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Foundation Website Creation With CSS, XHTML, And JavaScript





Synopsis

Foundation Website Creation with CSS, XHTML, and JavaScript covers the entire process of building a website. This process involves much more than just technical knowledge, and this book provides you with all the information you'll need to understand the concepts behind designing and developing for the Web, as well as the best means to deliver professional, best-practice-based results. There is far more to building a successful website than knowing a little Hypertext Markup Language (HTML). The process starts long before any coding takes place, and this book introduces you to the agile development process, explaining why this method makes so much sense for web projects and how best to implement it. Planning is vital, so you'll also learn how to use techniques such as brainstorming, wireframes, mockups, and prototypes to get your project off to the best possible start and help ensure smooth progress as it develops. An understanding of correct, semantic markup is essential to any web professional, so this book explains how XHTML should be used to structure content so that the markup adheres to current web standards. You'll learn about the wide range of HTML elements available to you, and you'll learn how and when to use them through building example web pages. Without creative use of Cascading Style Sheets (CSS), websites would all look largely the same. CSS gives you the ability to set your website apart from the rest while maintaining the integrity of your markup. You'll learn how CSS works and how to apply styles to your pages, enabling you to realize your design ideas in the browser. JavaScript can be used to make your website easier and more interesting to use. This book provides information on appropriate uses of this technology and introduces the concepts of programming using it. You'll also see how JavaScript works as part of the much-hyped technique Ajax and in turn where Ajax fits into the wider Web 2.0 picture. While a website is being built, it needs to be tested across multiple browsers and platforms to ensure that the site works for all users, regardless of ability or disability, and the book explains how best to do these tasks. Then, it discusses the process of launching and maintaining the site so that it will continue to work for all its users throughout its life-cycle. The book concludes by covering server-side technologies, acting as a guide to the different options available and explaining differences between available products. With insights from renowned experts such as Jason Fried of 37signals, Daniel Burka of Digg and Pownce, and Chris Messina of Citizen Agency, this book provides invaluable information applicable to every web project, regardless of size, scope, or budget.

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Customer Reviews

I purchase most CSS books that appear to have a different slant on the use of CSS. This book, although well written and authoritative, was less than I anticipated. It is, however, an excellent resource for those just now learning (X)HTML and CSS, et al. My complaint is simply that I overestimated its content. The writing style is clear and easily understandable and should be so to beginners as well. If considering a first book to learn these disciplines, this book is a good choice.

I'm a Flash Developer with prowess in AS2 and AS3 coding. However, when it comes to XHTML, CSS and Java I'm clueless. I don't even know what to search for when I need answers for such queries. I had great success with "Foundation ActionScript Animation: Making Things Move!" also published by Friends Of Ed so it was natural for me to purchase this book with hopes that it would be written in a similar easy to follow method. Lucky for me it was. There's a bit too much information on the history of HTML and CSS for my taste but one can easily breeze through those parts without missing much. The book focuses on mark up and semantics all while working on one project throughout the book. You start with simple HTML without style, read on through the rest of the chapters and then pick up the same website project applying CSS styling to it. It was nice to see how it worked from start to finish.

If you're interested in sinking your teeth directly into XHTML and CSS, this book is what you're looking for. Not only does it cover fundamental and basic XHTML and CSS techniques, it delves

you into a hands-on and "classy" looking web page that you can create with a helpful and easily understandable tutorial. Although I found the Javascript chapter lacking in any immediate and applicable information (I'm a newbie!), it was helpful in introducing me to some of the core concepts. Very well-written book overall.

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