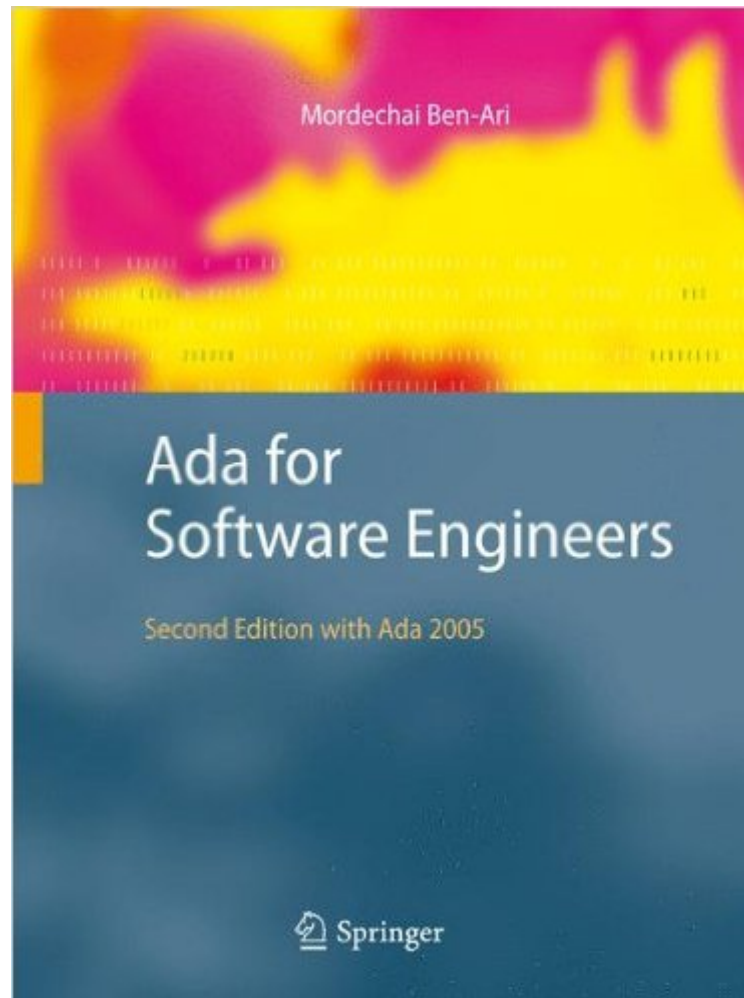


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Ada For Software Engineers



Synopsis

Ada is the programming language of choice for high integrity software systems and is used extensively in industries such as transportation and aerospace. Special features of the book include: Object-oriented programming, concurrency, and embedded and real-time systems are emphasized. Ada for Software Engineers explains the language concepts and the terminology of the standards document, the Ada Reference Manual (ARM). Extracts from the ARM are used throughout and there are extensive cross references to the ARM. A comprehensive glossary and technical quizzes assist the reader in developing the ability to use the ARM as a practical reference. Comparisons with familiar languages like C and Java are given to facilitate the transition to Ada. The features of Ada 2005 are used routinely, but they are carefully identified, so that programmers using Ada 95 will also find the textbook useful. The companion website contains the full source code of nearly 100 case studies and 100 technical quizzes.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Ada is a programming language I had never tried to learn, but coming from VLSI Hardware design with a proficiency of VHDL (syntax borrowed from Ada) I was interested in giving Ada a shot. I chose this book after reading carefully all the material freely available and I found everything said TRUE: it requires at least 2 years of previous programming knowledge. This means if you have used something before THAT IS FINE! Engineering background is mandatory... this is not a tutorial nor it is implied in any word. It instructs you using the TERMS from the ARM - Ada reference manual, If I

am correct - (obviously there is no free lunch: you need those terms... damn it!)even to proceed without the ARM (but it is useful at the end) you need to carefully understand every chapter of this book in the order clearly stated in the introduction. (if you need, read the chapter twice it helps!)Nevertheless it is written in a clear form: I read a good number of pages traveling by plane :) with no computer access...I found helpful to copy somewhere the difficult terms with an example of the meaning in plain English (or Italian in my case) the first times so that it is easier to find. It helps you translate and catch immediately the sense of a sentence.I got what I wanted... AND I LIKE IT... I let you know if I change my mind at the end of the journey.p.s. everyone who writes ADA or ada or whatever it is not Ada does not even know the name of the programming language... who cares what he/she says!

Some reviewers have panned this book as too complex or too formal. Well, this complexity and formality is what the author of the book clearly sets out to do, and accomplishes well. This book is for veteran software developers, coders with at least a few years experience writing software. The introductory program is not a "Hello World" - it includes a subfunction, a loop, a case statement, and custom types. If you're looking to learn Ada as your first language, or to pick up some Ada for a quick little project, this is not a book for you. However, if you're an experienced developer and have been hired to design a complex safety-critical system in Ada, then this book will help you learn how to use Ada, its documentation and its features to build something that can be properly certified. Ada is a highly complex language, designed from the ground up to provide an extremely formal, over-documented way of building software. It is overkill for 99.99% of the software projects. This book clearly lays out how to use it properly for the 0.01%.

I have several books on Ada, starting with used ones about Ada 83/95 to Barne's work on Ada 2005, but this book explains some of the more complicated concepts of Ada in such simple terms that I understood them for the first time despite the fact that I read over the explanations a couple of times in those more complicated works. You need the book by Barnes since it is the Ada bible, but for a beginner like myself, I would definitely recommend this book. I cant understand the complains some of the other reviewers have with this book. It takes the important stuff from Ada and makes it clear. Once you know these things you can dive into the more complicated aspects of the type system, the OO technology and concurrency (for the latter there are separate books).I subtracted one star because this book does not cover the complete Ada language, but then in this this case it would have to be thick like Barne's book, so it's not really a minus, yet since it claims "Ada" in the

title I feel it must be made clear in a review that you won't master "Ada" by the end of this book, but instead about 75% of Ada. Still I highly recommend this book

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