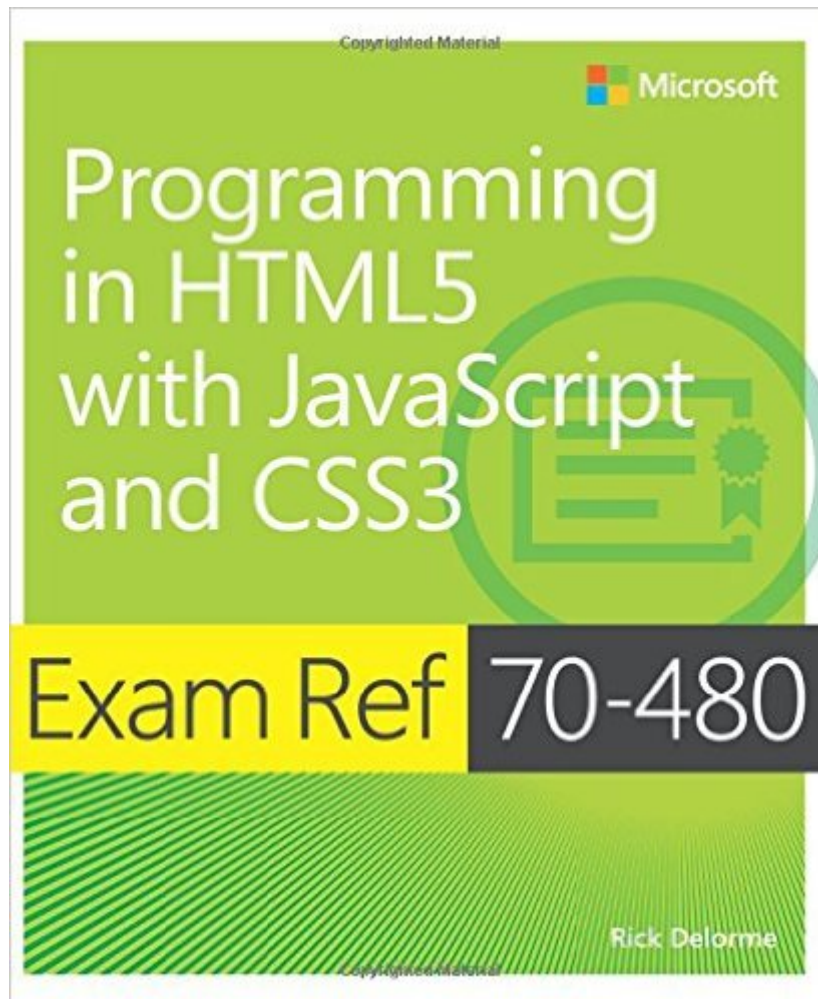


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Exam Ref 70-480 Programming In HTML5 With JavaScript And CSS3 (MCSD)



Synopsis

Prepare for Microsoft Exam 70-480 and help demonstrate your real-world mastery of programming with HTML5, JavaScript, and CSS3. Designed for experienced developers ready to advance their status, Exam Ref focuses on the critical-thinking and decision-making acumen needed for success at the Microsoft Specialist level. Focus on the expertise measured by these objectives: Implement and manipulate document structures and objects Implement program flow Access and secure data Use CSS3 in applications This Microsoft Exam Ref: Organizes its coverage by exam objectives. Features strategic, what-if scenarios to challenge you.

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Customer Reviews

I just passed exam 70-480. I wanted to wait until after I took the test to review this book. First off, believe the other reviews who say this book is full of errors: it is. I didn't believe it could be so bad, but it is. There are also lots of type-o's and grammar mistakes. It's like this was rushed to print with absolutely no editing or proof reading. The only good thing I have to say about this book is: once I realized how many errors there were, I double-checked everything myself to make sure what the book said was (or wasn't) accurate and that helped me learn the material better. As far as learning the subject matter, you are better off with the Training Guide. As far as prepping for the test, you are better off with the Transcender and/or Measure Up practice tests. If you only rely on this book to pass the exam, I can pretty much guarantee that you will not pass. I'm going for other MCS D exams

next and the reviews of other Microsoft Press books are even worse than this one, so I will not be purchasing any more Microsoft Press books; I've learned my lesson.

