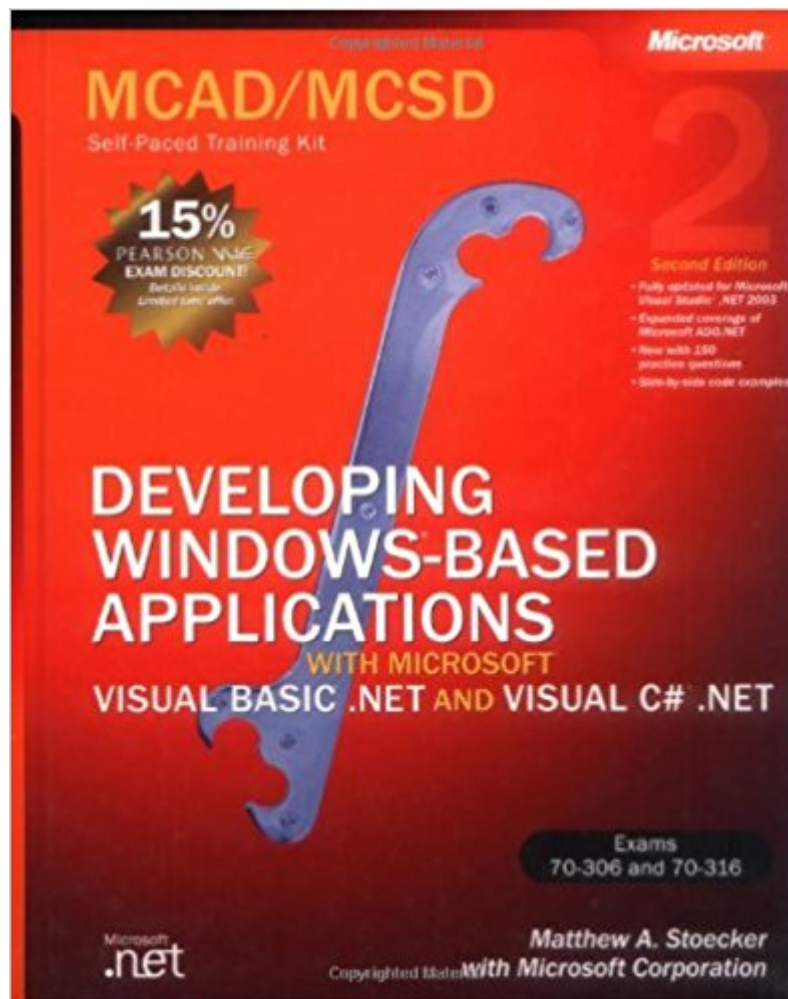


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MCAD/MCSD Self-Paced Training Kit: Developing Windows®-Based Applications With Microsoft® Visual Basic® .NET And Microsoft Visual C#® .NET, Second Ed: ... C#(r) .Net, Second Ed (Pro-Certification)





Synopsis

Build real-world programming skills and prepare for MCP Exams 70-306 and 70-316 with this official Microsoft study guide. Work at your own pace through the lessons and hands-on exercises to learn how to build Windows-based applications using Visual Basic .NET and Visual C# .NET. Then extend your expertise through additional skill-building exercises. As you gain practical experience with essential development tasks, you're also preparing for MCAD or MCSA certification for Microsoft .NET. Learn how to: Create the user interface, add controls, and validate user input Use OOP techniques, including encapsulation and method overloading Build custom controls and .NET assemblies Access and modify data using XML, Microsoft ADO.NET, and SQL syntax Implement print support, online help, and accessibility and globalization features Test and debug coding errors Configure and help secure an application Deploy applications via removable media, the Web, or a network Maintain and optimize application performance Your kit includes:

- NEW! 60-day evaluation version of Microsoft Visual Studio® .NET 2003 Professional Edition on DVD
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Customer Reviews

I had no experience of C# 14 days ago, and used the O'Reilly "Programming C#" book and this one to prepare for the exam I took recently. I have read through all the previous reviews of the book, and here are the points I would pick up on: Someone said 30% of the exam is ADO-based. Yes, that was exactly my experience. I was very surprised just how many of the questions relate to ADO, so you really should learn this part of the book VERY WELL. I skipped the XML section which was a mistake (there were quite a few XML-based questions in the exam). Someone else pointed out that the Windows Drawing code section wasn't relevant for the exam. I too was bored by it, and skipped it, having done extensive GUI work under VC++ in the past. Again, this was a topic that didn't come up at all in the exam. I think that this book is sufficient to pass the exam on its own, but you do need to know it very well. I didn't buy the transcender exams, so when I went into the exam blind. But as a specific example of things the book touches on in passing (usually with a table) which you should really learn well ---- Properties of different event handlers-- General properties of Windows controls-- EVERYTHING about ADO, including Constraints/Relations, and some basic SQL in addition.-- Role/usage of the various debugging windows-- Using .NET with legacy components/controls-- Code and Role-based Security (namespaces, methods, and meaning)-- Read very carefully the chapters on "Designing a User Interface" toward the start of the book. This material is often referred to. Also, don't skip the "language overview" section which makes up the first few hundred pages of the book. The O'Reilly book covered this much better.

Many of those who have reviewed this book to date have marked it down as insufficient for passing the associated certification exam. That may be, but I still think it's one of the best self-study programming books I've ever read - and I've worked my way carefully through quite a few (including

Wave Technology materials to prepare for the MCSD, Element K online tutorials for various products, and a number of independent books). This is the third book on Visual Basic .NET that I've read (and worked with), so admittedly I'm not starting from scratch. Maybe that's the right preparation for this book: I can't say because I didn't read it first. But in any event I find its material exceptionally clear and focussed, and its quality far above the usual. An errata sheet is available online, and even with that, all bugs in the first 250 pages have been quite minor. In many programming books I've read, show-stopping bugs and the lack of a feedback loop with the author or publisher can run one's learning effort completely aground. I LOVE the fact that you can use this book to learn Visual Basic.NET *or* C#.NET - or both in parallel. The material is structured as follows: first, a concept is introduced in text; then the Visual Basic code is provided; then the C# code; then any differences in the facilities available in the two languages are noted and discussed. If you like, you can easily ignore the material on either of the languages addressed; but I find myself looking at the C# code out of curiosity, and being quite delighted to discover that I can understand it without difficulty, even though I have little background in C++. The parallel treatment of VB and C# really underscores how close together .

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