending a course of action). For example, UPS uses customer location and real-time GPS data to *prescribe* the most efficient routes for delivering its packages.

Amazon is now experimenting with something it calls “anticipatory shipping,” where it uses past purchases, website traffic, and geographic data to ship a product to a region before a customer even places the order. By shipping in advance, and later specifying the exact delivery location when an actual purchase occurs, Amazon hopes to be able to reduce both shipping time and shipping costs.

In addition to these business examples, data analytics is useful in other fields such as health care and law enforcement. For example, by tracking search terms entered into **Google** by people in various regions of the United States, analysts can predict flu outbreaks faster than by monitoring hospital admission records. As another example, data analysts cross-referenced

³ Andrew McAfee and Erik Brynjolfsson, “Big Data: The Management Revolution,” *Harvard Business Review*, October 2012.

public crime records with data from ride-sharing apps to discover that DUI arrests fell by 10 percent after Uber entered a major metropolitan market.

At opportune places throughout this book, we will highlight how managers in our focus company or other real-world organizations are incorporating sustainability and decision analytics into their business strategies. You will also have an opportunity to apply these concepts and tools to an integrated analytics case that is discussed at the end of each chapter and can be found at the back of this book. The case is modeled after the Bombas story and describes a “one-for-one” meal delivery service that promises to donate one meal for every meal purchased.

Role of Cost in Managerial Accounting

Learning Objective 1–4

Define and give examples of different types of costs.

As described earlier in this chapter, the goal of managerial accounting is to provide managers with the information they need to plan, implement, and control within their area of responsibility. Much of the information that managers need to make decisions is based on cost data. For example, a product manager at **Bombas** might need to know how much a new type of sock costs to decide how much to charge for it. A purchasing manager might need to know how much it costs to store items in inventory to decide how frequently to order. A technology manager might need to know how much it costs to host the website on company servers as opposed to utilizing a third party platform such as **GoDaddy**. Managers also need cost information to prepare daily, weekly, and monthly operating budgets. These budgets help managers ensure that they have the necessary resources to run the business and to control spending. Although accountants and managers should consider things other than cost when making decisions, cost control remains a critical concern for most organizations, particularly in a tough economy or when profit margins are declining due to increased competition.

Throughout this textbook, we will use a lot of different terminology to describe cost. It can be confusing at times because there are many different types of cost systems and ways to categorize cost. The most important thing to remember is that we will treat costs differently depending on how the information will be used. Will the cost information be used for financial reporting purposes? If so, we have to follow the rules of GAAP. Will it be used to determine the profitability of a product or service? If so, we need to understand the nature of the product or service to decide what costing method is appropriate. Will the cost data be used for decision making? If so, we need to consider how costs will behave or change depending on what decision alternatives the manager is considering. Will the data be used to evaluate the performance of a manager? If so, we need to think about what costs are under the manager’s direct control.

In this chapter, we introduce the terminology you will use to categorize or sort cost into different “buckets,” including

- Direct or Indirect Costs
- Manufacturing or Nonmanufacturing Costs
- Product or Period Costs
- Variable or Fixed Costs
- Relevant or Irrelevant Costs

Each of these classifications will be based on different criteria depending on how the information will be used. In later chapters, you will learn how to use this cost information for different managerial purposes, including product costing, cost management, decision making, planning and control, and performance evaluation. For now, you just need to recognize and define the terms.

DIRECT VERSUS INDIRECT COSTS

When managers use cost information, they typically want to know the cost of something specific. It could be a product (e.g., women’s tri-color running socks), a particular process (e.g., the knitting process or packaging process), an activity (e.g., quality control), or a specific function

COACH’S TIP

The key thing to remember is that **different cost terms are used for different purposes**. Thus, a single cost can be classified in more than one way, depending on how the information will be used.

(e.g., customer support). We call these specific things *cost objects*. A **cost object** is any item we want to know the cost of. In your own personal life, you might want to know the cost of attending school for a semester, the cost to buy and operate a car, or the cost of a vacation you would like to take over spring break. Each of these items would be considered a cost object.

As an example, assume you want to know how much it is costing you to take this accounting course. In that case, the course (managerial accounting) is the cost object. How would you go about determining the cost of this course? You would probably start with the costs that are easily attributed to a specific course, such as the cost of tuition and books. Costs that **can be directly and easily traced** to the cost object are called **direct costs**. But there are other costs associated with your education that aren't directly related to one course. Examples include the cost of driving to and from campus, the cost of your computer, and the cost of the supplies you use in class. These costs are difficult to trace to a specific class if you are taking more than one class at a time. Even if you could keep track of the cost of the pencils and paper you use in a specific class, it probably isn't worth the effort to do so. Costs that **cannot be traced** to the cost object, or that are **not worth the effort** of tracing, are called **indirect costs**. When classifying a cost as direct or indirect, the question to ask is whether the cost can be directly and conveniently traced to the cost object. If the answer is yes, it is a direct cost. If not, it is an indirect cost.

To illustrate the difference between direct and indirect costs, think about the high-quality cotton and wool used to make a pair of **Bombas** socks. Because these are the major materials that are used to make socks, they would most likely be considered a direct cost. But what if these same materials were used as thread to sew pieces of leather together in the production of handbags? While the leather would be considered a direct cost, the cost of thread would probably be considered an indirect cost. Even though it is *possible* to trace these minor materials to a specific handbag, it is probably not worth the effort to do so. For a cost to be treated as a direct cost, it must be both possible and practical to trace the cost to the specific cost object. Costs that cannot be traced or are not worth the effort of tracing are treated as indirect costs. This distinction is important because direct and indirect costs are treated differently by the accounting system.

MANUFACTURING VERSUS NONMANUFACTURING COSTS

For financial reporting purposes, costs must be classified based on whether they relate to manufacturing or nonmanufacturing activities. This distinction applies only to companies that make a physical product, such as **Dell** (computers), **Honda** (cars and trucks), **Harley-Davidson** (motorcycles), and **Maytag** (appliances). It does not apply to merchandisers or service companies that do not make a physical product.

