

O'Reilly UK User Group Programme

NEWSLETTER

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HIGHLIGHTS

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NEWS FROM O'REILLY AND BEYOND

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- Makers Bill of Rights PDF
- O'Reilly Labs Image Search
- The 2006 Perl Advent Calendar is Looking for Submissions
- When Linux Runs Out of Memory
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BOOK NEWS

- Books for review
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CONFERENCE NEWS

UPCOMING EVENTS

YOUR BOOK REVIEWS

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NEWS FROM O'REILLY AND BEYOND

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General News

***New Course Featuring AJAX--O'Reilly/University of Illinois Certificate Series
O'Reilly Learning is proud to announce their new Client-Side Web Programming Certificate Series. These courses provide a complete understanding of front-end web development, from HTML and CSS, to JavaScript DOM and AJAX.
<<http://oreillylearning.com/courses/clientsidecert.php3>>

And don't forget, user group members receive a special 30% discount!
To redeem, use Promotion Code "ORALL1," good for a 30% discount, in Step #3 of the enrolment process. Each course comes with a free O'Reilly book and a 7-day money-back guarantee. Register online: <<https://oreillylearning.com/enroll/>>

Other O'Reilly Learning Courses include:

- Linux/Unix System Administration
- Web Programming
- Open Source Programming
- .NET Programming

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***Makers Bill of Rights PDF

Now you can print your own Bill of Rights poster anytime you want.

<http://www.makezine.com/blog/archive/2006/12/the_makers_bill.html>

***O'Reilly Labs Image Search

O'Reilly Labs has just rolled out Image Search, a crafty interface that allows you to search all the images in O'Reilly books. See what you get for Bill Gates or Steve Jobs.

<<http://labs.oreilly.com/image/>>

----- Open Source

***The 2006 Perl Advent Calendar is Looking for Submissions

Do you have some Perl to contribute to the Perl Advent Calendar this year? It's not too late to submit your entry. Along with the fame of being listed on the site, winning contributors receive an O'Reilly book. Checkout the new location at <http://advent.pm.org>. For submission details, go to: <<http://perladvent.pm.org/FAQ-submit.html>>

***When Linux Runs Out of Memory

Memory is a precious commodity in computers. Generally the more you have, the better. Yet your application has to run alongside other applications, and each wants its own area of memory. What happens when there's not enough to go around? Mulyadi Santosa explores the memory management principles in the Linux kernel to explain how the Out of Memory killer works--and how to avoid it.

<<http://www.linuxdevcenter.com/pub/a/linux/2006/11/30/linux-out-of-memory.html>>

----- Digital Media

***6 Essential iPod Tips & Tricks

If you're planning to give or get a new iPod, don't miss J.D. Biersdorfer's Six Fresh Tips from "iPod: The Missing Manual."

<<http://digitalmedia.oreilly.com/pub/a/oreilly/digitalmedia/2006/11/30/six-tips-from-ipod-missing-manual.html?page=1>>

***Tethered Shooting in Aperture

Sending captured images directly to your Mac provides some useful options in studio and time-lapse photography. In this tutorial, Micah Walter shows you how to incorporate Automator into your tethered workflow to help you shoot and process as efficiently as possible. <<http://digitalmedia.oreilly.com/2006/12/05/tethered-shooting-in-aperture.html>>

----- Mac

***O'Reilly's Events at Macworld

Come on by (#2112, South Hall) and say hi and listen to our authors. We'll have speakers all week long. For a rundown of all our activities go to our special Macworld event page:

<<http://www.macdevcenter.com/pub/a/mac/2006/12/11/macworld.html>>

***Building Interactive iPod Experiences

The interactive multimedia presentation is one of the least-trumpeted features of the iPod. In this article, Erica Sadun introduces the basics of interactive iPod design by showing how to use the iPod Notes feature to create presentations that include text, links, images, music, and

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videos.

