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Clojure Recipes (Developer's Library)

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Developers are discovering the immense power of Clojure’s functional programming model to quickly solve problems in domains ranging from social networking to Big Data. Targeting the Java Virtual Machine, Clojure also leverages the Java platform’s maturity and enormous ecosystem. Clojure Recipes is a “code recipe book” for this increasingly popular language. Julian Gamble focuses on practical and complete examples that illuminate Clojure’s key features and show step-by-step how to solve real-world problems with it. Clojure Recipes provides a series of “learn by doing” step-by-step projects, you’ll learn how to:Write your own DSLBuild a website with PedestalAdd Clojurescript to your websiteAbstract boilerplate code into a macroGet started with StormGet started with Datomic Build log readers, web app monitors, web testing suites, customized Ant tasks, and more

**Synopsis**

Chiefly appeals to those with some development experience who have just, or recently decided to apply Clojure to their own project. The book is a collection of thoughtfully chosen example (starter) projects. That’s quite a helpful leg up and if you value your time, the book being worth the money for that alone. You can pick up some best practices and the Clojure toolchain as well. There are connections throughout to other literature for more depth on particular aspects. Kindle version works well.
In my own experience, while Clojure for the Brave and True is a great book to get started, and The Joy of Clojure is perfect to get to know all the details about using the language (and that you might want to read again and again), Clojure Recipes is the best way to really practice with the language -- once you have moved past the first steps -- in some useful, entertaining and playful ways. Mostly, this comes down to this book being a collection of interesting projects that can be studied in a relatively short time. Say, e.g., that you have understood the basic details of macro writing, basic ideas, quoting and such, and you are looking for some guided way to go deeper and play with those concepts. Well, Clojure Recipes includes two projects where you write macros to improve debugging and to extend the compiler, and what is more important, both projects are sufficiently complex to require a certain intellectual effort, still doable in your spare time. That's great, as it provides exactly the kind of knowledge you need to move from a theoretical understanding of the language to a practical one -- which is what matters in the end. Depending on your focus or preferences, you could prefer digging into other aspects of the language, and you will have plenty of projects to choose from, although perhaps you will not find all the chapters equally interesting. All in all, a very good book.

I particularly like the DSL chapters for Datomic and SASS. I hadn't thought of using zippers to solve that problem. I also liked the macro chapters. Wrapping up code in an asynchronous block using a macro I had written made me think about my code differently.

I enjoyed the realtime data feeds with Pedestal and ClojureScript. The other part that was good was all the projects I could use in my work day to day - they were well thought out - and well explained.

I found the Big Data and JMS chapters most useful. The book had everything I needed all there for me. It worked well.

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