Manufacturing costs represent all of the costs associated with producing or manufacturing a physical product. They are generally classified into one of three categories:

- **Direct materials** include the major material inputs that can be directly and conveniently traced to each unit of product (the cost object). Examples include the cotton and wool used to make socks, the leather used to make handbags, the steel used to manufacture automobiles, and the wood used to make a table. Indirect materials, or those that are not worth the effort of tracing to specific units, would be categorized as manufacturing overhead.
- **Direct labor** refers to the “hands on” labor that can be directly and conveniently traced to the product, such as the wages of employees in the sewing and packaging departments. It does not include employees who rarely touch the product as it is being produced, such as production supervisors, maintenance workers, and factory engineers. These indirect labor costs are treated as manufacturing overhead.
- **Manufacturing overhead** includes all costs **other than direct materials and direct labor** incurred during the manufacturing process. It includes all of the costs associated with *making* the product that cannot be traced to a specific unit, such as indirect materials, indirect labor, factory rent, factory insurance, and factory utilities. Manufacturing overhead does *not* include costs that happen outside of the factory walls (e.g., marketing, distribution, or sales), only those indirect costs that are related to manufacturing the product.



COACH'S TIP

Whether a cost is direct or indirect depends on whether it is both **possible** and **practical** to trace the cost to a cost object. Costs that *could* be traced but are not worth the effort to trace are classified as **indirect costs**.



COACH'S TIP

To help you visualize the manufacturing costs, take a virtual tour of a sock factory by searching “how socks are made” in **Google** or **YouTube**. Watch the video and try to identify the direct materials, direct labor, and manufacturing overhead costs.

Prime Cost =
Direct Materials
+
Direct Labor

Conversion Cost =
Direct Labor
+
Manufacturing
Overhead



COACH'S TIP

The distinction between period and product costs is a matter of **when** the cost is matched against revenue on the income statement. Period costs are expensed as soon as they are incurred. Product costs are recorded initially as inventory and do not appear on the income statement until the product is sold.

When added together, direct materials and direct labor are referred to as **prime costs**. For manual production processes, the direct materials and direct labor often represent the *primary* costs incurred to make the product. As manufacturing has become more automated and labor has shifted from direct labor (i.e., line-worker wages) to indirect labor (i.e., engineers and supervisors), manufacturing overhead has become a much larger percentage of total manufacturing cost.

Direct labor and manufacturing overhead are referred to collectively as **conversion costs**. These are the costs needed to *convert* direct materials into a finished product.

Notice that direct labor is included in both prime costs (direct materials + direct labor) and conversion costs (direct labor + manufacturing overhead). As such, you cannot add prime costs to conversion costs to determine the total manufacturing cost because direct labor is included in both components. The sum of the three manufacturing costs (direct materials + direct labor + manufacturing overhead) gives us the total manufacturing cost. Alternatively, you could add prime cost to conversion costs and then subtract the direct labor to prevent it from being counted twice.

Nonmanufacturing costs are the costs associated with running the business and selling the product, as opposed to manufacturing the product. They are generally classified into one of two groups:

- **Marketing or selling expenses** are incurred to get the final product to the customer. This includes shipping, sales salaries or commissions, online advertising, and any other sales-related expenses.
- **General and administrative expenses** are associated with running the overall business. They include general management salaries, rent and utilities for corporate headquarters, and corporate service functions such as the accounting, payroll, and legal departments.

PRODUCT VERSUS PERIOD COSTS

The difference between product costs and period costs determines **how and when** the cost will be matched up against revenue on the income statement. This distinction really has more to do with financial accounting (external reporting) than managerial accounting. However, it is important for manufacturing firms that hold significant amounts of inventory because it determines whether a cost is counted as inventory (an asset on the balance sheet) or as an expense on the income statement. Classifying a cost as product or period can affect the reported profitability of the company's products, customers, and divisions.

