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The Standard C Library



Synopsis

Prentice Hall's most important C programming title in years. A companion volume to Kernighan & Ritchie's C PROGRAMMING LANGUAGE. A collection of reusable functions (code for building data structures, code for performing math functions and scientific calculations, etc.) which will save C programmers time and money especially when working on large programming projects. The C Library is part of the ANSI (American National Standard Institute) for the C Language. This new book contains the complete code for the library. It covers elements of the library with which even the most experienced C programmers are not familiar such as internationalization (the ability to write programs that can adapt to different cultural locales, for example, using the C library, programmers can write software that manipulates large character sets such as Kanji). Structured like the Standard C Library, it contains 15 headers declaring or defining all of the names in the library. A separate chapter covers each header, including excerpts from relevant portions of the C Standard showing all codes needed to implement each portion of the library and explaining why it is necessary. The book teaches readers the concepts and design issues associated with library building. Using this book, programmers will be less likely to re-code something that already exists in a given program. Plauger is one of the world's leading experts on C and the C Library.

Book Information

Paperback: 512 pages

Publisher: Prentice Hall; 1st edition (July 11, 1992)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0131315099

ISBN-13: 978-0131315099

Product Dimensions: 6.2 x 1.2 x 8.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

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Customer Reviews

P.J. Plauger was operating at full-tilt when he wrote this excellent guide to the implementation and use of the C library. In particular, his treatment (and history) of is outstanding. Unfortunately, the

Plauger of recent history is apparently being held captive by Microsoft. His "C/C++ User's Journal" is brimming with non-portable Windows topics of little value to those interested in Standard C and, of course, the Unix platform...where C began. Plauger has apparently forgotten the roots of the C programming language. Nonetheless, this is among the five "must have" books for the serious C programmer

When I bought this book, in college, I really didn't understand it. It didn't really give me much information, just had a bunch of code from the C standard libraries in it. I picked it back up a few years after I started working in the real world and now had enough experience to realize what a gem this thing was. It basically implements (full source code) all the standard libraries. It let's you see how things work on the inside. It shows structs and accessible items that you may otherwise not even know it exists. The best part is the source for standard library functions. This is a super handy gem if you are doing embedded code that doesn't have OS support. It was a wonderful help to me that let me write a few of the standard C functions that were handy to use when in an embedded environment where those functions weren't available. Many of these I could have done myself, but only with much thought, time and testing. From here its virtually free. This is a MUST HAVE book to any hard core C/C++ developer.

This outstanding book integrates three treatments of the Standard C library: The straight text from the standard, a commentary, and a prototype implementation. All of these show Plauger at his best. Even though the implementation does not always look elegant (and unfortunately is not open source), it provides a high quality implementation of each aspect of the standard and is extremely instructive (I found the stdio formatting code and the math routines particularly interesting).

First of all (also metioned by other reviewers), the layout of this book is horror. Everything is printed behind each other (not very much whitespace). This book is a nice reference, but maybe you can better use Internet nowadays. What make this book really nice, is that it offers implementations for the standard C library. So if you're looking for a implementation for sqrt/sin/tan/printf/etc. you will find it in this book. This is a really nice way to get some insight how an implementation of a Standard C Library could work.

The content and author deserve 5 stars. The publisher deserves none. The print quality is terrible. The pages are obviously xeroxed from originals. This was apparently done back in 1992. The result

is that it looks like it was printed with a cheap inkjet low on ink. Worse, the darkness is inconsistent, with verso pages much darker than recto pages. Margins are incorrect. They're way too small. As a result the binding needs to be broken to properly read the book. Do this in too many places and the pages begin to fall out. Prentice Hall should be ashamed to sell anything in this condition. At the price they've been selling this book for almost 30 years, they could hire a small army of typesetters to typeset it again and print it properly, but apparently it's much easier to go on ripping people off.

The most well part of this print is the ink and paper. The paper is thick enough and strong and the lettering is readable. This book has an Introduction to the Standard C library, and included the sample of each library for use and source code which is like legalese in the sense of representation and includes rights to copy edit and modify but the original is copyrighted ...so that you must include the source of the book, year and author as specified. This kind of copyright seems more honorable and clean when heard by ear or seen. However for a person who learns by reading and figuring. It is only a manner of book learning and hobby for one.

The Standard C Library has been an industry reference for real-time operation since it was introduced. Through many versions (K&R, ANSI, etc.) and revisions it has remained THE go-to book when you need to know how a standard library function works. Recommended for anyone using C, C++, C# etc. when you want to know how it REALLY works... and will remain a classic.

Reference book for the C standard library which defines things like , etc. Every chapter deals with one C header file. It contains a lot of explanations, some extracts from the standard and examples. One cannot possibly program in C without this book.

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