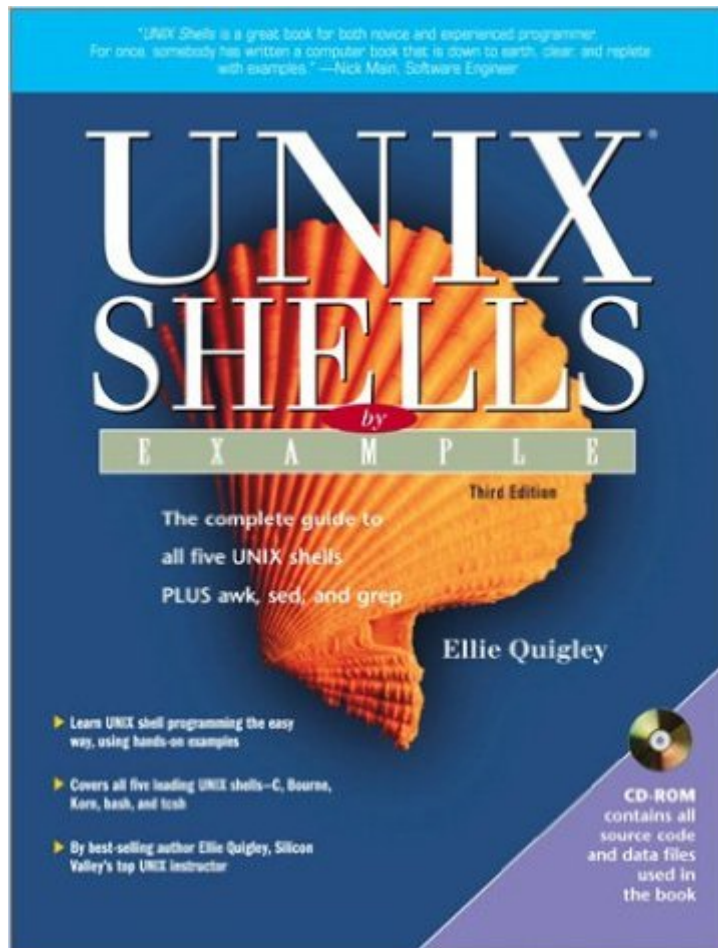


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UNIX Shells By Example, 3rd Edition



Synopsis

UNIX Shells by Example, Third Edition teaches programming in the C, Bourne, Korn, bash, and tcsh shells, using the awk, sed, and grep utilities. With an example-driven methodology proven in Silicon Valley classrooms, Ellie Quigley covers everything system administrators, application developers, and power users need to know about UNIX shell programming in one volume.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The 'Unix Shells By Example' is a well-known book in the field of shells scripting. It has about 640 pages with a CD-ROM included. The book is well edited, with good white-spacing and clarity in layout. Having taught the unix shells for over 15 years, the author really knows her stuff, and the text is factual and to the point. The index seems complete and one doesn't have a difficulty in finding the right info one is looking for. These properties should be normal for books, but computer books seem often an exception. The chapters deal about the central unix-commands for scripting (Grep, AWK, SED) and the big three shells (korn, bourne and C-shell). The author explains the subject in great detail by showing examplescripts. First you're given the data or text to be edited, then the script or commandlines and finally a lengthy line-by-line explanation of the scriptsyntax. The subjects of the scripts range from explaining the basic unix-commands to complex intertwining regular expressions, functions, obscure nawk options etc. The author also touches the subject of shell-history, making comparisons of the three shells, giving 'lab-exercises' and some unix background about commandtypes, login and inheritance. The apparent subject that is missing in this

book is the Bash shell, the preferred shell in the Linux community. However, a separate book on this subject is available (Linux Shells By Example). As with all books that have an extensive coverage of the subject, this book too can be overwhelming for the absolute beginners in shells scripting. It takes some time before one writes syntax like: `nawk -F: 'BEGIN; $1 ~ vendor { print $1 }'`. Instead of searching the pages for the basics, beginners should consider buying an entry level book.

Conclusion: For the intermediate scripter who visits shell sites like shell dorado and lurks newsgroups in search of advanced programming constructs to steal this book is a great find. You won't be left with a feeling that you'll outgrow this book. For newcomers in scripting this should however not be the first book to buy, they're better off with titles like "learning shells scripting in 24 hours". But once through these 24 hours, this book can only be warmly recommended.">Read more â °

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