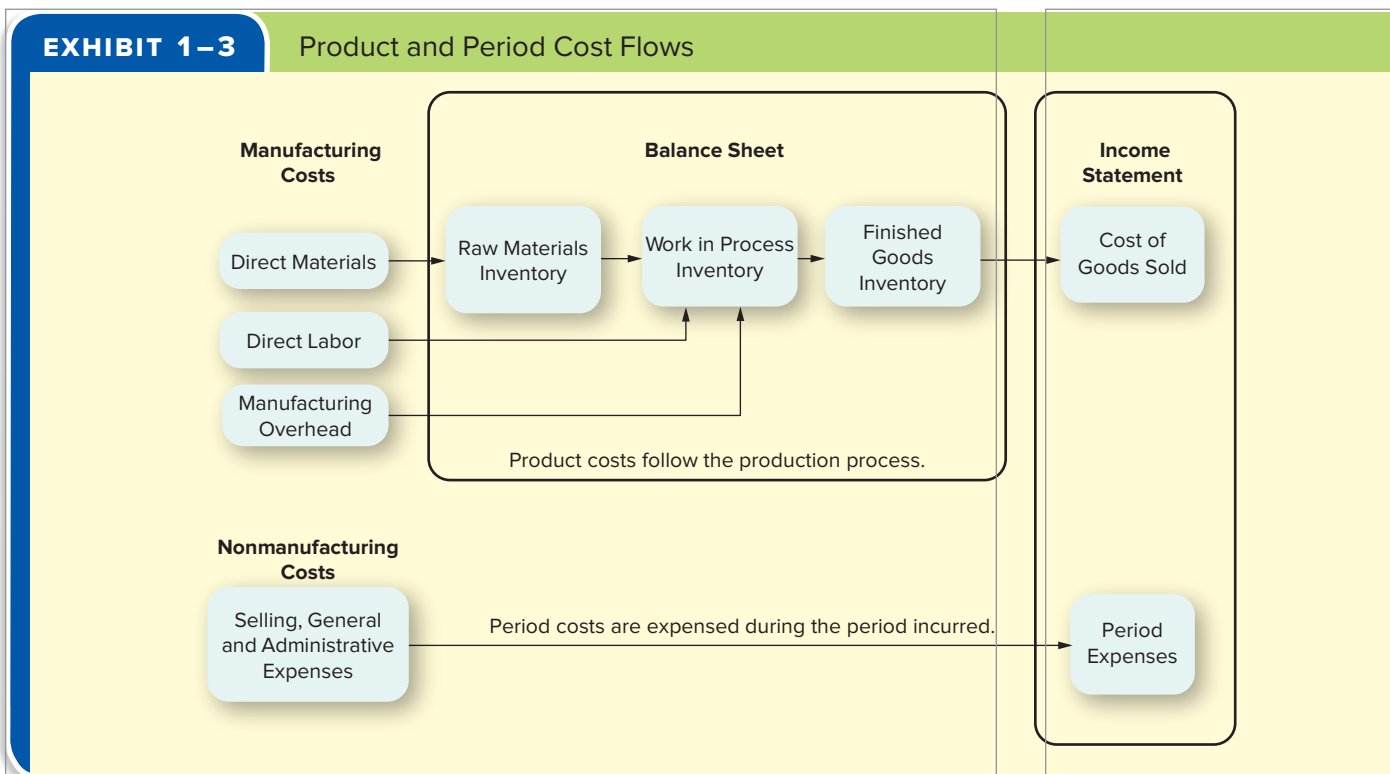
For external reporting purposes, GAAP requires that all manufacturing costs be treated as **product costs**, or costs that are assigned to the product as it is being manufactured. Product costs are also called **inventoriable costs** because they are counted as inventory (an asset) until the product is sold. Remember that manufacturing costs include direct materials, direct labor, and manufacturing overhead. These manufacturing costs follow the product as it is being produced and are recorded in one of the following inventory accounts: Raw Materials Inventory, Work in Process Inventory, or Finished Goods Inventory. Once the product is finally sold, product costs are reported as Cost of Goods Sold and matched up against sales revenue on the income statement.

Nonmanufacturing costs are called **period costs** or period expenses because they are expensed during the period incurred. Unlike product costs that flow through several inventory accounts before being reported as Cost of Goods Sold, nonmanufacturing costs are expensed as soon as they are incurred. Examples of nonmanufacturing or period expenses include advertising, sales commissions, distribution expenses, and general and administrative salaries. Refer to Exhibit 1–3 for an illustration of the different treatment of product and period costs under GAAP.

Later chapters demonstrate how to account for the flow of manufacturing costs through the various inventory accounts before being reported as Cost of Goods Sold. For now, you simply need to recognize that manufacturing costs (product costs) will be treated differently than nonmanufacturing costs (period costs) for financial reporting purposes.

VARIABLE VERSUS FIXED COSTS

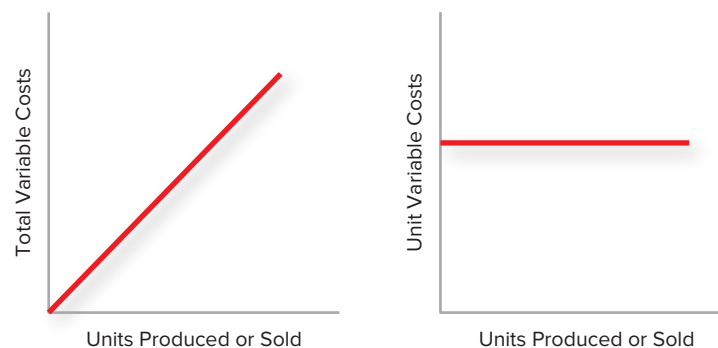
The distinction between manufacturing (product) and nonmanufacturing (period) costs is based on financial accounting rules required for external reporting (GAAP). For internal decision making, managers often are more concerned with how costs will change if something else

EXHIBIT 1-3**Product and Period Cost Flows**

changes, such as the number of units produced or the number of units sold. **Variable costs** are those that change, in total, in direct proportion to changes in some measure of activity.

For **Bombas**, what costs are likely to change if the company produces and sells more socks? The manufacturing process will require more direct materials, more direct labor, and some additional manufacturing overhead costs (e.g., power to operate machines). There would also be additional shipping expenses and possibly more marketing expenses, such as “pay-per-click” advertising or fees paid to product promoters or “influencers.” Notice that variable costs can be related to manufacturing or nonmanufacturing activities.

It is also important to note that variable costs can vary with more than one measure. Direct materials, direct labor, and variable manufacturing overhead costs tend to vary with the number of units produced. Shipping costs can vary with many things, including the number of shipments, the weight of the shipment, the method of shipping, or distance traveled. Pay-per-click advertising varies with the number of clicks from a search engine such as **Google** or **Yahoo**. Influencer fees may vary with the number of Instagram followers. We will discuss these various “cost drivers” in future chapters. For now, we will focus on costs that vary with the number of units produced or sold, as shown in the following graphs.



