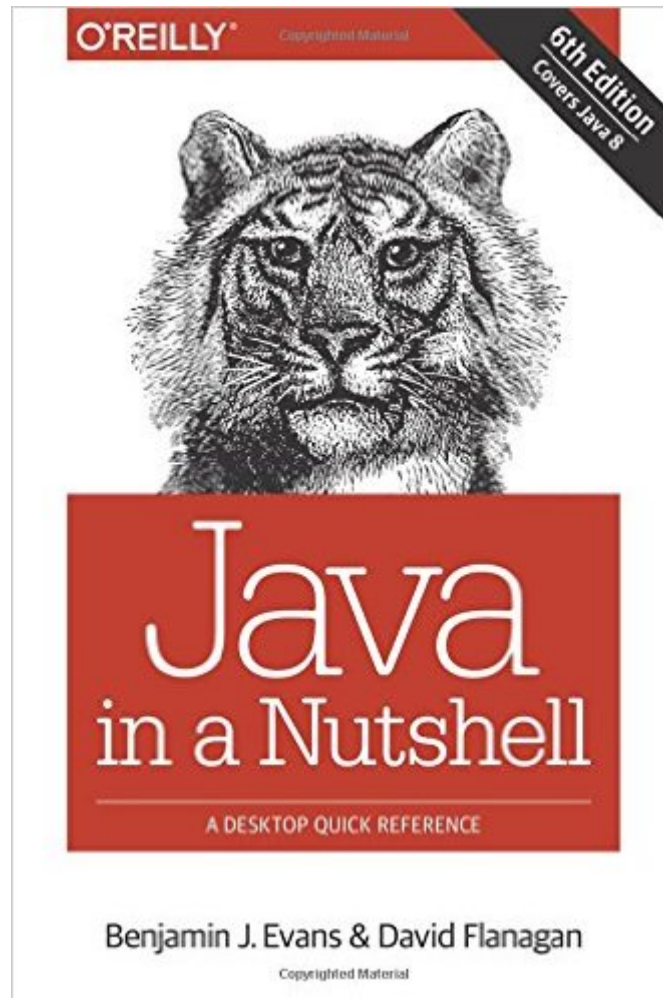


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Java In A Nutshell



Synopsis

The latest edition of *Java in a Nutshell* is designed to help experienced Java programmers get the most out of Java 7 and 8, but it's also a learning path for new developers. Chock full of examples that demonstrate how to take complete advantage of modern Java APIs and development best practices, the first section of this thoroughly updated book provides a fast-paced, no-fluff introduction to the Java programming language and the core runtime aspects of the Java platform. The second section is a reference to core concepts and APIs that shows you how to perform real programming work in the Java environment. Get up to speed on language details, including Java 8 changes. Learn object-oriented programming, using basic Java syntax. Explore generics, enumerations, annotations, and lambda expressions. Understand basic techniques used in object-oriented design. Examine concurrency and memory, and how they're intertwined. Work with Java collections and handle common data formats. Delve into Java's latest I/O APIs, including asynchronous channels. Use Nashorn to execute JavaScript on the Java Virtual Machine. Become familiar with development tools in OpenJDK.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I was disappointed. For example, the section on threading did *not* mention mutexes, semaphores, reset events, the new task-oriented metaphors, nor how to post messages cross thread. Compared to *C# in a Nutshell*, it was very thin and not very useful.

This was the textbook for my second Java class. I found it comprehensive, but terse. By that I mean that I often found myself looking things up elsewhere, where I could find a more helpful explanation. In defense of the author, as a comprehensive text the book would probably have become too large if it were any less terse. I wouldn't recommend the book as your first book if you're trying to learn Java on your own, but it was a good text. I suspect it will also be a good reference as I move ahead to my third Java class and need to look up syntax or usage.

This really is a proper Nutshell book. There's absolutely no filler, just all the core elements of Java (up to java8) explained clearly and succinctly. Great for anyone coming to Java from another language or for a Java programmer that needs to get caught up on what Java is all about today.

Nice book. A good reference but enough material for someone to learn Java if they already have experience in another object-oriented language, The prose is crystal clear. Another winner from O'Reilly Press. The coverage of Java 8 is good.

I'd heard of this title before; it is a venerable, oft-recommended book. But I thought it was a tutorial for beginners. It turns out to be a quick reference, newly updated for Java 8. It is only 3/4" thick--refreshing after the gazillion-page bricks that seem to be mandatory these days. Java in a Nutshell is a combination of terse reminders of language constructs and some advice as to what to do with them. E.g., usually foreach is just described as iterating through the entire collection. This book adds a paragraph on what you cannot do with a foreach statement to make it clearer what it does bring to the table. There is no long exposition on the new Java 8 features. They are described only slightly more than older features. This book is a reminder, not a textbook. There is, however, an entire chapter on the new Nashorn implementation of Javascript for the JVM. It is always a struggle to draw the line between Java the language and the Java ecosystem of libraries. There is the mandatory chapter on the Collections library, including the new functional approach. NIO and Java Date & Time are covered at high level. But concurrency is covered mainly by the Thread class and synchronized keyword. I would have been happier for more on the concurrent-access variants of collection classes and on the Executor framework. Those are the kinds of things I want a quick reference for. But to satisfy everybody, the authors would have had to write the gazillion-page brick they are clearly trying to avoid. Overall a useful book.

I love this book. Not only does it go in depth on the the most basic parts of code, but it tells you all about how the code is read during compilation and runtime. This book has given me a further understanding on how the language works as a whole. I definitely recommend this to anyone wanting to learn Java.

Java 8 is a huge language so I was surprised how thin this book is (372 pages excluding the index). So clearly it is not comprehensive, however it does a reasonable job of providing a broad brush over key language features like lambda expressions which are a compact syntactic sugar for the command pattern. It is a somewhat terse broad brush so it is hard to see who the book is targeted at. Perhaps someone who has extensive experience with previous versions of the language and wants to get a quick overview of what is new and like the printed format.

Not bad, I guess. Seems to cover everything, but it's a little tough picking up on some of the concepts - mostly have to read it twice. Probably the most readable author in this area that I've read is Eric Roberts, but his Java book was too pricey for me. I picked up this and another for considerably less. They probably all tell you how the program works correctly, just that some people are better able than others to get through our thick heads.

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