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Java 1.1: The Complete Reference



Synopsis

This updated and expanded edition covers the latest release of the Java Development Kit 1.1. The new technologies covered include: Java Beans - packaged, reusable code; updated AWT (Abstract Windows Toolkit); class information - for building GUI (graphical user interface) windows on every platform; updated Java Database Connectivity (JDBC) API - connects databases of all vendors to Java programs; and RMI/CORBA integration - allows applications to travel and communicate across multiple architectures using the CORBA open systems specification. Developed in 1994 by Sun Microsystems, Java has become more than a way to add flashy graphics to Web pages. It has actually evolved into an application development platform - the base upon which software developers build their applications. A variety of applications are now being developed using Java, including those for spreadsheets, word processing, accounting and databases. Due to its platform independence, cost issues are pushing more and more developers towards the Java platform. It is also the underpinning feature of the next generation of professional computing, the Network Computer. Java applications, called "applets", differ from ordinary applications in that they reside on the network in centralized servers. No longer is the need for different versions to be installed on various platforms. Java is platform-independent and runs on UNIX, Windows and Macintosh. From the corporate point of view, applications created in Java can be deployed without modification to any computing platform, saving the costs associated with developing software for multiple platforms. Patrick Naughton is the author of "The Java Handbook". Herbert Schildt is the author of "C++ from the Ground Up", "C++: The Complete Reference", "Teach Yourself C (and C++)", and "Schildt's Windows 95 Programming in C and C++".

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is the BEST book you can get if you want to learn Java and you have no experience in other computer languages, this book is the best for you.. Except you have to get WinEdit or Textpad and use those programs for their examples (and JDK) (The book shows examples but it does not clarify in what programs you use java.. But other than that, the book is FANTASTIC.. But it may be boring for more advanced people.. But, if you are a beginner, this is the book for you!!

I will first admit that I have only read the book for about ten minutes so far. But my biggest disappointment led me to write this review. The title of the book "The Complete Reference--Java 1.1" is VERY MISLEADING. I was expecting something similar to Patrick Chan's and Rosanna Lee's "The Java Class Libraries--An Annotated Reference". Now that is a complete reference; however, it only covers JDK 1.0.2. To illustrate my point, say you want to know about the ZipFile class. A class for dealing with pkZip files. So what would you do? Well, I thought I would look it up in the index. What a concept--the index--it's gotta be there. The only entry under "Z" was "Zero crossing". No "ZipFile," no "ZipInputStream", no "ZipOutputStream," not even division by Zero. Knowing that the zip package was part of the util package, I decided to read Chapter 15: The Utility Classes. Well let me quote for you what their "Complete Reference" says about reading and writing Zip files. Quoted from page 469: "Java 1.1 introduced the java.util.zip package. This has interfaces and classes that are used for reading and writing files in the popular ZIP and GZIP file formats. Both ZIP and GZIP input and output streams are available. Other classes implement the ZLIB algorithms for compression and decompression." And I thought a reference would at least give you the class definition along with its members. This book is not only NOT complete it is also not a reference it is more of a guide or tutorial. It is probably fairly okay if you want to learn Java, but if you are looking for a complete reference, this is NOT the book for you.

Although I was introduced to the basics of Java through another book, I used this book to learn many more of the details of implementation. The book is written as good, concise documentation with additional explanations and many beneficial source code examples. For most Java programmers it is impossible to own just one or two Java books and have every detail explained to one's satisfaction. This book doesn't offer an escape to that - it can't allow itself to explain things

conceptually in quite as much detail as a tutorial might. However that problem is natural and only arises with topics that often have an entire book devoted to them. Overall, topics are well explained and easily understood. A great addition is its strong individual and relationary treatment of both Java 1.1 and Java 1.0. Although not included for such purpose, it inherently serves as a decent guide to converting deprecated Java 1.0 code to Java 1.1 (though some AWT changes are too significant.) This book is a very good one to own as your main reference and guide to Java.

I must say that this is a good book for everyone who want to learn JAVA. But I am sorry to say that this book is only a refrence for JAVA but not a bible for JAVA. I have to say that because in this book the authors only briefly show the way to compile the source code and not explain it in detial. This problem may be seem is minor, but for a new programmer this is a great problem. This is because when we save our file with the .java, what appear in the screen is another name. For example if the programmer save the file as MyFile.java, the name that appears in the screen is MyFi~1.jav, so he will compile it with "javac MyFi~1.jav" because this is file that show in the screen. In this section, I think the way that presented by the book "Teach yourself JAVA in 21 days" is better. I hope that the authors can take note about it and have a great improvement in the next book. Finally I would like to say this is a good book but a perfect one !

This is the book which taught me Java. I was in India those days and there were very few books available in the market. I tried Microsoft Press - Learn java now, it talks about everything but Java, then I bought Mastering Java (Sybex)- even this was a poor attempt to teach java. Then one day I found this book, and for the first time I started understanding Java, Authors seemed to be very clear about what they were saying. You will get full value for time and money spent on this book. With this book you don't need to know any other programming language before jumping to Java. It deals with everything. It talks about OOPS concepts, How Java works, etc. etc. The best I have seen so far!

I hate to be contradictory to the general flow of reviews, but I thought this book sucked. Perhaps it was the setting I used the book in (3rd year university transition-to-java course), but I had previously read the explanation of Object Orentation in Core Java and found that to be substantially better. I found the treatment of several areas to be rather superficial - too light to get the job done. My own combination of books when I was learning java was Java in a Nutshell, The Java Tutorial (online version) and the Java API documentation. Core Java was also useful. I say, even to beginners, look elsewhere first.

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