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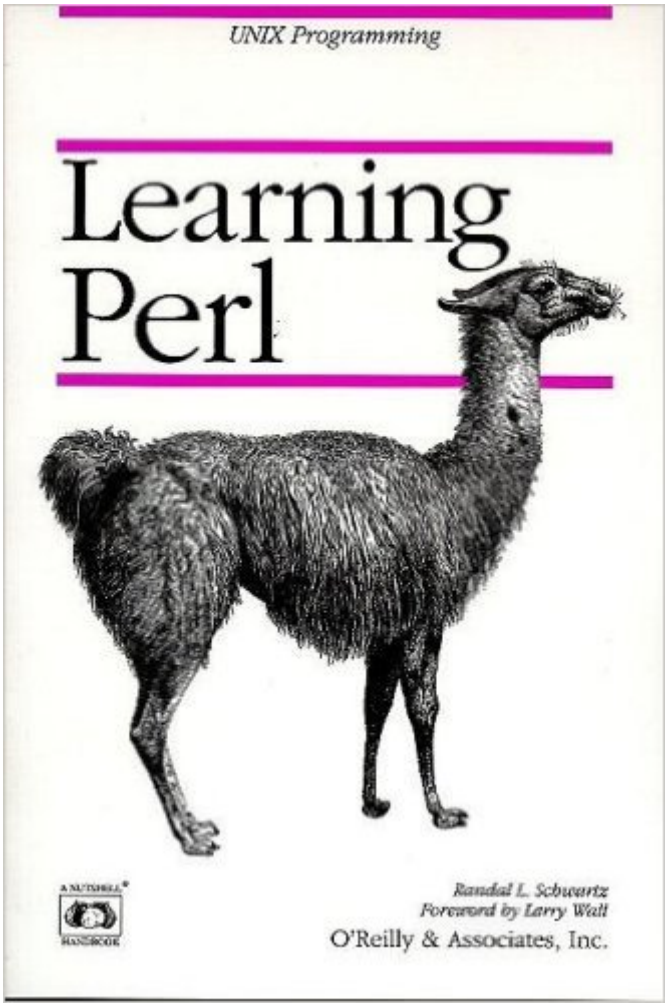
Learning Perl (Nutshell Handbooks)



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Synopsis

Learning Perl is designed for those who seek a rapid working knowledge of Perl. A public domain language, Perl has established itself as the premier UNIX scripting language--replacing facilities such as the shell, sed and awk. It is currently taking root in non-UNIX markets as well.Perl is a high-level, multi-purpose language. It is used in diverse system administration tasks, while also playing an endless variety of roles in other areas. These range from data reduction and report generation to distributed computing and assorted auxiliary roles in software development. Perl has even encroached upon the territory of C and other programming languages.Perl allows the programmer to combine in one script functions that previously had to be divided between the shell, sed, awk, various other UNIX utilities, and C programs. With this breadth of capability, Perl is an extraordinarily powerful and flexible language.Learning Perl, written by a leading Perl instructor, provides a systematic, step-by-step, tutorial approach to learning the language. There are numerous short code examples punctuating a relaxed, informal, and precise tour of all the main features of the language. In addition, each chapter contains exercise problems, together with their solutions. Anyone who works through the book will be capable of programming with a broad and productive range of Perl features. For a comprehensive and detailed guide to advanced programming with Perl, read O’Reilly’s companion book, Programming Perl.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Perl is an absolutely marvellous language for helping system administrators in their task ofhandling multi-vendor machines, and is an excellent aid to increasing their laziness by helpingreplace cumbersome shell scripts with elegant programs. This book by Randal Schwartz brings the novice to Perl programming up to speed quite gently, and shows off the power of Perl in a clear cut manner. As a precursor to the book "Programming Perl" by Larry Wall, the founder of Perl, this book is very nice. It starts with the simple Hello World program, and guides the user through the preliminary stages of Perl as it increases the capability of the program. Another nice point is the presence of exercises at the end of each chapter, challenging one to work out the programs and the bugs - an essential ingredient to learning any computer language. It also helps that Randal provides answers to these exercises. I recommend this book and its companion volume, Programming Perl, very highly.

I had to learn Perl in a big hurry to keep my job. Now I am aweb expert with Perl being my favourite. This little, simple andeasy to read book is still my favourite, and has been borrowed by most of my friends. This book is undoubtedly a "winner".

Randal’s book is the first thing one should purchase for learning Perl (hence the title.) His style is light but informative and he tells you the things you *need* to know. I made the mistake of starting with Larry Wall’s "Programming Perl" (another essential book but has the power to ward off neophytes!) and realized I had to Do-re-mi it and "start from the very beginning....a very good place to start."If Randal comes out with a new edition which covers the greatly revised version 5 I’ll bump the rating up to 9.5!

Let me preface my mentioning that I am aprofessional c,c++,unix,AWK programmer(Not to toot my horn, but to give the reader a point of reference). I stared reading at 10:00, an was writin’ some small programs by 11:00. It had a lot of simple, but useful examples (I don’t mind if the author uses his/her name in examples, Kind of makes it a little more personal) I have read many BAD computer books. This is not one of those. I was able to learn from this book, and that gives it a BUY IT in my book. (I enjoyed it)

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