Because the exam covers such a wide range of technologies (HTML5/Javascript/and CSS3), this book glosses over many concepts. While this book provides an introduction to these technologies in most chapters the book does not cover important concepts in sufficient depth to pass the exam. In particular, Delorme Chapters on Objectives 1.5 and 1.6 do a very poor job of laying out the features of Javascript. The Javascript language has type, scoping and inheritance issues that are unique to its syntax. Programming in Javascript requires a solid understanding of these issues. I would recommend Dane Cameron's book "HTML5 Javascript & JQuery" as a much better alternative to Delorme. Among the many Javascript outages in this book are: the `===` operator, `Call` and `apply` methods, `this` keyword, `while` covered on page 91 needs a great deal more explanation, `Closures`. I would have preferred more and better coverage of the new HTML5 elements and less coverage of the many graphical elements that while interesting are not that important for the exam. I have found other "Exam Ref" books much more useful in preparing for exams than this book. I usually review the material in these books in the hours immediately before the exam to make sure I have a familiarity with all the topics which an exam will cover. I would recommend alternative summary materials for the Javascript portion of the exam.

This book has a lot of glaring errors in it. The whole bit about overloading JS functions is just wrong; there's no functionality like that in JS, but the way the example is written makes it appear to work because of the way that JS allows you to call a function without defining the arguments that it takes. Truly terrible research; it's clear that Rick Delorme just assumed that if this worked, JS must have function overloading, without bothering to understand the language. Another example is the part about using JSON to transfer data via AJAX, which consistently fails to quote the keys, in spite of the fact that valid JSON must have double-quoted keys. Again, because this happens to work in the browser, Mr. Delorme thought it was actually valid. Unfortunately, due to all this confusion, it's not clear to me if the test is going to have these kinds of errors built into it.

Seems to be a good book to prepare the exam however it has errors in text which may mislead or confuse you. The sample questions are also misleading or unclear so you may make mistakes. It is unexpected a book from Microsoft written like that.

I'm currently 85% of the way through reading this book in preparation for the exam. I must say, this is an absolutely sloppy pile of crap! It is full of errors. As an exam preparation book, you would think that the question and answers would be well written, and correct. Obviously no one at the publisher bothered to proofread the questions and answers, or even test them. Several questions are missing from the answers section or numbered incorrectly. Dozens of the questions and answers have errors in them meaning that in some cases, there isn't an actual correct answer. And, once you've answered them and mark yourself, you'll be confused, because the answers are just plain WRONG! If you buy this book, you are guaranteed to get frustrated and confused. The content itself, is not bad. Another month, polishing, proofreading and testing would've made a big difference to the quality of this book. As it stands, it's a big disappointment!

At first I had hoped all of the errors were because Safaribooks had a draft version, but other reviews confirm that this book is of very poor quality. I do not think that these were all simply typos, it is apparent that the author does not fundamentally understand Javascript. Lots of the examples will not run, and the author often presents incomplete or inaccurate explanations of subject matter. The author frequently mentions techniques which are frowned upon professionally, such as using tables for layout. I am taking the exam tomorrow and will update if I pass or fail. I have been a developer for three years now, so this book was mainly for review purposes. For a newer programmer, this book would be downright dangerous. It would not provide a solid foundation in HTML/CSS/JS nor present industry best-practices which can be applied after the exam. UPDATE: I passed the exam. This book alone would have left me woefully unprepared for the exam, I have to admit it was more difficult than I anticipated. MDN would be my recommended study resource for this exam; for others I think I will try the self-paced Microsoft Virtual Academy training courses. I am probably not going to give these books another chance in the future.

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