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Ajax: The Complete Reference



Synopsis

The Definitive Guide to Ajax Web Application Development Evolve from the click-and-wait programming pattern to the latest Web 2.0 paradigm using this comprehensive guide to Ajax. Written by Web development expert Thomas Powell, the book lays out every feature of Ajax alongside detailed explanations and real-world code examples. Ajax: The Complete Reference explains how to create and test Ajax-enabled Web applications using the XMLHttpRequest object as well as alternative JavaScript-based communication mechanisms. You'll explore a variety of sample applications featuring emerging user-interface conventions and build applications that address real-world networking and security issues. A robust communication library is developed throughout the book that enables you to architect flexible Ajax applications. The latest technologies such as Web services, Flash-Ajax integration, client-side templates, Comet, and Offline Access are also covered. Discover the future of Web development today! Work with traditional JavaScript communication approaches like iframes Explore all the quirks and details in the XMLHttpRequest object Handle disparate data formats, including XML, JSON, CSV, YAML, and more Deal with networking issues, including timeouts, retries, response ordering, and a variety of server and content errors Simplify JavaScript programming using open-source Ajax libraries like YUI Secure Ajax applications using authentication, obfuscation, and encryption Implement common Ajax UI patterns such as auto suggest, click-to-edit, and drag-and-drop Solve troubling Ajax architecture problems, including back button, history, and bookmarking issues Learn Ajax's role in Web 2.0 and Web services Explore push style communication using Comet and Flash Discover the future of offline Web application access and operation

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book is intended for a computer science class. It's very, very dry, and its really not for everyone. The information doesn't ramp up at all, straight to advanced topics. With that said, it covers some great information, demos debugging throughout, and the author clearly demonstrates his strong knowledge of AJAX. The topics covered are worthy of a read. It's not for beginners to AJAX and/or computer programming. This should be the second book you purchase on the topic, after establishing a basic knowledge of AJAX. Worth a note, the examples use PHP, so if that's not your programming language of choice, then you might want to skip this one.

While this book covers many topics regarding AJAX, then one large section of creating your own AJAX library was - I think- extraneous. With so many good AJAX libraries out there - JQuery and Scriptaculous - I don't see the need to creating your own. Other than that, the other topcis were not only interesting, they were actually useful and relevant.

I am an experienced software engineer who never done any Javascript/Ajax development until three weeks ago. I had a good idea of what I wanted to accomplish, but did not know exactly how to do it. This book was perfect for me. The book is well organized, and I was able to find what I needed to do without reading the book cover to cover. Examples were clear and useful, and I was able to adapt them to my own needs easily. I was able to complete my project in several weeks, much of it thanks to this reference.

What I like the most about this book is very detailed explanations on how to attack and solve problems. I also love the way how this book has a lot of examples that are compatible to most of the modern browsers. All examples are already presented on the site that goes along with the book. The author also give tips on making design decision when making either small or large scale websites. It is very well written with full of examples that come with detailed explanations.

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