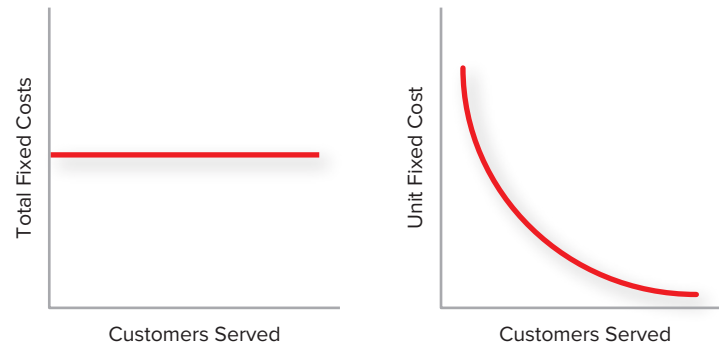
When we say that a cost is variable, it means that the total cost varies with some measure of activity, such as the number of units produced or sold. However, the average or per-unit cost should remain constant. For example, the average cost of direct materials should be the same

**COACH'S TIP**

In deciding whether a cost is variable or fixed, be sure to think about whether the **total cost** will change. Looking at average or unit cost will reveal an entirely different pattern, which we examine more closely in Chapter 5.

regardless of the number of units produced. This ignores other factors that can drive down variable costs, such as quantity discounts and employee learning curves. **Fixed costs** are those that stay the same, in total, regardless of activity level. Examples of fixed costs for Bombas include supervisor salaries, depreciation on machinery, factory rent, and most general and administrative expenses. When we say that a cost is fixed, that doesn't mean it will never change; it simply means that the total cost won't change because we produce or sell more units.

Although **total** fixed costs are constant, **average** or **per-unit** fixed costs vary inversely with the number of units produced or sold. That is because spreading a constant amount over more units or customers drives down the average cost, as shown in the following graphs.



In most real-world businesses, costs do not behave in the perfectly predictable patterns described above. Some costs, such as utilities, may have some variable elements and some fixed elements. Other costs, such as salaries or equipment, may be fixed over a certain range of activity, and then increase when a capacity limit is reached. These more complex cost behavior patterns are discussed in more detail in Chapter 5.

SPOTLIGHT ON**Decision Making****Predicting Fixed and Variable Costs**

Assume you are the treasurer of a student club at your university and you are on the planning committee for the end-of-year social event. The committee is in charge of finding a location; renting tables and chairs; and hiring a DJ, photographer, and caterer for the event. Your responsibility as treasurer is to set the budget for the event and make sure the committee stays within that budget.

Which costs would you expect to vary with the number of people attending? Which costs will be the same regardless of how many people attend the event? Why is it important for you to know the answers to these questions? When planning a social event, the cost of the venue, DJ, and photographer will be incurred regardless of how many people attend the event. The cost of catering (food and drinks), tables, and chairs will vary with the number of people expected to attend. You need to understand these relationships to prepare a budget for the event because the total cost will depend on the number of guests.

Managers must answer similar questions when making business decisions. They need to understand which costs will vary with the number of units produced or the number of customers served and which will be incurred regardless of these factors.

Most chapters include Spotlight features focusing on decision making, ethics, and sustainability. These features are designed to illustrate the relevance of accounting in real-world decision making.

RELEVANT VERSUS IRRELEVANT COSTS

For managerial accounting information to be useful for decision making, it must be **relevant** to the specific decision that managers are trying to make. In today's information age, managers have access to a tremendous amount of data, much of which is irrelevant to the decision at hand. In addition, managers sometimes fail to incorporate relevant information into their

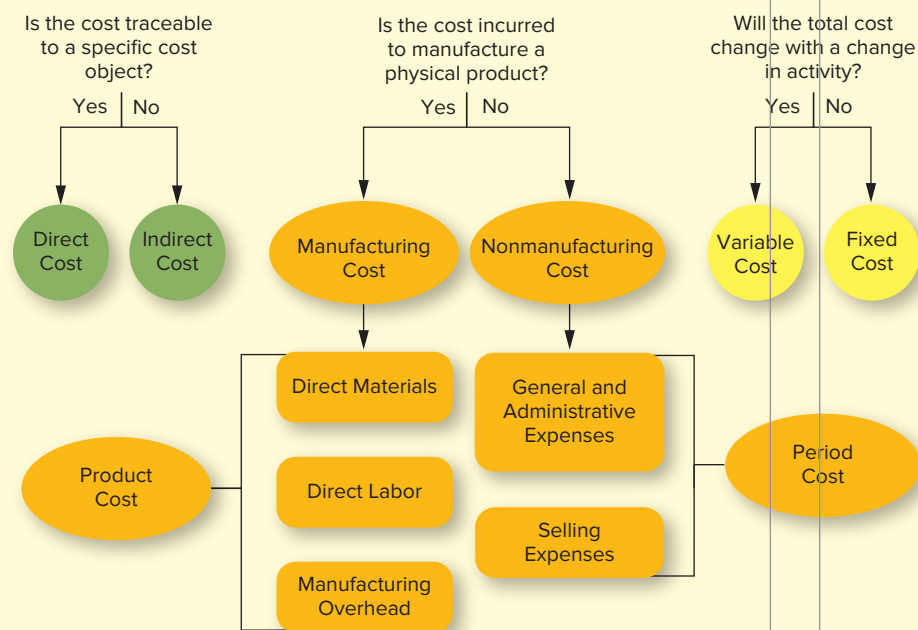
decisions because it is not easily captured by the accounting system. Determining what information is relevant to managerial decisions is one of the most important skills that you will learn in this course. A **relevant cost** has the potential to influence a decision; an **irrelevant cost** will not influence a decision. For a cost to be relevant, it must occur **in the future** and **differ** between the decision alternatives the manager is considering. Costs that differ between decision alternatives are sometimes called incremental or **differential costs**. Costs that have already been incurred are called **sunk costs**. Although **sunk costs are irrelevant** for decision making, it is often very difficult for managers to ignore what happened in the past and focus only on the future.

Another important distinction is the difference between an out-of-pocket cost and an opportunity cost. **Out-of-pocket costs** involve an actual cash payment. In your personal life, these are costs you pay “out of your pocket” for things such as food, clothing, and entertainment.

Unlike an out-of-pocket cost that involves an outlay of cash, an **opportunity cost** is the cost of **not** doing something. In other words, it is the forgone benefit (lost opportunity) of the path not taken. Anytime you choose to do one thing instead of another because of limited time or money, you incur an opportunity cost. For example, if you are going to school full time, you are giving up the opportunity to earn money by working full time. The salary you could be making if you were not in school is an opportunity cost of pursuing your education.