<<http://www.oreillynet.com/pub/a/mac/2006/11/28/building-interactive-ipod-experiences.html>>

Windows/.NET

***Everything You Need to Know About Windows Vista

Preston Gralla gives you the bottom line on what Vista does better than XP, where it needs improvement--and how to perform the upgrade, step-by-step.

<<http://www.pcworld.com/article/id,127629/article.html>>

Java

***i18N Messages and Logging

Sick of internationalizing by making your own code take responsibility for finding and using ResourceBundles? The i18nlog project offers an annotations-based way to simplify your internationalization tasks and even allow you to internationalize your logging. John Mazzitelli explains why this is a good idea.

<<http://www.onjava.com/pub/a/onjava/2006/12/06/i18n-messages-and-logging.html>>

***Java Generics and Collections: Evolution, Not Revolution, Part 1

In this excerpt from "Java Generics and Collections," authors Maurice Naftalin and Philip Wadler show how to make the switch to Java 5.0 generics, not by expecting you to flip a switch across your whole code base, but by having you gradually work generics into your code while maintaining compatibility.

<http://www.onjava.com/pub/a/onjava/excerpt/javagenerics_chap05/index.html>

Part 2:

<http://www.onjava.com/pub/a/excerpt/javagenerics_chap05/index1.html>

Podcasts

***Web 2.0 Summit Conversations

Audio and video Podcasts from some of the internet industry's leading thinkers and innovators on the future of Web 2.0.

<<http://www.web2summit.com/pub/w/49/conversations.html>>

***Distributing the Future: Latest Show: Finding Your Voice

We have three pieces this week that hover around the theme of finding your voice. Google CEO Eric Schmidt talks to John Battelle about the corporate voice that Google has taken on. Moshe Cohen is a clown who performs using his voice but no words. In many of his missions, including Clowns Without Borders USA, he cheers people up but also leaves them with a deeper lesson. I've also remixed a piece by David Battino from the Digital Media Insider that looks at how much computer voices have improved. This is the last episode for 2006. (DTF 11-27-2006: 25 minutes, 55 seconds)

<<http://www.oreillynet.com/pub/a/network/2006/11/27/distributing-the-future.html>>

Web

***Information Architecture 3.0

At a recent gathering of CIOs, Peter Morville was introduced, not as an information architect,

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interaction designer, or librarian, but as a futurist and so he's decided to make a prediction.
<<http://semanticstudios.com/publications/semantics/000149.php>>

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BOOK NEWS
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Copies of our books are available for your members to review -- send me an email with the delivery address together with the book you would like to review. When the review is published, please send me a copy or the url. I would also appreciate if you could send a copy to www.amazon.co.uk

Latest books available for review –

- Access 2007: The Missing Manual

This fast-paced book teaches you the basics of Access 2007 so you can start using the program right away. You'll learn how to design databases, maintain them, search for valuable nuggets of information, and build attractive forms for quick-and-easy data entry. The new Access is radically different from previous versions, but with this book, you'll breeze through the new interface and its timesaving features in no time.

- Agile Web Development with Rails, Second Edition (Pragmatic Bookshelf)

Rails is a full-stack, open-source web framework that enables you to create full-featured, sophisticated web-based applications with a twist...you can create a full Rails application using less code than the setup XML you'd need just to configure some other frameworks. With this book, you'll learn how to use Rails Active Record to connect business objects and database tables. No more painful object-relational mapping. Just create your business objects and let Rails do the rest. You'll learn how to use the Action Pack framework to route incoming requests and render pages using easy-to-write templates and components. See how to exploit the Rails service frameworks to send emails, talk to web services, and interact dynamically with Javascript applications running in the browser (the "Ajax" architecture). You'll see how easy it is to deploy Rails. You'll be writing applications that work with your favorite database (MySQL, Oracle, Postgres, and more) in no time at all.

