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LINQ Pocket Reference (Pocket Reference (O'Reilly))



Synopsis

Ready to take advantage of LINQ with C# 3.0? This guide has the detail you need to grasp Microsoft's new querying technology, and concise explanations to help you learn it quickly. And once you begin to apply LINQ, the book serves as an on-the-job reference when you need immediate reminders. All the examples in the LINQ Pocket Reference are preloaded into LINQPad, the highly praised utility that lets you work with LINQ interactively. Created by the authors and free to download, LINQPad will not only help you learn LINQ, it will have you thinking in LINQ. This reference explains: LINQ's key concepts, such as deferred execution, iterator chaining, and type inference in lambda expressions The differences between local and interpreted queries C# 3.0's query syntax in detail-including multiple generators, joining, grouping, query continuations, and more Query syntax versus lambda syntax, and mixed syntax queries Composition and projection strategies for complex queries All of LINQ's 40-plus query operators How to write efficient LINQ to SQL queries How to build expression trees from scratch All of LINQ to XML's types and their advanced use LINQ promises to be the locus of a thriving ecosystem for many years to come. This small book gives you a huge head start. "The authors built a tool (LINQPad) that lets you experiment with LINQ interactively in a way that the designers of LINQ themselves don't support, and the tool has all kinds of wonderful features that LINQ, SQL and Regular Expression programmers alike will want to use regularly long after they've read the book." -Chris Sells, Connected Systems Program Manager, Microsoft

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Customer Reviews

So if you have already bought C#3.0 in a nutshell from the same author, you don't need this at all.

Marshal is right: comparing "LINQ Pocket Reference" and the LINQ-related chapters in "C# 3.0 in Nutshell", it's hard to tell the two texts apart. The Albaharis also discuss LINQ in "C# 3.0 Pocket Reference" but, at only 20-plus pages, that one is clearly not in the same league. Money well spent. Not having a need for the XML-related content left me with a 100-page book instead of a 150-page one, but the 100 pages were, typically for "Pocket Reference" titles, direct, systematic and practical. I had relied on "101 LINQ Samples" MSDN page (Google it) as the starting point for all LINQ-related investigations, and was glad to find "LINQ Pocket Reference" a superior replacement.

When I'm writing LINQ code, I refer to this book about every 30 seconds. This book doesn't leave my desk. It's a fantastic reference manual for anyone dealing with LINQ in any capacity. I don't consider this book to be a step-by-step tutorial, but if you're familiar with LINQ, even just a little bit, this book will help you out. I often hit those "How do I do _____ with LINQ?", and this book always has the answer. I can't recommend it enough for any C# developer working with LINQ today.

First off, ONE of the major things Microsoft dropped the ball on was it's omission of LINQ in later version of .Net. That and now they're being a bit foolish by eliminating DirectX. As a former government employee, where resources are surprisingly sparse (I am STILL owed a great deal of money by the same organization Snowden used to work for), finding a GREAT way to come up to speed with LINQ was imperative, and the documentation usually sucked or was few and far between. O'Reilly is my ole faithful - providing GREAT resources at minimal costs, and they delivered magnificently with this book, by providing a wonderful resource with examples on how to use LINQ, as rapidly as possible. HIGHLY suggested!

This book helped LINQ 'click' in my head. Today, I use LINQ a lot-- it's a handy way to process a

collection of items, inspect XML, or execute SQL. I use LINQ a lot for processing collections of items for various things, including databinding in WPF or ASP.NET. This book helps me remember little syntactic things here and there. When I first got the book, it was open constantly. Today-- it has taught me well enough that I always feel comfortable using LINQ expressions in my code.

This book sets the bar for how technical books should be written. How they can explain so well a fairly complex technology with so few words is beyond me, especially considering the other tech books I have on my shelf which contain enough wood pulp to fill a box car.

"LINQ Pocket Reference" is fantastic for dev, so if you are a beginner in the 3.5 framework you will be able to do applications very quickly with this book and you will have deep learn about this aspect of the last framework for .NET languages.

I am miffed as to why this book is so highly rated. I have been referring to it for weeks now as I learn WPF and WCF with Entity Framework, and I have yet to find any value in it. I have extensive experience with SQL and write applications with complex relational databases and complex queries. I have scoured this book repeatedly looking for a practical and direct way to do LEFT OUTER JOINS. It just isn't there. I found a good solution via a Google search, and the construct simply is not shown in this book. The examples are ridiculously simple--one, two, maybe three tables max. Hard to figure out how to combine various pieces. The text is hard to understand and not broadly applicable for real-life application development. Discussion of approaches for achieving various kinds of SQL joins is unfathomable. Don't waste your money here!!!!

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