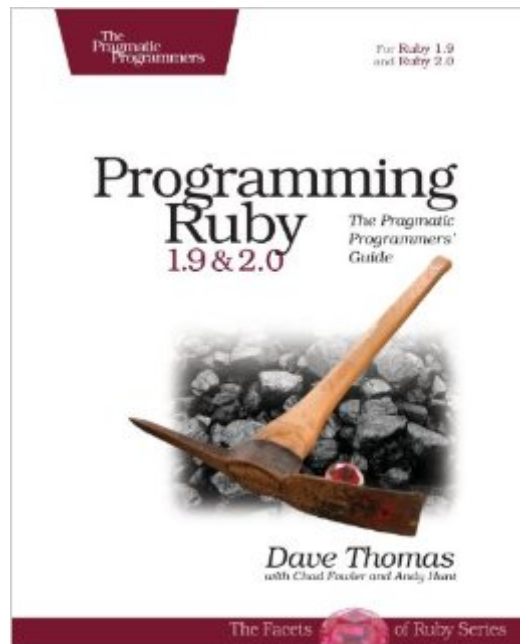# Programming Ruby 1.9 & 2.0: The Pragmatic Programmers' Guide (The Facets Of Ruby)

Synopsis

Ruby is the fastest growing and most exciting dynamic language out there. If you need to get working programs delivered fast, you should add Ruby to your toolbox. This book is the only complete reference for both Ruby 1.9 and Ruby 2.0, the very latest version of Ruby. 2013 marks the 20th anniversary of the Ruby language. We're proud that throughout its history, we've continued to cover the latest version of Ruby.Would you like to go from first idea to working code much, much faster? Do you currently spend more time satisfying the compiler instead of your clients or end users? Are you frustrated with demanding languages that seem to get in your way, instead of getting the work done? Are you using Rails, and want to dig deeper into the underlying Ruby language? If so, then we've got a language and book for you!Ruby is a fully object-oriented language, much like the classic object-oriented language, Smalltalk. Like Smalltalk, it is dynamically typed (as opposed to Java or C++), but unlike Smalltalk, Ruby features the same conveniences found in modern scripting languages such as Perl and Python.The combination of the power of a pure object-oriented language with the convenience of a scripting language makes Ruby a favorite tool of intelligent, forward-thinking programmers.The Pickaxe contains four major sections: An acclaimed tutorial on using Ruby. The definitive reference to the language. Complete documentation of all built-in classes, modules, and methods. Complete descriptions of all 97 standard libraries.This is the reference manual for Ruby, including a description of all the standard library modules, a complete reference to all built-in classes and modules (including all the new and changed methods introduced by Ruby 1.9, 1.9.2, 1.9.3, and 2.0). It also includes all the new and changed syntax and semantics introduced since Ruby 1.8. Learn about the new parameter passing rules, local variable scoping in blocks, fibers, and the new block declaration syntax, among other exciting new features.About Ruby 2.0Ruby 2.0 is a minor update to Ruby 1.9, unlike the more major updates from Ruby 1.8 to Ruby 1.9.The major language changes in Ruby 2.0 are the addition of keyword arguments and the change to use UTF-8 as the default source file encoding.There are a number of additions to the standard library, including: @Enumerator::Lazy@, which adds support for lazy access to potentially infinite lists. Refinements allow you to encapsulate changes to third-party classes, and scope their application to individual source files, preventing your changes from polluting the global application.You'll also find that Ruby 2 is faster, and has memory management improvements that make it more server-friendly.All told, there are over 110 sections of the book that have been flagged and cross-linked to indicate 2.0 content.What You Need This book assumes you have a basic understanding of object-oriented programming. In general, Ruby programmers tend to favor the the command line for running their code, and they tend to use text editors rather than

IDEs.* Ruby runs on Windows, Linux, and Macs.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This is a great, updated version of the now-classic Programming Ruby series from The Pragmatic Programmers. The book is a great reference covering the whole of ruby and many related features. This is the only current Ruby book that attempts to cover everything Ruby. The book is very well organized with topics in outline-form subsections making it easy to pinpoint one's exact learning or reference needs.Programming Ruby 1.9 & 2.0 reads a lot like O'Reilly's "Definitive Guide" series but is also as usable as a "In a Nutshell" series reference book. I'm very impressed by the way the authors were able to write a detailed but concise (as concise as a huge language like Ruby can be anyway) programming book.