Opportunity costs occur in business any time resources are constrained and managers must choose to do one thing at the expense of another. As an example, **Bombas** recently decided to expand its product offerings to include t-shirts and underwear. If the company has limited manufacturing facilities, limited employee time, or limited capital for expansion, the introduction of new product lines may take away other opportunities, such as expanding an existing product line. The forgone or lost benefit of expanding an existing product line is an opportunity cost of introducing new product lines. If there are no foreseeable benefits to expanding an existing product line, the opportunity cost is zero. But if there are benefits, managers should attempt to estimate this opportunity cost and factor it into their decision-making process. This is often easier said than done because it is difficult to quantify the benefits of an action that is NOT taken.

Exhibit 1–4 provides a summary of the various ways to categorize or classify costs. Each classification requires you to ask a different question to determine how the information will

EXHIBIT 1–4**Cost Classification System: Different Costs for Different Purposes**

be used in managerial accounting. We will reference this terminology throughout the book as we consider how managers use cost and other managerial accounting information to make decisions for their organization.

Before continuing, complete the following Self-Study Practice to see how well you understand the cost terminology.



How's it going?

Self-Study Practice

Match the appropriate description on the right to the terms on the left.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| _____ 1. Product costs | A. Costs that remain the same in total regardless of activity level. |
| _____ 2. Period costs | B. Costs that involve an outlay of cash for items such as rent, utilities, and salaries. |
| _____ 3. Manufacturing costs | C. The benefit that you forgo when you select one alternative over another. |
| _____ 4. Nonmanufacturing costs | D. Costs that can be directly and conveniently traced to a specific cost object. |
| _____ 5. Variable costs | E. Costs that have already been incurred and thus are not relevant to future decisions. |
| _____ 6. Fixed costs | F. Costs that are expensed in the period they are incurred. |
| _____ 7. Direct costs | G. Costs that are incurred while making a physical product, such as direct materials, direct labor, and manufacturing overhead. |
| _____ 8. Indirect costs | H. Costs that cannot be directly or conveniently traced to a specific cost object. |
| _____ 9. Out-of-pocket costs | I. Costs that change in total in direct proportion to a change in activity level. |
| _____ 10. Opportunity cost | J. Costs that are attached to the product as it is produced and included in inventory until the product is sold. |
| _____ 11. Sunk costs | K. Costs that are not related to producing a product, such as selling and administrative costs. |

After you have finished, check your answers against the solutions in the margin.

Solution to Self-Study Practice

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. J | 7. D |
| 2. F | 8. H |
| 3. G | 9. B |
| 4. K | 10. C |
| 5. I | 11. E |
| 6. A | |

Learning Objective 1–S1

Describe the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the importance of ethics in the accounting profession.

SUPPLEMENT 1A ETHICS AND THE ACCOUNTING PROFESSION

Accounting knowledge can make the difference in your ability to land a dream job, whether you hope to work in production and operations management, human resources, finance, marketing, or another field. Exhibit 1S–1 displays nonaccounting jobs that could be available to you at the world's leading companies and explains how accounting knowledge can be vital to these positions.

Regardless of your future career path, you will be responsible for creating and maintaining an ethical work environment. **Ethics** refers to the standards of conduct for judging right from wrong, honest from dishonest, and fair from unfair. Although some accounting and business problems have clear right or wrong answers, many situations require accountants and managers to weigh the pros and cons of alternatives before making final decisions.

Often, there is no one right answer to ethical dilemmas, and hard choices will need to be made. Do not tolerate acts of fraud, such as employees making up false expenses for reimbursement, punching in a time card belonging to a fellow employee who will be late for work, or copying someone's ideas and claiming them as your own. Also, be aware that not all ethical dilemmas are clear-cut. Some situations will require you to weigh one moral principle (e.g., honesty) against another (e.g., loyalty).

EXHIBIT 1S-1**Accounting Knowledge Can Benefit All Majors****Production and Operations Management**

Production Manager, Nintendo: Figure out how to make a \$300 Switch for \$257.

Outsourcing Specialist, Apple: Coordinate more than 20 suppliers of parts for the next iPad, at the same total cost as legacy iPads.

Human Resources

Compensation Analyst, Google: Develop affordable, attractive global pay programs.

Labor Relations Manager, NBA Players' Union: Assist in salary renegotiations involving the \$133 million salary cap.

Accounting**Finance**

Investment Analyst, Goldman Sachs: Assess value of investing \$50 million in Quirky Incorporated.

Financial Analyst, Amazon Web Services: Build financial models to forecast revenue and other key performance metrics.

Marketing

Brand Manager, Kraft Heinz Company: Set prices to achieve 5 percent annual sales growth.

Customer Business Developer, Procter & Gamble: Collaborate with accounting to enhance customer profits and cash flows.

Sources: <http://techland.time.com/2011/03/29/the-incredibly-cheap-100-nintendo-3ds>; <http://blogs.forbes.com/johnray/2011/03/11/isuppli-teardown-of-the-ipad-2-investor-edition/>; [www.isuppli.com/Teardowns/News/Pages/iPad-2-Carries-Bill-of-Materials-of-\\$326-60-IHS-iSuppli-Teardown-Analysis-Shows.aspx](http://www.isuppli.com/Teardowns/News/Pages/iPad-2-Carries-Bill-of-Materials-of-$326-60-IHS-iSuppli-Teardown-Analysis-Shows.aspx); www.nytimes.com/2011/05/25/sports/basketball/players-accuse-nba-of-failing-to-bargain-in-good-faith.html?_r=1&ref=nationallaborrelationsboard.

Photo: Rubberball/Getty Images

When faced with an ethical dilemma, you should apply the following three-step process:

1. Identify who will be affected by the situation—both those who will appear to benefit (often the manager or employee) and those who will be harmed (other employees, the company's reputation, owners, creditors, and the public in general).
2. Identify and evaluate the alternative courses of action.
3. Choose the alternative that is the most ethical—and that you would be proud to have reported in the news.

