Head First Ruby

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Head First Ruby

A Brain-Friendly Guide

Get more done with less code

Do heavy lifting easily with blocks

Avoid embarrassing OO mistakes

Master the Ruby Standard Library

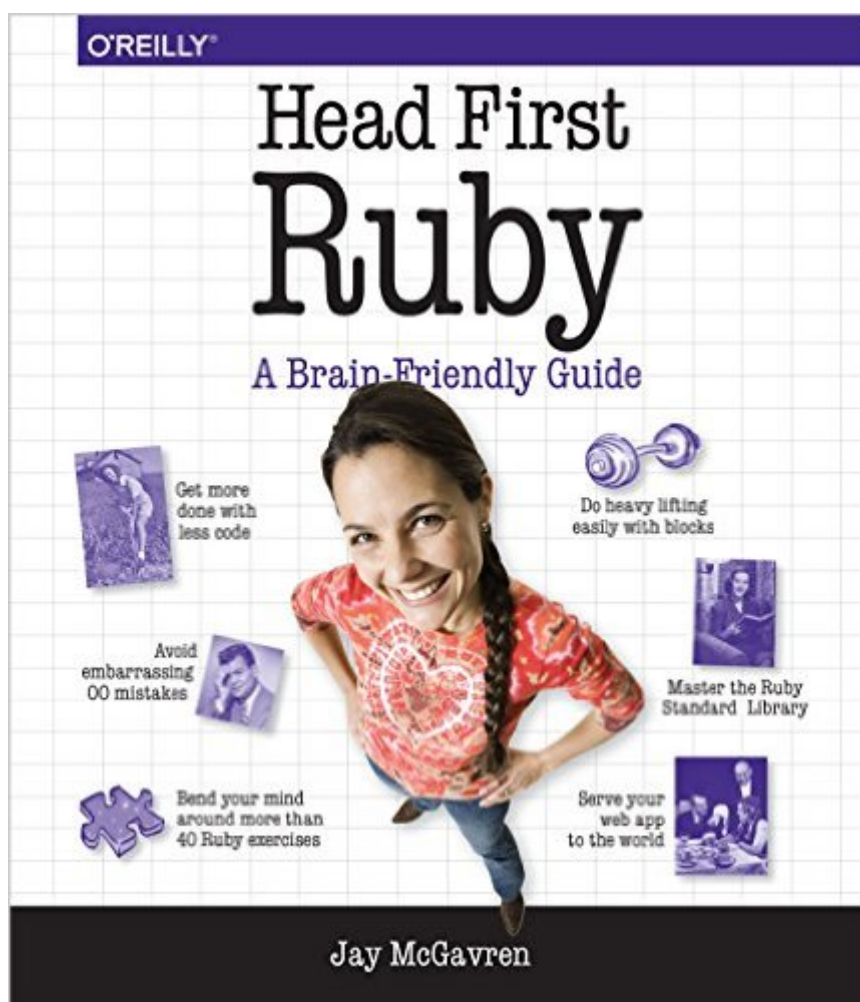Bend your mind around more than 40 Ruby exercises

Serve your web app to the world

Jay McGavren

Synopsis

What will you learn from this book?Whatâ ™s all the buzz about this Ruby language? Is it right for you? Well, ask yourself: are you tired of all those extra declarations, keywords, and compilation steps in your other language? Do you want to be a more productive programmer? Then youâ ™ll love Ruby. With this unique hands-on learning experience, youâ ™ll discover how Ruby takes care of all the details for you, so you can simply have fun and get more done with less code.Why does this book look so different?Based on the latest research in cognitive science and learning theory, Head First Ruby uses a visually rich format to engage your mind, rather than a text-heavy approach that puts you to sleep. Why waste your time struggling with new concepts? This multi-sensory learning experience is designed for the way your brain really works.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I am a Software Engineer with over 15 years in the industry. I use ruby professionally on a daily basis, and am Team Lead for a large project written in Ruby. As such I am always looking for good training material for Jr Engineers and new team members-- having had good luck with Head First books before I picked up "Head First Ruby".I'm happy to say this book continues in the grand tradition of the Head First series and provides a clear, easy and precise introduction to Ruby, and I think is the easiest way to get "up and running" with Ruby. TAKE THE TIME TO DO THE EXERCISES. They are silly but you will learn.

