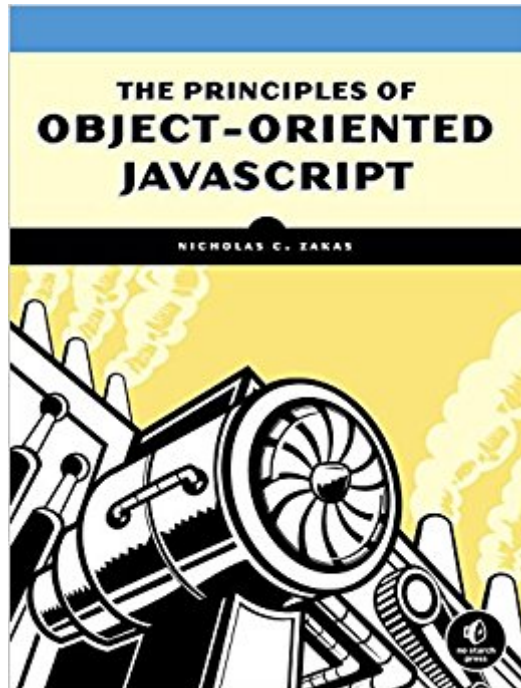




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The Principles Of Object-Oriented JavaScript



Synopsis

If you've used a more traditional object-oriented language, such as C++ or Java, JavaScript probably doesn't seem object-oriented at all. It has no concept of classes, and you don't even need to define any objects in order to write code. But don't be fooled—JavaScript is an incredibly powerful and expressive object-oriented language that puts many design decisions right into your hands. In *The Principles of Object-Oriented JavaScript*, Nicholas C. Zakas thoroughly explores JavaScript's object-oriented nature, revealing the language's unique implementation of inheritance and other key characteristics. You'll learn:

- The difference between primitive and reference values
- What makes JavaScript functions so unique
- The various ways to create objects
- How to define your own constructors
- How to work with and understand prototypes
- Inheritance patterns for types and objects

The Principles of Object-Oriented JavaScript will leave even experienced developers with a deeper understanding of JavaScript. Unlock the secrets behind how objects work in JavaScript so you can write clearer, more flexible, and more efficient code.

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Customer Reviews

Nicholas C. Zakas is a software engineer at Box and is known for writing on and speaking about the latest in JavaScript best practices. He honed his experience during his five years at Yahoo!, where he was principal front-end engineer for the Yahoo! home page. He is the author of several books, including *Maintainable JavaScript* (O'Reilly Media, 2012) and *Professional*

JavaScript for Web Developers (Wrox, 2012).

Awesome book on how objects work in JavaScript. This book really filled in some knowledge gaps, such as you can lock down objects to create some privacy using either `preventExtensions()` method, `seal()` method, or `freeze()` method. You learn about object attributes such as `__proto__` and what they do. The book goes over constructors, prototypes, and inheritance showing you how they all work. One of my favorite parts of the book is how `hasOwnProperty` is explained...now I get it! I do like how the book starts off going over types and how to properly use `typeof` and `instanceof`. This is not a book for complete beginners, but I think works as a wonderful intermediate book about JavaScript objects.

First of all I'm from a heavy C++/Java background so I'm well versed in strongly typed languages, classes, inheritance and all that jazz. However, in my initial foray into JavaScript I found it so odd that I brought a few books to try and clear up some nagging questions as to why it behaved the way it did. 'HTML5, Javascript and JQuery' gets to the point quickly but it lacks detail on what's going on behind the scenes when it comes to JavaScript probably because it's not the book's only focus. 'A Smarter way to Learn JavaScript' has a lot of beginner fluff that isn't anything you wouldn't know already. In addition the exercises are tedious. This book hits the sweet spot for me. Even though it's a short book, no sentence is wasted. I managed to polish it off in just 2 days. Every chapter and every section is highly readable and more importantly useful in teaching the language from an already experienced C++ programmer's perspective. Love the sample code too which never gets too complex or too long to comprehend easily. This is definitely a book I will refer to again and again even though it only covers ECMAScript 5. I believe the author has another book dedicated to ECMAScript 6. Bravo to Zakas for writing something so concise and readable!

I needed to learn JavaScript quickly for a project at work, coming from a .NET background. This book was perfect. These days I spend more time with JavaScript than .NET and I'm truly enjoying it. I'm still impressed by how much information Zakas could pack into this scrawny (less than 100 pages) book. I singled out this book because of the title, and was not disappointed. Javascript can be pretty daunting at the outset (if you come from the strongly-typed world), but once you get the hang of it, it feels quite liberating. This book definitely helped me understand how OO can be implemented in Javascript. Strongly recommended.

I give *The Principles of Object-Oriented JavaScript* by Nicholas C. Zakas a rating of 5 stars. This book deserves no less with its concise nature and very well explained concepts. First off, I must mention that this book is not intended for beginners. Object Oriented Programming (OOP) takes a different approach in the JavaScript language. In order to fully grasp the content of this book, it is highly recommended that you have a good understanding of OOP concepts and have developed an OOP vocabulary. My suggestion is to first learn a solid OOP language like Java or C++ first before beginning with this book. Just knowing JavaScript alone may not be enough. I previously mentioned that this book is concise. Weighing in at 92 pages, it's a featherweight in the realm of programming books. You might think it should take more pages to cover such an advanced topic as OOP in JavaScript. But, as exemplified in this book, that is certainly not the case. The topics in this book are covered just enough to get a good understanding of them. Furthermore, as you progress through the book, what you learn early on will be used again in a later section. So, what you learn in Chapter 1 will be used throughout the rest of the book. Each chapter builds upon the previous one. As you work through the examples, you will get plenty of practice of the things you previously learned. The author's writing is very easy to read. It's not easy to find a programming book that is so well written. The author does a very good job of not going beyond the scope of the current topic. Furthermore, he sticks to a consistent vocabulary that should be quite familiar with readers familiar to OOP principles. I can honestly say that this book has improved my understanding of JavaScript. After reading it, I was able to understand why the syntax of JQuery and AngularJS works, instead of just memorizing how to write the code. Those two libraries have some interesting syntax that might look foreign to someone who doesn't understand how JavaScript deals with objects. Because it has been so useful to me, I plan to keep a copy of this book in my personal library. I highly recommend this book to anyone who wishes to gain an understanding of OOP in JavaScript. If you have experience with OOP through another language such as Java and C++, then this book can certainly enrich your JavaScript coding practices. This was my personal experience with *The Principles of Object-Oriented JavaScript*.

After reading this book from cover to cover, I know that I will continue to re-read portions of it as my JS skills grow. About 30% of it is currently over my head, but I feel with a little more experience (I'm focused on Node.js) that the principles described in this book will equip me for success. The other 70% that I did grasp has already proven to be extremely useful in my Node.js coding.

excellent look into javascript, an absolute have to read if you do any development in the web world

Brings order to your knowledge of JavaScript and helps vision. As for OOP author does great job in demonstrating various ways of implementing it in JavaScript while also highlighting common conventions of JavaScript programming.

Zakas taught me a ton in this little 70-pager. I've been working professionally with javascript for a number of years, and took away new knowledge from every chapter in this book. Recommended to entry- and mid-level developers who want to have a better understanding of vanilla JS.

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