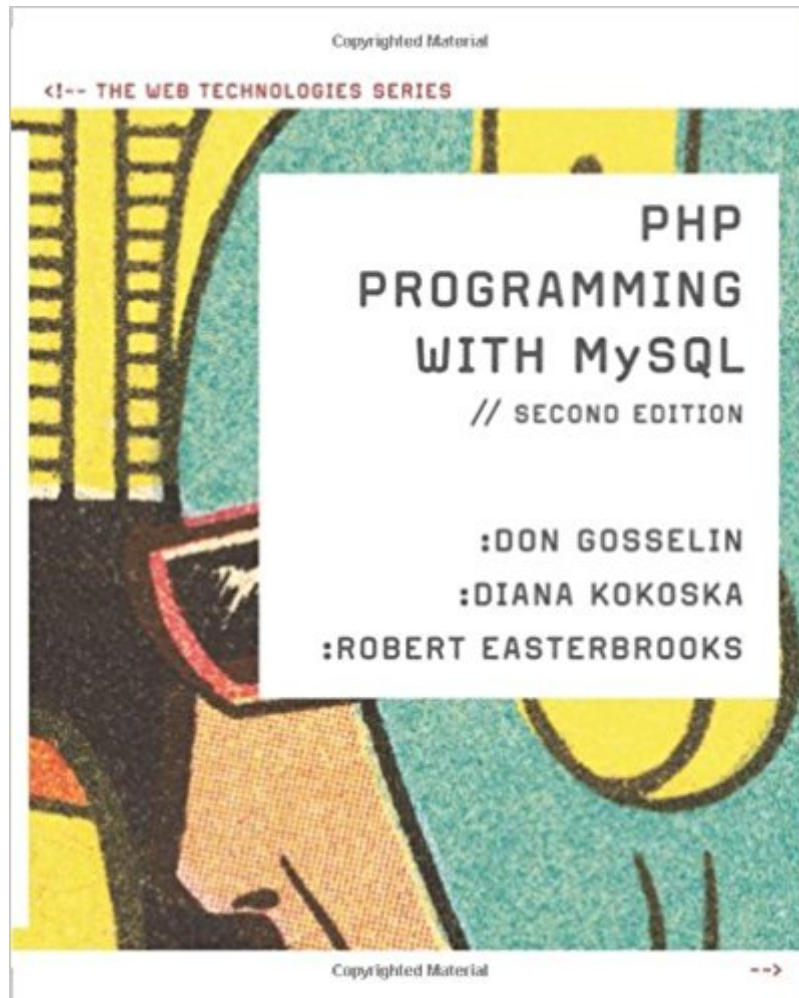




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PHP Programming With MySQL: The Web Technologies Series



Synopsis

This book covers the basics of PHP and MySQL along with introductions to advanced topics including object-oriented programming and how to build Web sites that incorporate authentication and security. After you complete this course, you will be able to use PHP and MySQL to build professional quality, database-driven Web sites.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book has 10 chapters. I have painstakingly gone through each chapter while taking the PHP class and found errors in EVERY chapter. Not just a few here and there, omissions of code that makes your code non-functional. As a student who is learning, often we as a class learned the code wrong and then had to unlearn it and relearn the right code. A good example is the pregmatch() function which verifies that a password (for example) is at least 3 characters and not more than 16. The way it is written in the book doesn't work. What does work is using a period instead of a comma. Backticks (`) are typed as regular apostrophes(') so the explanation of "being new to programming as a reason for the poor review" is irrelevant as every character is EXTREMELY important when programming. For every 2 hours I spent learning and writing the code to see for myself, I spent literally over 30 hours trying to figure out what was wrong with the code. To date there is a 5 page error data sheet on the Cengage website which consists MOSTLY of all the errors I've discovered along with a FEW of the errors the editor found [that's right their own editor missed a majority of these]. It should be an embarrassment to Cengage and they should immediately put out

a 3rd edition. If you are a student, please share this with your professor as this will be the only way to force this book into retirement.

I am using this book to learn PHP as part of a college class I am taking. The book has errors in the coding, which makes life harder than it needs to be. The projects/assignments have very vague instructions. Some of the answers are very difficult to come up with. This book has some very good information, but I am thinking there is most likely a better book out there.

I'll echo (har har) most reviews on this book in that it is like pulling teeth; no explanation of logic, random introduction of syntax (again without explanation), etc. It's a rigorous lesson in typing and then an even stronger lesson in empathizing with the archaeologists that had the task of deciphering hieroglyphics. NOT for beginners. In fact, run away if you're a beginner. Like previous reviewers, I found myself prefacing my critiques of the hours and hours spent on a less than 20-30 pages, with how many courses I've taken, my experience with computers, my industry experience, etc. because I had to convince myself that I am not stupid or suffering brain damage (hmmmm...). Or perhaps I am, and the majority of the reviewers are as well. In either case, we need a book that makes sense for us stupids of the world. The only thing worse than this book is the inconsiderate instructor that says go to php.net if there's questions because he's too busy, and gives quizzes on our understanding of this book before covering material. No hyperbole here, but there's more room on the internet for me to trounce his name elsewhere. What a cluster#*&%! I'm already getting other books to help combat the total disaster that is my first introduction to PHP.

I truly hated this book! I had to buy it for an online course at my local college. After coming across a few errors as I struggled through the book a classmate told me of all the complaints of errors in online reviews. After it became increasingly difficult and all time consuming to get any of the code to work as I worked through the chapters. I went out and read these reviews. I agree with what has been said about this book. The book tries to teach (error ridden) basic code. Then with their ambiguous wording expect you to pull elegant code--that was never taught--out of thin air for some of the exercises at the end of each chapter. I tried to get my instructor to let me have answers from the quizzes and comprehension checks from previous chapters (because the book doesn't provide them). I was told this would violate some agreement that the instructor had with the authors or publishers. I felt like I ran into more road blocks to learning with this book than I ever have experienced before. I am not completely new to programming nor am I stupid! I have managed to get

through 3 years of college with a 3.8 GPA. So I just really don't think having this much difficulty with the book is my problem. I feel this book and class was a waste of my time and money; furthermore, I will probably have to retake the class. I will definitely have to look beyond this horribly frustrating experience if I want to actually learn PHP. Thanks!

This is a terrible book. I've had to buy several Thompson Course Technology series books written by Don Gosselin and I have not liked one. They are riddled with errors. Gosselin's approach to teaching the subject matter is mediocre at best and I'm not the only one that thinks this. Just read reviews of this book and you'll realize how bad it is. After my course was over, I had to buy another book and reteach myself the subject. It looks like I will have to do the same for PHP. Gosselin creates examples that you have to copy verbatim, but he doesn't really explain why you're doing what you're doing, so in the end I don't really learn anything from the examples. Even worse, many of the examples have errors, and since I don't know how to code works, it's very difficult to fix the error.

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