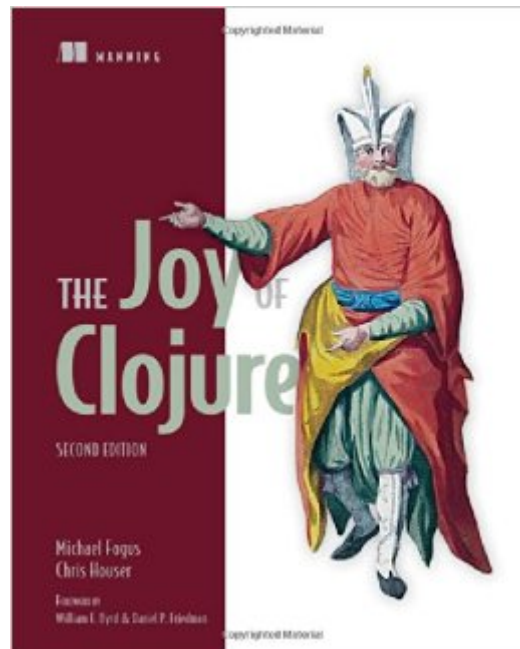


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The Joy Of Clojure



Synopsis

SummaryThe Joy of Clojure, Second Edition is a deep look at the Clojure language. Fully updated for Clojure 1.6, this new edition goes beyond just syntax to show you the "why" of Clojure and how to write fluent Clojure code. You'll learn functional and declarative approaches to programming and will master the techniques that make Clojure so elegant and efficient. Purchase of the print book includes a free eBook in PDF, Kindle, and ePub formats from Manning Publications.

About the TechnologyThe Clojure programming language is a dialect of Lisp that runs on the Java Virtual Machine and JavaScript runtimes. It is a functional programming language that offers great performance, expressive power, and stability by design. It gives you built-in concurrency and the predictable precision of immutable and persistent data structures. And it's really, really fast. The instant you see long blocks of Java or Ruby dissolve into a few lines of Clojure, you'll know why the authors of this book call it a "joyful language." It's no wonder that enterprises like Staples are betting their infrastructure on Clojure.

About the BookThe Joy of Clojure, Second Edition is a deep account of the Clojure language. Fully updated for Clojure 1.6, this new edition goes beyond the syntax to show you how to write fluent Clojure code. You'll learn functional and declarative approaches to programming and will master techniques that make Clojure elegant and efficient. The book shows you how to solve hard problems related to concurrency, interoperability, and performance, and how great it can be to think in the Clojure way. Appropriate for readers with some experience using Clojure or common Lisp.

What's InsideBuild web apps using ClojureScriptMaster functional programming techniquesSimplify concurrencyCovers Clojure 1.6

About the AuthorsMichael Fogus and Chris Houser are contributors to the Clojure and ClojureScript programming languages and the authors of various Clojure libraries and language features.

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Customer Reviews

I wouldn't classify this as a book which is "not for beginners", I would rather say that while the authors deeply knowledgeable and able to write clear and concise sentences, their organization and ability to stay on topic are both horrible. You would already need to be quite knowledgeable of lisps or (like me) widely versed in programming languages in general to follow along without being completely clueless as to what is being discussed. In the end, if the authors intended it to be a book for advanced Clojure programmers, then the first half of the book shouldn't be part of the material, as it is clearly trying to teach the language from scratch. If it is intended to be a book for any programmer to learn the language, then, as said, it is poorly structured and disjointed. The book attempts to introduce the reader to the basic subjects and build on them, however the authors instead use the introductory chapters as a way to preview 90% of the content that they are going to present later in the book, wax philosophical about those subjects as they are doing so, and finally break off with a "but I guess we'll actually tell you what we're talking about in chapter 10". It would have made more sense to leave the topics of chapter 10 in chapter 10 and to have saved the idle musing for a conclusion to chapter 10 rather than an introduction, 8 or 9 chapters earlier. I think that the book could easily be amended to become a useful work for programmers of any level, without signifanctly removing nor rewriting any material, but simply by moving the location of content around into something more linear.

The Joy of Clojure, second edition is a book on advanced Clojure programming, combining both subtle details on various language features and the best programming practices. This is by no means the book for a beginner. Clojure or at least Lisp programming skills are definitely must-have requirements. The book starts with a chapter on philosophy of Clojure programming, and this

philosophical approach influences every other chapter: underlying ideas and concepts can be found almost everywhere. Talking about language features the authors try to provide the reader with the deep understanding. For instance, chapter on scalars very quickly goes to the discussion of hard details on float numbers precision which seem to be not very important in daily programming. Concurrency and parallelism are also discussed in great details. What is functional programming, how to use language features (such as macros), how to design programs, how to deal with performance problems and what exactly affects it, how to interact with Java or other host platform (in case of ClojureScript) – all these questions arise and are answered within the book. How to think in Clojure? The last chapter gives the answer. While the material is quite interesting I found this book a little bit hard to read. The number of details is sometimes overwhelming. But if you want to improve your understanding of Clojure and ready to drive through this is book for you. Disclaimer: I was given a copy of the book by the publisher.

I also own and read the original edition of The Joy of Clojure so was pleased to see the second edition. While I feel this book is complete and detailed in covering Clojure, it could possibly be overwhelming to novice programmers. If you are new to functional programming or have no programming experience, it's probably best to start with Part 3. If you get the concept of 'code as data' you will appreciate the rest of the material covered in the book. What I found most useful from this book were the sections on Mutation, Concurrency and Parallelism. This is where the practicality of Clojure comes into play. The updated 2nd edition includes lengthy coverage of ClojureScript which allows use of Clojure in web browsers and mobile devices. Disclaimer: I was given a copy of the book by the publisher.

The Joy of Clojure, second edition is a book about the Clojure programming language. Clojure belongs to the Lisp family of functional languages and is particularly notable in that it runs on the Java Virtual Machine, which gives it access to a wide selection of libraries and platforms. This book explores the core parts of the Clojure language. I particularly liked the many tips about best practices, performance considerations and potential pitfalls when programming with Clojure. There are also many helpful code snippets to guide the reader. I have a background in object-oriented imperative programming and the authors expect that most readers will be from a similar (imperative language) background and provide many comparisons with these more conventional languages. The overarching theme of the book is that there has to be a better way to write code and that Lisps in general and Clojure in particular offer a better approach to the problem, especially in the area of

concurrent programming. I found this book to be generally well written and very authoritative. The authors clearly have a deep understanding of the subject. I did however find the text heavy-going in places and I thought some concepts and code examples could have been explained better. This book is definitely not for the beginner programmer and ideally not your first study of Clojure, but for an in-depth, serious discussion of the language, it is hard to beat. Disclaimer: I was given a copy of the book by the publisher

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