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A Software Engineer Learns HTML5, JavaScript And JQuery: A Guide To Standards-based Web Applications



Synopsis

New revision is now available. Fully revised and re-edited. HTML5 web applications are now capable of matching or exceeding the scale and sophistication of desktop applications, but with the unique advantage of running natively inside the web browsers on billions of desktop computers, phones, TVs and tablets. This revolution (or more correctly - evolution) has happened for a number of reasons: Browsers have introduced new standards-based APIs allowing web applications to (amongst other things) store data offline, retrieve data from the server dynamically, spawn background processes and interact with the filesystem. Software engineers and programmers have begun to think of the much maligned JavaScript language in a new light, and unlock its potential as a rich and expressive language capable of producing large scale, well-structured applications. The jQuery library has eased the pain of interacting with Document Object Model, and therefore writing applications that dynamically respond to user interaction. The HTML markup language has been overhauled and extended to provide more semantic meaning, and many additional elements and attributes. A Software Engineer Learns HTML5, JavaScript and jQuery guides you through the process I went through as an experienced software engineer, writing a large-scale, standards based web-application for the first time. It is intended to teach you the fundamentals of HTML5, JavaScript and jQuery - without presenting you with long lists of APIs, or intricate details of every feature (these can be found in reference manuals). This book is not a simple introduction to the subject matter: it guides you through the process of building a feature-rich web application. The application begins simple, and becomes gradually more complex as additional APIs and features are introduced. This book includes the following content:

- An introduction to the HTML5 markup language, and how it differs from HTML4 and XHTML.
- An introduction to JavaScript, including an in-depth look at its use of objects and functions, along with the design patterns that support the development of robust web applications.
- An introduction to jQuery selection, traversal, manipulation and events.
- An in-depth look at the Web storage and IndexedDB APIs for client side data storage.
- A guide to implementing offline web applications with the Application Cache API.
- An introduction to the ways JavaScript can interact with the users file-system using the FileReader API.
- A guide to the use of Web Workers in web applications.
- An introduction to AJAX, and the jQuery API supporting AJAX.
- An introduction to Server Sent Events and Web Sockets.

This book is intended for anyone with at least a superficial knowledge of HTML and programming (in any language).

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I am reviewing the print version, but I just got the electronic version for free since I bought the print version (but haven't used the electronic version yet). I wasn't aware that I could get the electronic version for free because I bought the print version (perhaps this is something new as I did not know I would get this at the time I bought the print version). Lots of good information for someone already familiar with HTML (at least a basic understanding) and some software development experience.

This book is not for total newbies. I got a lot from this book, including how to better use browsers like Chrome (and their integrated development tools which are now very well done and very helpful) to develop and debug web documents and applications... not to mention a lot about jQuery. What was a bit different was also the discussion on some topics related more to real-world issues that developers run into and encounter that may not usually be found in other books that simply talk about the languages. The book is light on the server end, so consider this a "client side" book. Now for a few rants: * Could have used better editing for grammar, spelling, and typos * Some parts of the book seemed like they were printed too lightly; it looks like others have had miscellaneous print issues as well (fortunately these issues were minor for me) * There's no index; I found myself wanting to look something up in the index but there was none... I suppose this isn't much of an issue if you have the electronic version though * I ran into some problems with Chrome's caching, causing

me to wonder why I wasn't seeing what I thought I would or why the examples weren't working like I thought they should.

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