Unfortunately, not everyone abides by these general guidelines. For example, the reputation of business managers and accountants was tarnished in the late 1990s and early 2000s due to high-profile scandals at companies like at **Enron** and **WorldCom**. In response to these scandals, Congress enacted the **Sarbanes-Oxley (SOX) Act of 2002**. Although SOX was primarily aimed at renewing investor confidence in the external financial reporting system, it has many implications for managers as well.

The Sarbanes-Oxley Act focuses on three factors that affect the accounting reporting environment: opportunity, incentives, and character.

Opportunities for Error and Fraud SOX attempts to reduce the **opportunity** for error and fraud. A requirement under SOX is that management must conduct a review of the company's internal control system and issue a report that indicates whether the controls are effective at preventing errors and fraud. This requirement places more responsibility on all managers (not just accountants) for the accuracy of the reporting system. For example,

marketing managers are now responsible for making sure their staff members submit accurate sales and expense reports. SOX also places additional responsibilities on the boards of directors and external auditors to reduce the opportunity for errors and fraud.

Incentives for Committing Fraud SOX attempts to counteract the **incentive** to commit fraud by providing stiff penalties, such as monetary fines and jail time. For example, violators must repay any money obtained via fraud and can be assessed additional fines of up to \$5 million. Executives cannot avoid these penalties by declaring personal bankruptcy, which explains why a former sales director at **Computer Associates** will be giving 15 percent of every paycheck he earns for the rest of his life to a fraud restitution fund. SOX also increased the maximum jail sentence for fraudulent reporting to 20 years. Total jail time can add up to even more than that because federal sentencing guidelines allow judges to declare consecutive jail terms for each violation.

Character of Managers and Employees Finally, SOX emphasizes the importance of the **character** of managers and employees. Admittedly, it is difficult for a law to make people act appropriately, but SOX introduces new rules that should help employees of good character make the right decision when confronted with ethical dilemmas. For example, audit committees are now required to create anonymous hotlines that allow employees to submit concerns they may have about suspicious accounting or auditing practices. These whistle-blower tips are the most common means for detecting fraud, according to a 2018 report by the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners. SOX also gives federal employees whistle-blower protection to prevent retaliation by those charged with fraud.

Finally, to reinforce good character, public companies must adopt a code of ethics for senior financial officers. **Google** ends its code of ethics by simply saying, “Don’t be evil.” Unfortunately, adopting a code of ethics does not ensure that managers will act ethically. Most experts agree that ethics must be embedded in the organizational culture and that top managers who lead by example will drive ethical behavior in the organization.

According to a recent Statement on Management Accounting (SMA) released by the Institute of Management Accountants (IMA), companies with strong ethical cultures are rewarded with higher productivity, improved team dynamics, lower risks of fraud, streamlined processes, improved product quality, and higher customer satisfaction. But to achieve these rewards, companies must move beyond simply complying with laws such as SOX and create a culture that embeds ethics throughout the organization.

Before we move on, take a moment to complete the following Self-Study Practice to make sure you can identify factors that influence ethical behavior.

Solution to Self-Study Practice

1. +/I (increased pressure to report stronger financial results)
2. –/C (less likely to hire employees of poor character).
3. –/O (strong oversight by directors)



How’s it going?

Self-Study Practice

Identify whether each of the following actions is most likely to increase (+) or decrease (–) the risk of error or fraud arising from opportunities (O), incentives (I), or an individual’s character (C).

	+/–	I/O/C
1. Enron was notorious for its “rank-and-yank” practice that involved ranking the financial performance of each business unit and then firing managers in the lowest 20%.	_____	_____
2. Nintendo of America conducts preemployment screening before hiring anyone.	_____	_____
3. The Walt Disney Company has a strong board of directors, according to <i>Corporate Responsibility Magazine</i> .	_____	_____

After you have finished, check your answers against the solutions in the margin.

REVIEW THE CHAPTER

DEMONSTRATION CASE

Barnaby's Bicycle Company manufactures high-quality mountain bikes. The company's managerial accountant has come to you for help. She needs to classify and identify each of the following costs before she can calculate the cost to produce each mountain bike.

Classify each of the costs listed in the chart below into three categories based on the following questions:

1. Can this cost be directly and conveniently traced to each bicycle that is manufactured, or is doing so either not possible or not worth the effort?
2. Is this cost related to manufacturing the bicycles? If so, what type of cost is it? Or is it a non-manufacturing or period expense?
3. Will the total cost vary with the number of bicycles manufactured and sold, or will it remain the same regardless of how many bikes are produced and sold?

The first item in the chart is completed as an example.

	QUESTION 1		QUESTION 2				QUESTION 3	
			PRODUCT COSTS			PERIOD COSTS	COST BEHAVIOR	
	Direct Cost	Indirect Cost	Direct Materials	Direct Labor	Mfg. Overhead	Nonmfg. Expenses	Variable Cost	Fixed Cost
Alloy tubing used to make the bicycle frames	X		X				X	
Hourly wages paid to employees who cut and weld the alloy tubing								
Factory rent								
Bicycle wheels and tires								
Miscellaneous bicycle components								
Insurance on the factory								
Insurance on the president's company car								

Suggested Solution

	QUESTION 1		QUESTION 2				QUESTION 3	
			PRODUCT COSTS			PERIOD COSTS	COST BEHAVIOR	
	Direct Cost	Indirect Cost	Direct Materials	Direct Labor	Mfg. Overhead	Nonmfg. Expenses	Variable Cost	Fixed Cost
Alloy tubing used to make the bicycle frames	X		X				X	
Hourly wages paid to employees who cut and weld the alloy tubing	X			X			X	
Factory rent		X			X			X
Bicycle wheels and tires	X		X				X	
Miscellaneous bicycle components		X			X		X	
Insurance on the factory		X			X			X
Insurance on the president's company car		X				X		X

CHAPTER SUMMARY

LO 1–1

Describe the key differences between financial accounting and managerial accounting. p. 6

- Financial accounting information is used by external stakeholders, such as investors, creditors, and bankers.
- Managerial accounting information is used by managers inside the organization.
- Financial accounting information tends to be reliable, objective, and historical in nature.
- Managerial accounting information tends to be relevant, timely, and future oriented.
- Financial accounting is reported through the income statement, balance sheet, statement of stockholders' equity, and cash flow statement.
- Managerial accounting relies on a variety of reports targeted at specific decisions, including budgets, cost reports, and performance evaluations.
- Financial accounting reports are prepared on a monthly, quarterly, or annual basis.
- Managerial accounting reports are prepared as needed.
- Financial accounting reports are prepared at the company level.
- Managerial accounting reports are prepared at the divisional or departmental level appropriate to the decision being made.

