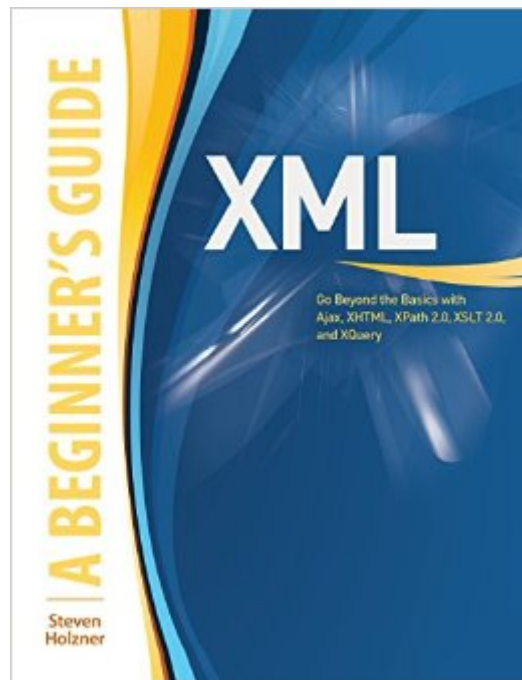


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# XML: A Beginner's Guide: Go Beyond The Basics With Ajax, XHTML, XPath 2.0, XSLT 2.0 And XQuery



## Synopsis

Essential Skills--Made Easy!Get started programming in XML right away with help from this hands-on tutorial. XML: A Beginner's Guide explains how to store data in and retrieve data from XML documents, format data with Cascading Style Sheets, display data in Web browsers, and use Java and JavaScript. The book covers the latest innovations in XML, including Ajax, XHTML, XPath 2.0, XSLT 2.0, and the new XQuery specification. Now it's easier than ever to learn how to create your own XML solutions!Designed for Easy Learning: Key Skills & Concepts--Lists of specific skills covered in the chapter Try This--Hands-on exercises that show how to apply your skillsNumerous screenshots--Examples that illustrate real-world results Annotated Syntax--Example code with commentary that describes the programming techniques being illustrated

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This book is a dreadful mix of repetitive, redundant code chunks and a strained chatty style of writing. It will leave most readers determined never to go near XML again. Indeed, nowhere in the book are reasons why you would wish to use it. But worse is that the book focuses on Internet Explorer exclusively, including Active-X and Microsoft's non-standard brand of the DOM. Under the aegis of XHTML Transitional it introduces beginners to the likes of the "popular" tag with all its long-deprecated attributes, not to mention many other deprecated tags, inline JavaScript event handlers, and other aspects more suited to the state of markup in 1999 than to 2009 - the year of

publication. During the course of the book there is no signal to the reader that this or that code approach is proprietary and not standard. If beginners wish to learn standards-compliant, interoperable code and where and why you might want to deploy it, they should give this book a wide berth. I'm sorry to have to write a negative review - rare for me.

I found the book easy to read and informative. The code is simple but get the point across. The writing style is conversational, but I like that in a book. Moreover, it is not Microsoft centric as some have suggested. I have read over a dozen XML books and I found that this was the best one so far.

I highly recommend this title. There is something for everyone regardless of your level of expertise.

With "Go Beyond the Basics with ... XQuery" in its title, I was hoping the book would provide details on how to use XQuery. Unfortunately, the book devotes only six pages to the subject, almost three of which are just a list of functions (i.e., no actual analysis or demonstrations on how to use them). I have not reviewed the rest of the book, but if you're looking for help with XQuery, this is not the source.

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