- Backup & Recovery

Packed with practical, freely-available backup and recovery solutions for Unix, Linux, Windows and Mac OS X systems -- as well as various databases -- this new guide is a complete overhaul of Unix Backup & Recovery by the same author, now revised and expanded with over 75% new material.

- Building the Perfect PC, Second Edition

Regardless of your technical experience, Building the Perfect PC will guide you through the entire process of building or upgrading your own computer. You'll use the latest top-quality components, including Intel's Core 2 Duo and AMD's Athlon X2 CPUs. And you'll know exactly what's under the hood and how to fix or upgrade your PC, should that become necessary. Not only is the process fun, but the result is often

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less expensive and always better quality and far more satisfying than anything you could buy off the shelf.

- Cisco IOS Cookbook, Second Edition

Thoroughly revised and expanded, Cisco IOS Cookbook, 2nd Edition adds sections on MPLS, Security, IPv6, and IP Mobility and presents solutions to the most common configuration problems. If you work with Cisco routers, you need a book like this to help you solve problems quickly and effectively. Even if you're experienced, the solutions and extensive explanations will give you new ideas and insights into router configuration. And if you're not experienced--if you've just been given responsibility for managing a network with Cisco routers--this book could be a job-saver.

- Capistrano and the Rails Application Lifecycle – PDF

Learn how to make your Rails deployments pain-free with Capistrano! This Short Cut shows you how to use Capistrano to automate the deployment of your Rails applications. It teaches you the basics, but also goes far beyond. It shows you realistic deployment scenarios, including some with complex server farms. It includes a quick reference to Capistrano. As your Rails applications grow, it becomes increasingly important to automate deployment and to keep your development environment well organized. Capistrano is the right tool for the job, and this PDF shows you how to use it effectively.

- Color Management in Digital Photography (Rocky Nook)

Color Management for Photographers simplifies the complex language of color management in digital photography. Author, Brad Hinkel's process for moving images from capture to print while maintaining color management, provides enough information to create a simple yet effective system, while allowing the photographer to get on with photography. Based on classes and workshops given by Hinkel to hundreds of students of digital photography, this simple approach to color management does not mean it sacrifices quality and effectiveness.

- Dynamic HTML: The Definitive Reference, Third Edition

Packed with information on the latest web specifications and browser features, this new edition is your ultimate one-stop resource for HTML, XHTML, CSS, Document Object Model (DOM), and JavaScript development. Here is the comprehensive reference for designers of Rich Internet Applications who need to operate in all modern browsers, including Internet Explorer 7, Firefox 2, Safari, and Opera. You can instantly see browser support for the latest standards-based technologies.

- Eight Great Ways to Get the Most from Your Zune – PDF

The Zune is Microsoft's new media player. It does music. It does video. It does pictures. Are you ready to get the most out of your Zune? Do you know the best

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methods and secrets for managing your media, loading up your player, and sharing your data with others? Do you know which accessories are vital and which are not? Do you know how to hack your Zune to work around Microsoft's built-in limitations and take your Zune to the next level? In this quick guide, you'll learn the down and dirty truth about getting the most from your Zune. No holds barred. No stones unturned.

- o Excel 2007: The Missing Manual

Excel 2007: The Missing Manual covers the entire gamut of how to build spreadsheets, add and format information, print reports, create charts and graphics, and use basic formulas and functions. Like its siblings in the Missing Manual series, this book crackles with a fine sense of humor and refreshing objectivity about its subject, guiding readers through the new Excel with clear explanations, step-by-step instructions, lots of illustrations, and friendly, time-saving advice. It's a perfect primer for small businesses with no techie to turn to, as well as those who want to organize household and office information.

- o Head First Object-Oriented Analysis and Design

Tired of reading object oriented analysis and design books that only make sense after you're an expert? Try our Head First book. This witty and entertaining tutorial shows you how to analyze, design, and write great software that makes your boss happy, and your customers satisfied. You'll learn to solve real problems, regardless of their size and complexity, by applying good design principles and practices.

