



Algorithms in a Nutshell

George Heineman, Gary Pollice, Stanley Selkow

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Creating robust software requires the use of efficient algorithms, but programmers seldom think about them until a problem occurs. *Algorithms in a Nutshell* describes a large number of existing algorithms for solving a variety of problems, and helps you select and implement the right algorithm for your needs -- with just enough math to let you understand and analyze algorithm performance.

With its focus on application, rather than theory, this book provides efficient code solutions in several programming languages that you can easily adapt to a specific project. Each major algorithm is presented in the style of a design pattern that includes information to help you understand why and when the algorithm is appropriate.

With this book, you will:

Solve a particular coding problem or improve on the performance of an existing solution

Quickly locate algorithms that relate to the problems you want to solve, and determine why a particular algorithm is the right one to use

Get algorithmic solutions in C, C++, Java, and Ruby with implementation tips

Learn the expected performance of an algorithm, and the conditions it needs to perform at its best

Discover the impact that similar design decisions have on different algorithms

Learn advanced data structures to improve the efficiency of algorithms

With *Algorithms in a Nutshell*, you'll learn how to improve the performance of key algorithms essential for the success of your software applications.

Algorithms in a Nutshell Details

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From Reader Review Algorithms in a Nutshell for online ebook

Janardan Misra says

Experimental Algorithmics is an emerging area of active interest and this is one of the few books presenting the subject matter from the point of programmers and discussing the relative efficiency of algorithms from practitioner's perspective.

Spencer says

I enjoyed this book. The approach is sound. The charts and short descriptions are very useful.

Marshall Upshur says

I think this is a good book to read before delving fully into the Algorithm Design manual or heavier algorithms books. Good refresher and quick guide to highly used sorts and such.

Yuh-Jia Lim says

Pros:

A quick read for sorting and search algorithms. Clear explanations and to-the-point. Very practical.

Cons:

Does not provide a very comprehensive list of sorting algorithms.

Frank Palardy says

Does a fair job of it. Not much good for interviews though.

Ben says

A decent recap of major algorithms, but too much time is spent on showing tables of not-very-valuable runtime performance numbers. More text could have been devoted to the concepts themselves or pseudo-code that skipped the implementation details to keep things concise.

Dariusz says

Sko?czy?a si? w momencie gdy zaczyna?o robi? si? ciekawie

Sefa says

Compendium of basic algorithms on sorting, searching, graphs and computational geometry. Code examples in C, C++, Java and Ruby. This book might have been more useful when it was first published, but now we have ton of algorithms stuff online, sometimes with nice visualization. If you know what algorithm you need, it might be easier to look online rather than having this book on your desk. It's still a nice book, though.

Alan says

A reference any programmer can benefit from, yes you might have covered some of these algorithms in college/school but this is a concise practical format with some good low level examples of implementation. I read this in preparing for interviews and it helped enormously, refreshing algorithms that I'd neglected or used seldom.

Carlo says

This book is meant to be a handy desk reference to the most commonly used algorithms, and for that purpose, it's perfect. If you're expecting a tutorial style book or a comprehensive reference, you'll be disappointed.

Mohamed Elsherif says

This book is fantastic, assuming you are already familiar with the subject, it can really be a great refresher, it is short, you can get through it on a weekend or so, and the 1-pager per algorithm is great, reminds me of old school study notes.

Josh Davis says

This is a nice little book to keep on a shelf. It wouldn't be my first pick as a reference for algorithms, however. It was worth reading as it doesn't focus much on the theory of algorithms, instead it focuses on the application of algorithms. It has very helpful "fact sheets" that includes pseudocode and run-time complexity for common algorithms. Overall, it is definitely worth reading but I wouldn't go out of my way to read it.

Noah says

This book is amazingly awesome. Super practical boiled down algorithms useful for everyday programming and extremely well organized for reference and algorithm selection. Although not light reading, it is very non-crusty. This is a great book to read and have on the bookshelf for those deeply involved in the craft of programming.

Max Galkin says

Average quality. Wouldn't recommend this book. Lacks structure (not clear why this set of algorithms is covered and why in this order), lacks theoretical soundness, almost no algorithm analysis. The book is definitely not appropriate for learning those algorithms from scratch, and not even particularly appropriate for refreshing the knowledge.

One positive factor I can highlight: nice graphical summaries and overall nice illustration for algorithms.

Yuriy says

Not more algorithms, only basic (but A* Star have been contained in).

Nice infographics with main info for each algorithm.

Good that author used C and Java for examples, not only pseudocode.