This book is fantastic! It is the perfect book for someone who wants to learn Ruby, and has never programmed before. I would say that minor Terminal command line usage can be helpful, but not strictly necessary. This book starts at the very beginning, and teaches the _why_ to code a certain way, and not just the _what_. The author will present one way to do something, and then will follow with why to do it another better way, so that you get the big picture of _why_ it's the better way. I also think that this book does a great job at explaining references to Objects and the Heap to newbies. Such a normally confusing subject is just presented so well (a difficulty that I would assume is kind of metaphorically analogous to pointers in C for newbies). I also love the last couple of chapters where you make a _real_ Sinatra web app. This rocks, it takes a complete newbie to an entry level coder doing a simple Sinatra app. The book also has a homepage (in-progress, but the book is only recently published). I am also critical of a couple of other books in this series, but this one is good. I do wish he could write a sequel to this book, but alas you can only publish so much in a series. I do wish it covered concurrency, which was missing, but it really does a good job with everything it does cover. So it's a great introduction to Ruby to prepare readers for books like The Well Grounded Rubyist,[...] and Eloquent Ruby kinds of books. The style is fun and cool. As of the date of this posting Wed 2016.05.18, this book is up-to-date, and all exercises work on a recent modern Ruby. Thanks!

First of all, the book is very good. Its fast paced, and covers plenty of Ruby concepts. Its a very very good introductory text to the Ruby programming language.The language is clear and concise, and the author has articulated the concepts very well. The code samples are simple and easy to understand and surprisingly have no mistakes at all (head first usually has a few that are errata'd later)The reason I am giving 4 stars is because the book I received was in Black and White. I agree that the posting (look inside) does show it as black and white, however the book that you get from O'Reilly is in color. And the price difference is literally 5 bucks. Of late, I have found a lot of books on being in Black and White (my last 3 book orders to be precise), while the same book from the publishers (O'Reilly, Sitepoint, etc) is in color.I know this looks like nitpicking, but I really do prefer the books in color, especially when they are web design kinda books.

When I first learned Java some years ago Head First Java was where I got started. (I had tried Thinking in Java, which is a great book, but it's not all that accessible for beginners.) I'm learning Ruby, obviously, and once again I've found this book to be a great starting point. When I say it's a

great first book I don't mean that the code you learn is overly simplified or trivial, but these guys make it easy to take the plunge. You still have to swim. One thing I particularly like is the way it emphasizes differences between Ruby and older languages that have what I'll call a C-like syntax. As many of the basic code structures are similar throughout that family of languages, zeroing in on the contrasts saved me a lot of confusion. happened to offer me this review copy shortly after I learned that our shop was turning toward Ruby for an upcoming project so that was my good luck, but even if I'd paid for the book I'd still be in love with it. I'm only halfway through but I'm writing solid code for moderately complex applications. I seriously could not recommend this more highly for a beginner. If anyone knows of the best more advanced book I'd appreciate it if you left it's title as a comment.

I have been teaching programming for decades and I have looked at a lot of programming books... This is the first Head First book that I have liked and I *really* like it. While I know others like this series, I have found other works too full of distracting (fluff) images and wasted space. This also has a LOT of white space on each page but the writing is exceptionally good and the layout/design works well to keep the material from being too dense without wasting your time. The code is everywhere and the call outs do a lovely job of reinforcing the material. If you have not done object oriented programming this is a great place to start.

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) Head First Ruby Head First Rails: A Learner's Companion to Ruby on Rails Ruby's Tea for Two (Max and Ruby) Ruby's Cupcakes (Max and Ruby) Ruby's Rainbow (Max and Ruby) Max & Ruby's Storybook Treasury (Max and Ruby) Ruby's Falling Leaves (Max and Ruby) Practical Object-Oriented Design in Ruby: An Agile Primer (Addison-Wesley Professional Ruby) Ruby on Rails Tutorial: Learn Web Development with Rails (3rd Edition) (Addison-Wesley Professional Ruby) Eloquent Ruby (Addison-Wesley Professional Ruby) Programming Ruby 1.9 & 2.0: The Pragmatic Programmers' Guide (The Facets of Ruby) Ruby Under a Microscope: An Illustrated Guide to Ruby Internals Ruby on Rails Tutorial: Learn Web Development with Rails (4th Edition) (Addison-Wesley Professional Ruby Series) Ruby on Rails 3 Tutorial: Learn Rails by Example (Addison-Wesley Professional Ruby) Effective Ruby: 48 Specific Ways to Write Better Ruby (Effective Software Development Series) Ruby Performance Optimization: Why Ruby is Slow, and How to Fix It Ruby Red (The Ruby Red Trilogy) Ruby and the Booker Boys #1: Brand New School, Brave New Ruby