



Java Programming: From the Beginning

By K. N. King

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Aimed at the traditional CS1 course, *Java Programming* emphasizes object-oriented design, problem-solving, and good programming style, without overwhelming students with extraneous information.

Assuming no prior programming experience, the book provides coverage of basic concepts in computer science as a springboard for more advanced discussion.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Suitable for the classroom or for self-study, *Java Programming from the Beginning* puts basic Java development and object-oriented design into the hands of any computer-literate reader. Assuming no knowledge of computers--except, of course, an aptitude for programming and a willingness to learn--this textbook is one of the more accessible and well-presented introductions to Java available today.

The author is an experienced college teacher, and the book's effective presentation style is arguably its major strength. Early chapters rely on simple mathematical examples (such as converting temperatures from Fahrenheit to Celsius, or averaging grades). Other examples look at parsing social security numbers or storing entries from a telephone book. *Java Programming* does a good job of presenting the basics of object-oriented design in terms of both designing custom classes and taking advantage of existing Java classes, such as *String*, *StringBuffer*, and *Vector* objects. Of course, along the way, the basics of Java syntax are covered, including many of its keywords, operators, and data types.

Although it's suitable for a college classroom, this textbook is never academic or dull. The colloquial and friendly writing style presents the essentials of Java without ever getting bogged down in theory. Besides command-line programs, you'll learn also how to do basic graphics in Java, and even play simple games (like blackjack). The custom classes that are presented in this book make it simpler to work with Java, even for beginners. Every chapter provides extensive review summaries of the important points that are demonstrated in each section, as well as a handful of exercises that'll let you try out material on your own.

Now that Java is used routinely as a first programming language in many colleges, *Java Programming from the Beginning* fills a useful niche. It's also an excellent home-study choice for the reader who appreciates a patient and thorough teaching style. --Richard Dragan

Topics covered:

1. Basics of computer hardware and software
2. Graphical user interfaces vs. text-based interfaces
3. General introduction to programming languages
4. Basic Java language features and syntax
5. Calculations
6. Constants
7. Methods
8. Console I/O
9. Computing averages
10. Syntax errors and debugging
11. Introduction to object-oriented design: classes, objects, and instance methods
12. Working with the Java *String* and *StringBuffer* classes
13. Basic control structures
14. Comparison
15. Relational and equality operators
16. Operator precedence
17. Loops and counting variables
18. Decoding social security numbers
19. Using Java arrays and the *Vector* class
20. Using arrays for a database
21. Arrays of objects
22. Sample case study for a telephone directory
23. Drawing basic shapes, colors, and text
24. A message window example
25. Class variables and methods
26. Passing arguments to methods
27. Helper methods
28. Principles for designing methods in Java
29. Exception-handling basics
30. The *switch* statement
31. Using the Java primitive types
32. Writing custom classes
33. The *this* keyword
34. Constructors
35. Code reuse
36. Sample code for blackjack
37. Inheritance and subclasses
38. Polymorphism
39. Abstract classes
40. The *final* classes
41. Introduction to the Abstract Windowing Toolkit (AWT)
42. Frames and event handlers
43. Layout managers
44. Data structures, sorting, and searching
45. Using sets (and bit sets)
46. File I/O in Java (opening, reading, and writing files)
47. Installing the Sun JDK
48. Custom classes for simplified introductory Java programming

From the Author

Since 1996, I've taught Java to hundreds of college students and working professionals. I've found that nearly all Java books on the market are too difficult for someone with no previous programming experience. "Java Programming: From the Beginning" is designed to fill that gap.

If you're searching for a book that covers all the trendy new Java features, you'll need to look elsewhere. If you want a book that's broad but shallow, you've come to the wrong place. But if you're interested in learning the fundamentals of Java and of programming in general, welcome home.

I've tried to explain Java in clear, simple language, using plenty of interesting programs to illustrate the features of the language. I've avoided using a "cookbook" approach: the emphasis is on understanding, not merely imitating.

Although "Java Programming: From the Beginning" is for the novice, it isn't one of those watered-down "dummies" books. It assumes that the reader is an intelligent person who simply lacks programming experience. If "gentle but thorough" didn't sound so much like a laxative slogan, it would be the perfect description for this book. Starting from the beginning, it covers all the fundamental knowledge that a Java programmer needs.

Each chapter of "Java Programming: From the Beginning" ends with a Q&A section--a series of questions and answers related to material covered in the chapter. Other key features include:

- * Warnings
- * Style tips
- * Design tips
- * Cross-references
- * Debugging sections
- * Case studies
- * Nearly 400 review questions (with answers provided) and 200 exercises
- * Over 130 programming projects

For more information about "Java Programming: From the Beginning," please visit the author's Web site (knking.com).

About the Author

K. N. King (Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley) is Associate Professor of Computer Science at Georgia State University. He is the author of *Modula-2: A Complete Guide* and *Java Programming: From the Beginning*.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Paul Holt:

The book *Java Programming: From the Beginning* make one feel enjoy for your spare time. You should use to make your capable more increase. Book can to become your best friend when you getting pressure or having big problem along with your subject. If you can make studying a book *Java Programming: From the Beginning* to get your habit, you can get much more advantages, like add your personal capable, increase your knowledge about some or all subjects. You are able to know everything if you like open up and read a book *Java Programming: From the Beginning*. Kinds of book are several. It means that, science e-book or

encyclopedia or others. So , how do you think about this book?

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