- o Information Architecture for the World Wide Web, Third Edition

In this post-Ajaxian Web 2.0 world of wikis, folksonomies, and mashups, well-planned information architecture has never been more essential. This classic primer shows information architects, designers, and web site developers how to build large-scale and maintainable web sites that are easy to navigate and appealing to users. The third edition is updated to address emerging technologies while maintaining its focus on fundamentals.

- o Java and XML, Third Edition

This new edition shows you how to cut through all the hype about XML and put it to work. You'll learn how to use the APIs, tools, and tricks of XML to build real-world applications. After two chapters on XML basics, the rest of the book focuses on using XML from your Java applications. The result is a new approach to managing information that touches everything from configuration files to web sites.

- o Linux Kernel in a Nutshell

Linux Kernel in a Nutshell covers the entire range of kernel tasks, starting with downloading the source and making sure that the kernel is in sync with the versions of the tools you need. In addition to configuration and installation steps, the book offers reference material and discussions of related topics such as control of kernel options at runtime.

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- Mastering Landscape Photography (Rocky Nook)

Thirteen essays on landscape photography by master photographer Alain Briot. Topics include practical, technical, and aesthetic aspects of photography to help photographers build and refine their skills. Also covered is how to be an artist in business.

- MySQL Cookbook, Second Edition

A handy resource when you need quick solutions or techniques, this Cookbook addresses specific questions in using MySQL. You'll find dozens of short, focused pieces of code and hundreds of worked-out examples that are perfect for programmers of all levels who don't have the time (or expertise) to solve MySQL problems from scratch. The new edition covers MySQL 5.0 and the older but still widespread MySQL 4.1.

- PowerPoint 2007: The Missing Manual

This new book, written specifically for this version of the software, not only offers the basics of how to create, save, set up, run, and print a basic bullets-and-background slideshow, but takes you into the world of multimedia, animation, and interactivity. You'll learn how to add pictures, sound, video, animated effects, and controls (buttons and links) to their slides, along with ways to pull text, spreadsheets, and animations created in other programs. You can also create your own reusable design templates and learn to automate repetitive tasks with macros. Learn how to take advantage of advanced functions (such as adding custom background images) that existed in previous PowerPoint versions, but were so cleverly hidden that few people ever found them.

- Programming Firefox: Rough Cuts Version

This is the essential guide to building user interfaces and rich internet applications for the Firefox web browser, the Thunderbird email client and independent projects using free development tools from the Mozilla Foundation. Programming Firefox is both an in-depth tutorial and programmer's reference that offers a systematic approach for using Mozilla's Cross Platform Component (XPCOM) library for building applications with XUL, the XML User Interface Language. Author Kenneth Feldt uses his years of experience in XUL development to give programmers a comprehensive look at XUL's capabilities, from simple interface design to complex multi-tier applications with real-time operations. Developers from Java and .NET environments will be amazed at how quickly large-scale applications can be constructed with XPCOM and XUL.

- SQL Hacks

Whether you're running Access, MySQL, SQL Server, Oracle, or PostgreSQL, this book will help you push the limits of traditional SQL to squeeze data effectively from your database. SQL Hacks offers 100 hacks -- unique tips and tools -- that bring you the knowledge of experts who apply what they know in the real world to help you take

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full advantage of the expressive power of SQL. You'll find practical techniques to address complex data manipulation problems.

- What's New in Windows Vista? - PDF

Get ready for a quick blast through this significant change to Windows! This guide will give you a quick look at many of the most significant new features in Vista, Microsoft's first revision of Windows in nearly six years. Starting with the changes to the interface, introducing Aero, and showing you some visuals, we then move on to the completely revamped search options. The new task scheduler and printing gadgets, are next with some cool new changes. Probably the most significant changes, however, come in the area of security and this guide takes a look at them from user privileges, to User Account Control, to BitLocker.