LO 1–2

Describe how managerial accounting is used in different types of organizations to support the key functions of management. p. 8

- Managerial accounting is used in all types of organizations, including manufacturing, merchandising, and service firms.
- Although managerial accounting often focuses on manufacturing firms, it is becoming increasingly important for service companies and merchandisers, which are gaining importance in today's economy. It is also useful for nonprofit organizations such as universities, charities, and hospitals.
- Regardless of the type of organization, all managers perform the same basic functions:
 - Planning, or setting long-term objectives along with the short-term tactics needed to achieve them.
 - Implementing, or putting the plan into action.
 - Controlling, or monitoring actual results against the plan and making any necessary adjustments.

LO 1–3

Describe the importance of sustainability and decision analytics in managerial accounting. p. 11

- Sustainability is an emerging field that allows organizations to achieve economic results while fulfilling their obligations to society and protecting the environment for future generations. The triple bottom line measures a company's performance toward its sustainability goals by including measures of economic success (profit), social impact (people), and environmental impact (planet).
- Decision analytics involves the use of analytical tools and techniques to provide valuable and actionable insights from data so that managers can make more intelligent business decisions. It is referred to as "big data" when the data set is so large or complex that it cannot be analyzed using traditional spreadsheets and databases. Managers can use decision analytics for descriptive, predictive, or prescriptive purposes.

LO 1–4

Define and give examples of different types of costs. p. 14

- Costs can be classified in a variety of ways, depending on how the information will be used:
 - Direct costs can be directly and conveniently traced to a specific cost object.
 - Indirect costs either cannot be traced to a specific cost object or are not worth the effort of tracing.
 - Variable costs change, in total, in direct proportion to changes in activity.

- Fixed costs remain the same, in total, regardless of activity.
- Manufacturing costs are associated with making a physical product. They can be classified as direct materials, direct labor, or manufacturing overhead.
- Nonmanufacturing costs are associated with selling a product or service or running the overall business.
- GAAP requires manufacturing costs to be treated as product costs and nonmanufacturing costs to be treated as period costs.
- Product costs are assigned to a product as it is being produced; they accumulate in inventory accounts until the product is sold.
- Period costs are reported as expenses as they are incurred.
- Relevant costs are future-oriented costs that differ between decision alternatives.
- Irrelevant costs are those that remain the same regardless of the alternatives and thus will not affect the decision.

Describe the Sarbanes-Oxley Act and the importance of ethics in the accounting profession. p. 20

- Ethics refers to the standards for judging right from wrong, honest from dishonest, and fair from unfair. Managers confront ethical dilemmas that do not have clear-cut answers. They must apply their own personal judgment and values to weigh the pros and cons of alternative courses of action.
- The Sarbanes-Oxley (SOX) Act of 2002 increases managers' responsibility for creating and maintaining an ethical business and reporting environment. It attempts to reduce fraudulent reporting in three key ways:
 - **Opportunity.** SOX requires managers to issue a report that indicates whether the company's internal controls are effective in preventing fraud and inaccurate reporting. The act also places increased responsibility on the board of directors, audit committee, and external auditor.
 - **Incentives.** SOX imposes stiffer penalties, including jail time and monetary fines, for those who commit fraud.
 - **Character.** SOX emphasizes the importance of individual character in preventing fraudulent reporting and requires public companies to implement anonymous tip lines, whistleblower protection, and codes of ethics.

LO 1–S1

KEY TERMS

Budget p. 9

Controlling p. 10

Conversion Costs p. 16

Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) p. 12

Cost Object p. 15

Differential Costs p. 19

Direct Costs p. 15

Direct Labor p. 15

Direct Materials p. 15

Ethics p. 20

Financial Accounting p. 6

Fixed Costs p. 18

General and Administrative Expenses p. 16

Implementing p. 10

Indirect Costs p. 15

Inventoriable Costs p. 16

Irrelevant Cost p. 19

Managerial Accounting p. 6

Manufacturing Costs p. 15

Manufacturing Firms p. 8

Manufacturing Overhead p. 15

Marketing or Selling Expenses p. 16

Merchandising Companies p. 8

Nonmanufacturing Costs p. 16

Opportunity Cost p. 19

Out-of-Pocket Cost p. 19

Period Costs p. 16

Planning p. 9

Prime Costs p. 16

Product Costs p. 16

Relevant Cost p. 19

Sarbanes-Oxley (SOX) Act of 2002 p. 21

Service Companies p. 8

Sunk Costs p. 19

Sustainability p. 12

Sustainability Accounting p. 12

3 Ps: People, Profit, and Planet p. 12

Triple Bottom Line p. 12

Variable Costs p. 17

HOMework HELPER

Common Terminology

Financial accounting ~ External reporting
 Managerial accounting ~ Internal reporting
 Manufacturing costs ~ Inventoriable costs ~ Product costs
 Nonmanufacturing costs ~ Period costs ~ Period expenses

Key Formulas

Direct Materials + Direct Labor = Prime Costs
 Direct Labor + Manufacturing Overhead = Conversion Costs

Helpful Reminders

- Triple Bottom Line = People, Profit, Planet
- Big Data = Volume, Variety, Velocity
- Different costs terms are used for different purposes.
- The word “factory” means it is a manufacturing cost.
- Selling and administrative costs are not part of manufacturing overhead.

