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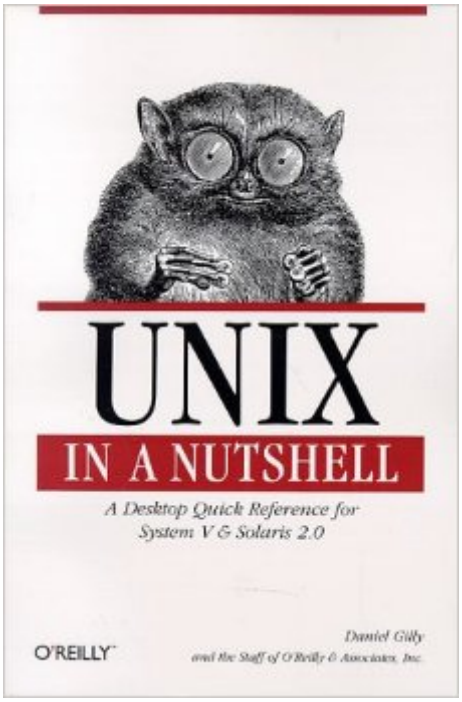
Unix In A Nutshell: A Desktop Quick Reference For System V & Solaris 2.0



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Synopsis

You may have seen UNIX quick-reference guides, but you've never seen anything like UNIX in a Nutshell. Not a scaled-down quick reference of common commands, UNIX in a Nutshell is a complete reference containing all commands and options, along with generous descriptions and examples that put the commands in context. For all but the thorniest UNIX problems, this one reference should be all the documentation you need.The second edition of UNIX in a Nutshell starts with thorough coverage of System V Release 3. To that, we've added the many new commands that were added to Release 4 and additional commands that were added to Solaris 2.0.Contents include:All user and programmer commands.New Korn shell documentation.Expanded text editing section, including GNU Emacs and nawk.Shell syntax (sh and csh).Pattern-matching syntax.vi and ex commands.sed and awk commands.troff and related commands and macros.sdb and dbx commands.If you currently use either SVR3 or SVR4 or are planning to in the future, or if you're a Sun user facing the transition to Solaris, you'll want this book. UNIX in a Nutshell is the most comprehensive quickref on the market, a must for any UNIX user. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The only reason that this book didn't get 5 stars is that it isn't what I'd consider a "bible". Its not recent, so many of the commands listed in there have additional switches or are now obsolete. But what is in there is great. I use it everytime I'm writing a shell script. It lacks extensive samples, so it isn't great for a beginner unless it is supplemented by a more in depth book. I use the reference section on awk and vi daily.

If you’re a beginner or even casual user of Unix then steer clear of this book. While the information contained within is excellent, it’s more suited towards experienced users as it’s not very well explained.Also a major fault is the incredibly poor index. Frankly, it’s one of the worst I’ve ever seen in any computer book. Pathetic. Instead of just indexing the terms, the descriptives should be listed as well.But all is not lost. When you become used to Unix (although I cringe at the title, Unix For Dummies 3rd Edition is a very good starting point), Unix In A Nutshell is a thorough reference. Just don’t plan on using the index!

This book is great as a referance. Don’t buy this is your looking for a step by step book. This book has ALOT of commands and shows you all the options associated with that command. It also has a few shells and certain shortcuts you can exacute within that shell. Overall its great as a referance. If you want to find out what a command does, just flip through the book.

This is a great reference for beginners. It is billed as a reference for System V and Solaris 2.0 but applies well to most versions of UNIX, even Linux.It is more of a command and function reference than a tutorial, in fact it is NOT a tutorial but with a little practice on a UNIX system you will find this book invaluable. I have O’Reilly books specific to vi, sed and awk, but this one is the main reference I use for looking up command structure.Its the most comprehensive and usable UNIX references I have seen and compares well to the big books that cost a lot more and could prop the wheels on a DC-3.This book in easily carried in an brief case for quick deployment. You can look up things quickly even when folks pop out of the room for a moment, you can look up something and be working away with your newfound information whenthey return and everyone will think you knew it all along. hahahaGreat book, highly recommended. I even use it for AIX although mostly for vi, se and awk.

There isn’t much I can add about this gem. My copy, from 1993, is starting to really show its age - physically. I still use it regularly because so much of the information in it is still relevant and applicable, even to Linux. I have UNIX in Nutshell (4th Ed.) and Linux in a Nutshell (5th Ed.), and while both of those are powerful tomes containing more and newer information than the 2nd Edition, neither can match the 2nd’s conciseness.None of these books is designed as a tutorial, but I think it’s worth noting that when I first started using the 2nd Edition in 1993, I knew little of UNIX (although I was not a noob to computing). In any case, almost sixteen years later, this edition is still serving me quite well for probably ~90% of the *nix info I need. I am delighted to see that it is still available!

As the preface says this is not a tutorial for the beginner, but if you are in the target audience this book is a must have. It is also a handy reference for the beginner. Everyone will find "Unix in a Nutshell" an excellent value. The information presented in this book is very clear, well arranged, and very detailed. If you are stuck and need a little brain jog, pick up "Unix in a Nutshell" and get instant satisfaction. Not only does this book cover the basic commands of Unix it also covers, the EMACS and VI editors, Bourne, Korn, and C Shells, and Debugger. If you are a Unix user or programmer and this book is not on your shelf I have to assume that you are using it. If you take your Unix seriously this book is for you.

If you are an experienced user, this is a great reference to keep close by. Better than the man pages because it doesn't scroll off the screen, you can make notes on the pages, and bookmark with Post-it notes. Jam packed with the key knowledge you use all the time.The command summary is great, with no fluff like those big, useless books you use as a platform for your monitor. I have manuals on awk and sed, but I rarely need to look at them because I can find what I need here. The same is true of the shells, emacs, and vi. It covers the territory well.Of course, this is not a tutorial book, so you need to know what you are doing to begin with. But if I was stuck on a desert island with a Unix box and only one book, this would be it!

Three years ago I was baptized into UNIX by working on an AIX system. Lost in the system's cryptic commands, I found picked up 3 books. Two were introduction books the last was UNIX IN A NUTSHELL. Of the three, UNIX IN A NUTSHELL is the only one I still have. When required to go to a client's site, I double check my bulging briefcase to make sure the book is tucked away. It is my security blanket. The book is divided into sections of common commands, from standard UNIX to vi, to make. While it doesn't give detailed explanations or examples, it does provide succinct definitions. This is a book for power users.

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