- Windows Developer Power Tools

This book offers an encyclopaedic guide to more than 170 free and open source programming tools for those of you who want to extend your development environment, write higher quality software, and increase productivity. Each article includes a concise guide to implementing the tool -- you'll be able to get up to speed quickly and use the tools to solve problems you face every day in your software development.

- Windows Vista in a Nutshell

This unique reference thoroughly documents every important setting and feature in Windows Vista, with alphabetical listings for hundreds of commands, windows, menus, listboxes, buttons, scrollbars and other elements. To help you locate a specific setting, tool, or feature quickly, the book is organized into separate references for the user interface, file system, networking, hardware, security, mobility, multimedia, and command prompt. Also includes a system overview and a tour of the basics.

- Windows Vista: The Missing Manual

Windows Vista: The Missing Manual offers complete and comprehensive coverage of all five versions of Vista. In his inimitable witty style, New York Times columnist and bestselling author David Pogue illuminates this subject with clear technical insight and hardnosed objectivity. He explains Vista's features clearly and thoroughly, revealing which work well and which don't. Written for beginners, veteran standalone PC users, and those who know their way around a network, this jargon-free guide is the book that should have been in the box!

- Word 2007: The Missing Manual

Word 2007: The Missing Manual not only explains basics like how to create documents, enter and edit text, format, print, and fax, but also learn how to create sophisticated page layouts, insert forms and tables, use graphics, and create book-length documents with outlines and Master Documents. Coverage also includes how to share documents with other people and programs, create web pages, automate documents with fields, and automate tasks with macros and the Visual Basic scripting language. This book shows you how to do it all.

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****Coming Soon

- 40 Digital Photography Techniques, 3rd Edition (Young Jin)
 - Access 2007 for Starters: The Missing Manual
 - Ajax on Rails
 - Essential Electronics for Software Folk (Pragmatic Bookshelf)
 - Everyday Scripting with Ruby (Pragmatic Bookshelf)
 - Excel 2007 for Starters: The Missing Manual
 - Fonts & Encodings
 - Google Web Toolkit for Ajax - PDF
 - Introduction to Neogeography - PDF
 - PowerPoint 2007 for Starters: The Missing Manual
 - Rails for Java Developers (Pragmatic Bookshelf)
 - Scanning Negatives and Slides (Rocky Nook)
 - Software Testing Foundations, Second Edition (Rocky Nook)
 - Using Samba, Third Edition
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- Using XForms with Mozilla - PDF
 - Windows Vista for Starters: The Missing Manual
 - Word 2007 for Starters: The Missing Manual

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Conference News
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***The Where 2.0 Conference Call for Participation

We're looking for ground breaking ideas about location aware technology-amazing location systems, open source hacks, untapped geodata, and companies developing new products and services or mashing up old ones. If you think you know the next killer app to roll off the lab bench, tell us! Proposals are due January 5, 2007. Where 2.0 returns to the Fairmont Hotel in San Jose, CA May 29-30, 2007. <<http://conferences.oreilly.com/where/>>

***Call for Participation O'Reilly Tools of Change for Publishing Conference

O'Reilly Media is seeking proposals from publishers, editors, authors, marketing and production managers, publishing consultants, technology providers, and other interested parties to lead tutorials and sessions at the TOC Conference, happening June 18 - 20, 2007 at the Fairmont Hotel in San Jose, California. Submit a proposal to speak by January 22, 2007. <<http://conferences.oreilly.com/toc/>>

***Registration is now open for Web 2.0 Expo

The Web 2.0 Expo is the first event specifically designed to help teach Web 2.0 techniques and best practices to people in the trenches directly involved in the design, development, engineering, marketing, and business of second-generation internet technology. Register now and save up to \$200 on registration fees. Web 2.0 Expo happens April 15-18 at Moscone West in San Francisco, CA. <<http://www.web2expo.com/>>

***Register for the 2007 Emerging Telephony Conference

Explore the strategies for taming disruption and exploit opportunities being created by web telephony innovations. <<http://conferences.oreilly.com/etel/>>

Use code "etel07usrg" when you register, and receive 15% off the early registration price.