This book is centered around snippet code so if you are looking for a cookbook start to finish project book this is not for you. The good side of this story is I have it loaded on my work computer. When I have syntax issues I simply perform a find on the subject. this has proven to be a very productive when working. Between stackoverflow the open community web source, and this book when coding I solve problems quickly. I am a professional Ruby / Ruby on Rails developer. For all those who just know Ruby on Rails you should really learn Ruby. What happens if one of your gems does not work? or gets monkey patched? or just doesn't work? You will be forced to dig deeper and you will

need to know Ruby to sort out the R-on-R MVC framework guts.Trust me I tried just learning Rails years ago, now I know Ruby I am very seldom defeated. If you like this comment get the book GREAT resource.

This edition has lost what made the original edition so great: focus, audience, narrative.The original Programming Ruby, "the Pickaxe book" is a masterpiece. It conveyed the essence of what made Ruby such an amazing language. It read like a story, using as much detail as necessary to continue the narrative, and no more. It was, in short, very pragmatic. After reading Programming Ruby back when it came out, I felt confident I could do a lot of work in the language, and the rest I could look up. It was a book I could hand to non-programmers and experienced programmers alike.This edition has lost the narrative and its audience. It reads more like a traditional programming language book organized by feature sets rather than building up an understanding. It makes the mistake of trying to convey too much detail before the reader is ready for it. As an example, there is an extensive diversion in chapter 4 about implementing Enumerators. The reader has just been introduced to the concept of Arrays and Hashes and is not ready for that level of detail. The author does this a lot, going off on detailed technical tangents about new features in Ruby 1.9 and 2.0. Even as an experienced programmer I find myself having difficulty following them sometimes, or understanding why its relevant, a non-programmer would have no hope.The book will occasionally promote some very powerful, but very questionable, techniques. These techniques often come too early in the book when the reader is supposed to be learning the basics. A reader new to programming would not be able to recognize this is not something to be done in practice. For example, in the section on benchmarking and profiling, the author "optimizes" a program which reads files line by line by slurping the whole file into memory. There is no discussion of why this is a bad idea.The book regularly assumes the reader is already familiar with programming, and Ruby/Perl like constructs. This greatly changes the nature of the book from a practical introduction to programming in Ruby, to a review of the language for non-Ruby programmers.If you want to learn Ruby, buy the original edition or read it online. If you want information about the latest Ruby 1.9 and 2.0 features, buy this perhaps for review, or read about them online.

I needed to learn Ruby in hurry, as there was an urgent need to rewrite a module that was giving trouble in Perl because of a problematic CPAN module. This book gave me all I needed to quickly learn the language and rewrite the module in Ruby.

Very detailed reference book. This is a must have for every rails developer, but if you are a complete beginner, this book will likely not give the guidance needed unless the person already has strong OOO skills from other languages. If you are new to programming, this book will be useful - but not the best starting point as it is a reference guide and not a guide to teach someone how to program and about OOO.

This book provides thorough yet concise coverage of the Ruby language and its standard library. The basic concepts of the language are covered in a few brief chapters, and from there the main focus is on practical real-world use. That is certainly worth every penny.

Very good book. It may deserve even 5 stars, but personally I was more connected to the other book, "The Well-grounded Rubyist". But this is a very good book as well. I believe this book is better as a reference while the other is better for learning the language.This book is very thorough with a very large reference section.

I am getting irritated with the font of the syntax diagrams. It is so small and almost unreadable. For instance on page 327 "22.8 Invoking a Method", I can't spot the difference between the first two lines. Maybe the author thinks syntax diagrams aren't important at all?This is too large a book. Half of the book consists of a reference. As a reference, I prefer online material to a thick book.

Programming Ruby 1.9 & 2.0: The Pragmatic Programmers' Guide (The Facets of Ruby) Ruby: Learn Ruby in 24 Hours or Less - A Beginner's Guide To Learning Ruby Programming Now (Ruby, Ruby Programming, Ruby Course) Metaprogramming Ruby 2: Program Like the Ruby Pros (Facets of Ruby) Pragmatic Guide to Git (Pragmatic Guides) 3D Game Programming for Kids: Create Interactive Worlds with JavaScript (Pragmatic Programmers) Programming Clojure (Pragmatic Programmers) Programming Groovy: Dynamic Productivity for the Java Developer (Pragmatic Programmers) Programming Groovy 2: Dynamic Productivity for the Java Developer (Pragmatic Programmers) Practical Programming: An Introduction to Computer Science Using Python 3 (Pragmatic Programmers) Agile Web Development with Rails 4 (Facets of Ruby) The RSpec Book: Behaviour Driven Development with RSpec, Cucumber, and Friends (Facets of Ruby) Web Design for Developers: A Programmer's Guide to Design Tools and Techniques (Pragmatic Programmers) Seven Concurrency Models in Seven Weeks: When Threads Unravel (The Pragmatic Programmers) The Agile Samurai: How Agile Masters Deliver Great Software (Pragmatic

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