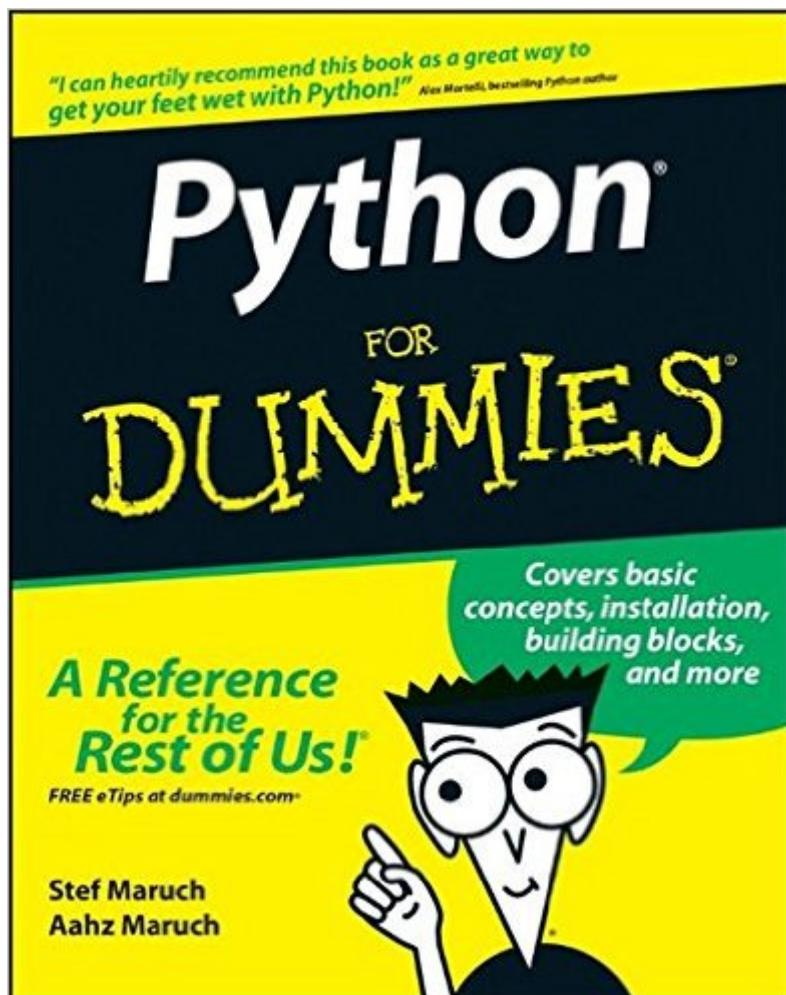


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Python For Dummies



Synopsis

Python is one of the most powerful, easy-to-read programming languages around, but it does have its limitations. This general purpose, high-level language that can be extended and embedded is a smart option for many programming problems, but a poor solution to others. *Python For Dummies* is the quick-and-easy guide to getting the most out of this robust program. This hands-on book will show you everything you need to know about building programs, debugging code, and simplifying development, as well as defining what actions it can perform. You'll wrap yourself around all of its advanced features and become an expert Python user in no time. This guide gives you the tools you need to:

- Master basic elements and syntax
- Document, design, and debug programs
- Work with strings like a pro
- Direct a program with control structures
- Integrate integers, complex numbers, and modules
- Build lists, stacks, and queues
- Create an organized dictionary
- Handle functions, data, and namespace
- Construct applications with modules and packages
- Call, create, extend, and override classes
- Access the Internet to enhance your library
- Understand the new features of Python 2.5

Packed with critical idioms and great resources to maximize your productivity, *Python For Dummies* is the ultimate one-stop information guide. In a matter of minutes you'll be familiar with Python's building blocks, strings, dictionaries, and sets; and be on your way to writing the program that you've dreamed about!

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Python For Dummies by Stef Maruch and Aahz Maruch is a pretty good introduction to the Python

language, while also stressing proper technique and style...Contents:Part 1 - Getting Started: Introducing Python; Getting Your Hands on the Keyboard - Using Help, Interactive Mode; and IDLE; Basic Elements and Syntax; Grand Tour of the Python Language; Working Like a ProgrammerPart 2 - Building Blocks: So This String Walks into a Bar; Counting Your Way to Fun and Profit; Processing Lists and Tuples; Diving into DictionariesPart 3 - Structures: Staying in Control; Fun with Functions; Building Applications with Modules and Packages; Getting Classy; Introducing New-Style Classes; Feeling Exceptional; Tackling Some Advanced FeaturesPart 4 - Libraries: Using Python's Primary Services; Processing Text; Digging into Disk Data; Accessing the InternetPart 5 - The Part of Tens: Ten Critical Python Idioms; Ten Great ResourcesPart 6 - Appendixes: Getting and Installing Python; Python Version DifferencesIndexPython For Dummies starts out by explaining how Python came to be, why it's different than other languages, and what sort of applications are best suited for the Python approach. After that's out of the way, you get coverage of each Python feature and how it works. If you've ever gone through a book on a new programming language, you'll recognize the general layout and approach. The authors don't assume much prior programming experience (typical for a Dummies book), so the material is approachable and the writing is conversational in tone. I appreciated the section on "Working Like a Programmer", as it tries to establish proper development technique and mindset.

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