PRACTICE MATERIAL

QUESTIONS

1. What is the primary difference between financial accounting and managerial accounting?
2. Explain how the primary difference between financial and managerial accounting results in other differences between the two.
3. Why are traditional, GAAP-based financial statements not necessarily useful to managers and other internal parties?
4. Explain the difference between service companies, merchandising companies, and manufacturing companies.
5. Consider the area within a 3-mile radius of your campus. What service companies, merchandising companies, and manufacturing firms are located within that area?
6. What are the three basic functions of management?
7. How are the three basic management functions interrelated?
8. Why are businesses starting to incorporate sustainability into their business model?
9. What factors does sustainability accounting include that traditional accounting systems do not?
10. What three factors make “big data” difficult to analyze using traditional tools such as spreadsheets and databases.
11. Describe the three types of analytics. Give an example of how a manager at **Bombas** might use each type of analytics.
12. Think about all of the choices you make on a day-to-day basis: everything from driving versus riding a bike to school or deciding where to have lunch. Pick three decisions you have made today. Identify an out-of-pocket and opportunity cost for each decision.
13. Why is it important for managers to be able to determine the cost of a particular item? Name one decision that a company might make using cost information.
14. Explain the difference between a direct cost and an indirect cost. Take a look at your wallet. Name two direct costs of making it and two indirect costs of making it.
15. Explain the difference between fixed and variable costs. Give an example of a cost that varies with the number of miles you drive your car each week and an example of a cost that is fixed regardless of how many miles you drive your car each week.
16. Explain the difference between relevant and irrelevant costs. What are the two criteria used to determine whether a cost is relevant?
17. Suppose you and your friends are planning a trip for spring break. You have narrowed the destination choices to Panama City, Florida, and Galveston Bay, Texas. List two costs that are relevant to this decision and two costs that are irrelevant to this decision.
18. What are prime costs? Why have they decreased in importance over time?
19. What types of costs are included in manufacturing overhead? Other than direct materials and direct labor, what costs would *not* be included in manufacturing overhead?
20. Why can't prime cost and conversion cost be added together to arrive at total manufacturing cost?
21. What is the difference between product and period costs in terms of how and when they are treated in the financial statements (balance sheet and income statement)?

22. Explain why product costs are also called *inventoriable costs* and how those costs move through a company's financial statements.
23. What triggers the movement of product costs from an asset on the balance sheet to an expense on the income statement?
24. If you wanted to know the total amount of period costs for a company, which financial statement(s) would you consult?
25. Suppose a company accountant incorrectly classified advertising costs as a product cost. What impact would this have on the company's financial statements?
26. What are ethics, and why is ethical behavior important to managers?
27. What events or factors led to the creation and enactment of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002?
28. How did the Sarbanes-Oxley Act affect managers' responsibility for creating and maintaining an ethical business and reporting environment?
29. How did the Sarbanes-Oxley Act attempt to reduce fraudulent reporting by addressing opportunity, incentives, and character?
30. According to a recent Statement on Management Accounting (SMA), what are some of the potential benefits of a strong ethical business climate?

MULTIPLE CHOICE

1. The **primary** difference between financial accounting and managerial accounting is that
 - a. Financial accounting is used by internal parties while managerial accounting is used by external parties.
 - b. Financial accounting is future oriented while managerial accounting is historical in nature.
 - c. Financial accounting is used by external parties while managerial accounting is used by internal parties.
 - d. Financial accounting is prepared as needed (perhaps even daily), but managerial accounting is prepared periodically (monthly, quarterly, annually).
2. Which of the following companies is most likely to be considered a manufacturing company?
 - a. **Burger King.**
 - b. **Abercrombie and Fitch.**
 - c. **Supercuts.**
 - d. **Maytag.**
3. Which of the functions of management involves monitoring actual results to see whether the objectives set in the planning stage are being met and, if necessary, taking corrective action to adjust the objectives or implementation of the plan?
 - a. Implementing.
 - b. Controlling.
 - c. Planning.
 - d. Selling.
4. Suppose you have decided that you would like to purchase a new home in five years. To do this, you will need a down payment of approximately \$20,000, which means that you need to save \$350 each month for the next five years. This is an example of
 - a. Directing/Leading.
 - b. Controlling.
 - c. Planning/Organizing.
 - d. Selling.
5. If the number of units produced increases, then
 - a. Unit variable costs will increase.
 - b. Unit fixed costs will decrease.
 - c. Total variable costs will remain the same.
 - d. Total fixed costs will increase.

Use the following information regarding Garcia Company for questions 6–8.

Factory rent	\$5,000
Direct labor	8,000
Indirect materials	1,000
Direct materials used	3,500
Sales commissions	2,500
Factory manager's salary	4,000
Advertising	1,500

6. What is Garcia's total manufacturing cost?
 - a. \$25,500.
 - b. \$24,000.
 - c. \$21,500.
 - d. \$10,000.
7. What is Garcia's prime cost?
 - a. \$11,500.
 - b. \$12,500.
 - c. \$15,500.
 - d. \$21,000.
8. What is Garcia's manufacturing overhead?
 - a. \$24,000.
 - b. \$12,500.
 - c. \$14,000.
 - d. \$10,000.
9. Suppose you are trying to decide whether to sell your accounting book at the end of the semester or keep it as a reference book for future courses. If you decide to keep the book, the money you would have received from selling it is a(n)
 - a. Sunk cost.
 - b. Opportunity cost.
 - c. Out-of-pocket cost.
 - d. Indirect cost.
10. Which of the following would *not* be treated as a product cost under GAAP?
 - a. Direct materials.
 - b. Manufacturing supervisor's salary.
 - c. Sales commissions.
 - d. All of the above are product costs.