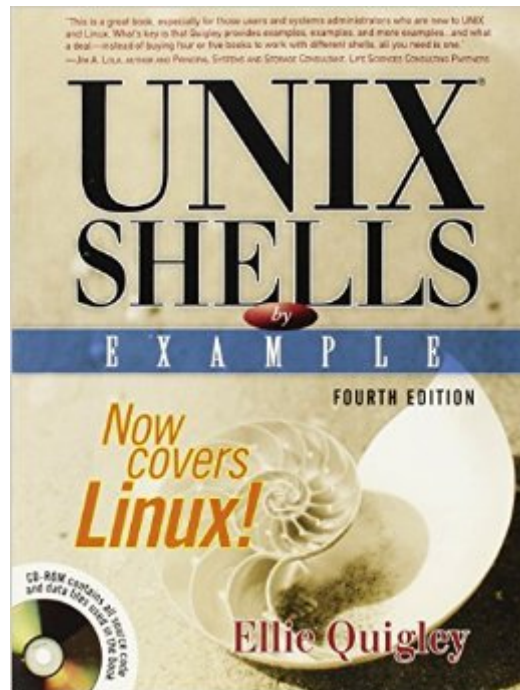


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UNIX Shells By Example (4th Edition)



Synopsis

The world's #1 shell programming book now fully updated for Linux and more! *UNIX Shells by Example* is the world's #1 shell programming book, from the world's #1 shell programming instructor: Ellie Quigley. In *UNIX Shells by Example, Fourth Edition*, Quigley has thoroughly updated her classic and delivers the information today's shell programmers need most including comprehensive coverage of Linux shell programming with bash! Drawing on 20 years' experience as a shell programming instructor, Quigley guides you through every facet of programming all leading UNIX/Linux shells: bourne, bash, korn, C, and tcsh. Quigley illuminates each concept with up-to-date, classroom-tested code examples designed to help you jump-start your own projects. She also systematically introduces awk, sed, and grep for both UNIX and GNU/Linux . . . making this the only shell programming book you'll ever need! New in this edition: Comprehensive coverage of Linux shell programming with bash Shell Programming QuickStart: makes first-time shell programmers productive in just 15 pages Complete, practical debugging chapter Updated coverage of the latest UNIX and GNU/Linux versions of awk, sed, and grep Shell programming for sysadmins: walks you through key UNIX and Linux system shell scripts Completely updated: Shell programming fundamentals: what shells are, what they do, how they work Choosing the right shell for any application Nearly 50,000 UNIX/Linux sysadmins, developers, and power users have used previous editions of *UNIX Shells by Example* to become expert shell programmers. With *UNIX Shells by Example, Fourth Edition*, you can, too even if you're completely new to shell programming. Then, once you're an expert, you'll turn to this book constantly as the best source for reliable answers, solutions, and code. About the CD-ROM Comprehensive shell programming code library: all source code and data files for this book's hundreds of example programs.

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 seperate 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; vendor = $1; }'` Instead of searching the pages for the basics, beginners should consider buying an entry level book.

Conclusion: For the intermediate scripter who visits shellsites 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."

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