Books

*(Co-authored with Eric J. Ray, Sun Microsystems, Network Security Products)*

*Mastering HTML 4 (Premium Edition), Sybex, 1999*
*Mastering HTML 4 (Second Edition), Sybex, 1999*
*Mastering HTML 4.0 (First Edition), Sybex, 1997*

These 1000+ page books comprehensively cover beginning and intermediate HTML topics, as well as introduce a range of advanced topics, such as XML, JavaScript, searchable HTML, and database-generated HTML. In addition to including tips and advice for creating effective, user-centered Web sites, these books also include comprehensive reference sections on HTML, JavaScript, Style Sheets, special characters, browser-safe colors, and XML. We wrote the award-winning original edition, *Mastering HTML 4.0*, in three and a half months.

“A great amount of information has been packed into this book, and it is a great accomplishment to maintain consistency of design and writing throughout.” Judge #34, Society for Technical Communication Publications Competition

“I liked how [Mastering HTML 4.0] was arranged and written. It seemed to be set up almost as if it were a site of its own. Each chapter and section was easily accessible and ‘linked’ me to the appropriate next step, or chapters I needed.” Glen Sutton, reader, Senior Research Assistant, Shepherd Center & and Art Director

“I have recommended [Mastering HTML 4.0] to several people as a learning tool and an invaluable reference.” Claire Elrod


Written in three and a half weeks, this 350-page book provides brief introductions, step-by-step instructions, and illustrations for using many of the most common UNIX commands. Intended for beginning and intermediate UNIX users, this book meets a previously unmet market need: providing experienced computer users with a visually oriented approach to learning UNIX.

“Excellent book! I recommend it highly to my students here.” Bob Koretsky, University of Portland School of Engineering

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These books cover beginning and intermediate HTML topics and have drawn a wide variety of readers—from ages 12 to 80, from HTML dabblers to professional Web designers, and from personal uses to formal training courses (including those provided by Sun Microsystems). The original edition, HTML for Dummies Quick Reference, won the Excellence Award at the International Society for Technical Communications Publications Competition.

“[HTML for Dummies Quick Reference] is excellent! In fact, it’s the only book I’ve looked at on computer stuff that is actually helpful.” Charles Staufenberg

“I’ve found all the ... information in your [HTML for Dummies Quick Reference] to be very easy to follow and very accurate. Once again, thanks for such a great reference book.” Roger Clark, QSilver/Mercury Development—Team AMIGA

“I’m not easily impressed by most products I buy, but your book was well laid out, full of good info, and completely functional as a desktop reference. It was a pleasure to use it.” Pat Small


These tutorials are intended for HTML beginners and cover primarily basic HTML topics. Each lesson states prerequisites, lists files (from the accompanying CD) needed for the lesson, introduces a single HTML task, provides step-by-step instructions and explanations, includes figures, and follows through with quizzes, tests, and exercises. We wrote the original edition, Dummies 101: HTML, in two and a half weeks, and it later won the Distinguished Technical Communication Award—the highest award given—at the International Society for Technical Communication Publications Competition.

“Dummies 101: HTML is one of the best written, organized, and presented technical manuals I have used.” George R. Murray, Jr., former Senior Government Systems Analyst

“Thank you for your quick response and willingness to help. It’s a shame everyone doesn’t stand behind their work [Dummies 101: HTML 4] like that. [sic]” Greg Kowalski

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(Both editions co-authored with Richard Seltzer, Digital Equipment Corporation)

A collaborative project with Digital Equipment Corporation, *The AltaVista Search Revolution* provides how-to information about using the search service, descriptions and explanations of search features, the story behind AltaVista’s search technology, and more than 100 search examples and user anecdotes.

“The book *AltaVista Search Revolution* is wonderful!” L. Skoman

“I find your book *AltaVista Search Revolution* very useful.” R. Bhawani Prasad

*Netscape Composer for Dummies*, IDG Books Worldwide, 1997

Written in three weeks while simultaneously working on *Mastering HTML 4.0*, this book provides explanations and instructions for using Netscape Composer, as well as tips and advice for creating effective, user-centered Web pages and sites.

“Very creative use of presenting technical information. [sic]” Judge #P11, Society for Technical Communication Publications Competition

“I thought the vocabulary and style were great ‘for Dummies.’ They helped draw in the reader and explain things in easy terms.” Judge #P9, Society for Technical Communication Publications Competition


“Your book was the first book to assume that, even though I could probably count to 67 without taking my socks off, I simply couldn't get a clear understanding of the database basics. Your chapters 2, 4, 5, and 6 gave me a good basic understanding of what a database is...thank you so much.” Julius Hovany