To register for the conference, go to:

<<http://conferences.oreillynet.com/pub/w/50/register.html>>

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UPCOMING EVENTS (ORM = O'Reilly will be there)

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ORM***Linux Roadshow and Exhibition, 11th January, Bristol
Meet the experts from Intel, Novell, Oracle, Red Hat, SAP, HP, and others who will discuss the risks, offerings, and best practices in the open source world. Seize the opportunity to address topics to which you need expert answers, network with the key players, and discover how and where Linux and open source are being used today.

HP - Bristol Labs

http://www.hpug.org.uk/index.php?option=com_events&task=view_detail&agid=5&year=2007&month=01&day=11&Itemid=45

***Peter Morville at Bibliotek 2.0, Oslo, Norway--January 25
Peter Morville ("Information Architecture for the World Wide Web, Third Ed." and "Ambient Findability") presents "Ambient Findability: Libraries and the Internet of Things" as the keynote speaker. <<http://www.hio.no/content/view/full/52381>

ORM ***Conferencia Internacional de Software Libre, 7th-9th February, Badajoz
This Conference, in its third edition, has become the most important forum for presentation and for the debate of ideas, projects and experiences in Spain and one of the most important events all over the world. In it's previous editions, held in Málaga and Mérida, more than 10,000 participants have been registered and more than 400 outstanding speakers have participated: politicians, people from telecommunications, businesses, Administration and Universities. <http://www.freesoftwareworldconference.com/>

ORM *** RoR eXchange - February 9th - London

Skills Matter, the co-organisers of last year's RailsConf are pleased to announce the First RoR eXchange 2007! This 1-day event will be held on Friday February 9th and will be a great opportunity to get a heads-up on the latest developments in the world of RoR, meet interesting speakers and fellow RoR developers. Whether you are new to RoR or a seasoned developer, The RoR eXchange 2007 is promising to be an event that needs to be in your 2007 calendar!

ORM ***PHP Conference UK 2007, 23rd February, London

PHP London user group are staging the UK's second dedicated PHP conference. Speakers include Kevlin Henney and Rasmus Lerdorf. <http://phpconference.co.uk/>

ORM ***FOSDEM, 24/25 February, Brussels

The seventh Free and Open source Software Developers' European Meeting is a 2 days event, organized by volunteers, to promote the widespread use of Free and Open Source software. Taking place in the beautiful city of Brussels (Belgium), FOSDEM meetings are recognised as "The best Free and Open Source events in Europe."
<http://www.fosdem.org/2007/>

***DevWeek, Feb 26-March 2, London

DevWeek is the UK's leading technical conference for software developers, database professionals and IT architects, and features expert speakers on a wide range of topics, including .NET 3.0, Windows Vista, Visual Studio 2005, ASP.NET AJAX, SQL Server 2005, C# 3.0, Agile Development, ASP.NET 2.0, .NET debugging, Visual Studio Team System, and Service-Oriented Architecture. <http://www.devweek.com/>

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ORM ***Solutions Linux, 30th Jan-1st Feb, Paris

The European reference for professionals dedicated to Solutions GNU/LINUX, OPEN SOURCE & FREE SOFTWARE. <http://www.solutionslinux.fr/en/index.php>

ORM ***UKUUG Spring 2007 Conference, 19-21 March 2007 in Manchester

UKUUG's annual Large Installation Systems Administration (LISA) conference will be held in Manchester from Monday 19th to Wednesday 21st March 2007.

This conference is a must-attend event for system and network administrators. As well as the technical talks, the conference provides a friendly environment for members to meet, learn, and enjoy lively debate on a host of subjects. <http://www.ukuug.org/events/spring2007/>