C# 5.0 In A Nutshell: The Definitive Reference

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When you have a question about C# 5.0 or the .NET CLR, this bestselling guide has precisely the answers you need. Uniquely organized around concepts and use cases, this updated fifth edition features a reorganized section on concurrency, threading, and parallel programming—"including in-depth coverage of C# 5.0's new asynchronous functions. Shaped by more than 20 expert reviewers, including Microsoft's Eric Lippert, Stephen Toub, Chris Burrows, and Jon Skeet, this book has all you need to stay on track with C# 5.0. It's widely known as the definitive reference on the language. Get up to speed on C# language basics, including syntax, types, and variables. Explore advanced topics such as unsafe code and type variance. Dig deep into LINQ via three chapters dedicated to the topic. Learn about code contracts, dynamic programming, and parallel programming. Work with .NET features, including reflection, assemblies, memory management, security, I/O, XML, collections, networking, and native interoperability. "C# 5.0 in a Nutshell is one of the few books I keep on my desk as a quick reference." —Scott Guthrie, Microsoft. "Whether you're a novice programmer or an expert who wants to improve your knowledge of modern asynchronous programming techniques, this book has the information you need to get the job done in C#." —Eric Lippert, Microsoft

**Book Information**

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**Customer Reviews**

I've got mixed feelings about this book. Since it is clearly labeled a Reference, I can't fault it for
being just that. It covers a huge array of topics but to me, it reads too much like a bunch of man page. It tells you exactly what each class does but what it’s missing for me are the scenarios where these classes and object can be used.In the description of a class or method, the authors give an example that completely demonstrates the method but I found myself having to study it very hard to figure out what they are trying to show and how I might be able to use it in my own program.I will definitely use this book as the reference that it is but I may look for another that is a bit more of a tutorial for C#.

I have almost all C# books dating back to 2002. While Troleson and Macdonald do a nice job in their books (my ex-favorites), the Alhabari brothers do a better job! They have intimate detail of what happens behind the scenes, and they stick to a formula of being "Clear" "Complete" and "Concise".If you are on the fence on this (like me) because you already have all the books and have been into C# for about 10 years, do yourself a favor and buy this book. One of the coolest things about this book is that it is a full 2" less wide than the other mule-chokers. At 1000+ pages, I am able to handle the book with ease and use it in the way a true desk reference book should be used.I’d rate it six stars if I could.

From the very start the book presents useful knowledge in an orderly fashion. It starts with a brief but useful background of the development path of the language and then jumps straight into the groundwork of datatypes. Then it builds up, methodically and expressively from there.You can follow along by executing all the code samples in LINQPad, which you can download for free. You can download all the examples in the book from the "Samples" tab in LINQPad. A folder tree presents each of the chapters and topics in the book and within each of these is the code which you can run by clicking the play button. This is how all programming should be taught. Then you can continue to use LINQPad as an invaluable tool for querying databases and web data in your work life.There is a downside to getting the Kindle edition. The code font is strangely small. All through the book the very text which is the subject of the book is written in a minute font size that is less than half the size of the normal text. Until this is fixed in the Kindle edition it will be a constant annoyance. You either have to make your normal text absurdly large, which will affect all the formatting of every page, or you will find yourself squinting and leaning forward every time the book gets to the interesting part.UPDATE: The Kindle problem is only in the CLOUD READER. The installed PC reader is probably better anyway and does not suffer at all from this problem. I use the installed Kindle for PC and the Kindle for Android on my Galaxy S3 with no problems at all.
This book has it all - Its concise (as name suggests) but at the same time topics are discussed in perfect depth. I recommend this book to any one who is looking for immediate to advance knowledge on C#. However if you are just starting on C# better to grow you knowledge base using other book(s) before picking this one because this book does require some basic C# knowledge.

I am a big fan of the Albaharis' "Pocket reference" and "Nutshell" books on C#. If you are thinking whether to go with the latest edition, or to save $10 and buy the older (4.0) one, p. 6 says that "C# 5.0's big new feature is support for asynchronous functions via two new keywords, async and await" and indeed, if one compares table-of-contents items across the editions, then, as far as I can tell, with the exception of a few one-page additions (Caller Info Attributes, TCP in Windows Runtime, BlockingCollection) and one deletion (The Zip Operator), changes are confined to the two chapters on threading. (I will add the ToC excerpts in "Comments"). Decide accordingly.

I've always been really impressed with the Nutshell books as a reference. You' wouldn't want to try to learn C# from this book, but once you've mastered the concepts, you won't want to be without it. Most of the time I use Visual Studio's help (MSDN) and manage to get by. But, there's nothing like a good text explanation of a topic to remind you how to use a particular language feature effectively. This book provides that reference in an easy to find format with a reasonable index. My only complaint is that it weighs so much. I'm starting to wonder if I wouldn't have been better off with just the Kindle edition.

This book is great, but the kindle version is hard to read. A huge inconsistency with font size.if I could return it for the paperback I would.

This book does not break things down so far that someone with no programming experience could easily get by, but it is excellent for anyone who has programming experience, maybe just not with C#. The first several chapters go into all of the basics of programming in C# that will get you started very quickly. To me it felt like a few college level programming classes compressed into a few chapters. After that it gets into advanced topics that vary by topic. The book is well written, easy to understand, and full of useful information for anyone looking to learn C#, brush up on it, or just learn some advanced things.

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