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Synopsis

Finally a book for the true SQL Server beginner! Whether you are brand new to data bases and are thinking of getting your 70-461 certification or already a semi-pro working in the field and need some fingertip support, this is this is the book for you. Joes 2 Pros does not assume you already know anything about data bases or SQL server. The Author, Rick Morelan, started out as a true beginner after he decided he had had enough of working on a fishing boat in Alaska. Rick struggled for years to acquire the knowledge necessary just to get his foot in the door. Many years later as an instructor, who was not happy with the instructional material available for his SQL students, he began the process of creating his own material. In 2009 Rick released his first book, "Beginning SQL Joes 2 Pros: The SQL Hands-On Guide for Beginners" for SQL 2008. Due to its clear writing style, easy to follow images and free downloadable labs it quickly became a top seller . This book builds on the success of the previous series and will help anyone transform themselves from a beginner "Joe" into a SQL 2012 "Pro". For those of you who have read the 2008 series for the 70-433 Exam you will find a lot of the same material from the SQL 2008 book in this SQL 2012 book. This is because much of the 70-461 test covers the same material as the 70-433. I have added material that is new to the test and removed material that is no longer relevant. If you have already read this series or have already passed the 70-433 exam you may choose to read my book which covers only the changes from 70-433 to 70-461 entitled "Joes 2 Pros SQL 2012 Queries 70-461 Exam for SQL 2008 Pros".

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Before reading Joes 2 Pros SQL Books, my SQL knowledge was not even at beginner’s level. Now I am very good in SQL and I give all credit to this book and the other books in this series. Book is very easy to read and follow. I would recommend this book to anybody who has no SQL knowledge or is beginner.

The Joes 2 Pros SQL Server 2012 books are a very useful resource to have around for newcomers or even seasoned DB developers who may not always use SQL Server as their most common development platform (like me). Each book chunks topics into a single small book make it affordable and giving the user the ability to select only those areas that they need help with. Having them on a Kindle Device, iPad, PC, or Mac is indispensable in the workplace even though there are very cogent and very terse resources available to the SQL Server user/developer via MSDN and Google. A welcome addition in my opinion to the Kindle Bookshelf of reference material.

Beginning SQL 2012 Joes 2 Pros Volume 1 is an excellent tutorial for beginners as well as those who are not even at the beginner’s level. This book is very well organized. The authors walk the learner through each chapter with carefully measured steps that are tied to meaningful and relatable examples to promote true understanding. Strategically placed throughout each chapter are "Points to Ponder". These are designed to reinforce the concepts previously addressed. At the end of each chapter is a Glossary that captures the key vocabulary for the reader to review. In addition to the Glossary, chapters two through eleven have a chapter Review Quiz. Each quiz is designed as a self-assessment for the reader. The Review Quiz Answer Key not only provides the reader with the correct answer, it gives an explanation with regard to why it is the correct answer and what makes the other answers incorrect. As impressive as the organization of the material, it is the authors’ encouraging tone throughout that makes this book a standout! The authors state in the Chapter 12 Summary, "We promise that this book will present you with an excellent learning experience every time." All that I can add is, "Promise kept!".
If you're wanting to learn T-SQL, this 5-volume set is a great way to do it. I found the author to be thorough and easy to follow. He teaches in a style that is straight forward and easily understood. Whether you are a beginner or an intermediate writer of SQL, you will gain much from this series. My goal is to fill the gaps in my understanding and answer a lot of the "why am I doing it this way" questions that were in the back of my mind while writing a huge variety of SQL queries and defining data models, often reverse engineering directly from the databases I depended upon for reporting business intelligence. I highly recommend this 5 volume set of books. I bought it in both electronic format and the soft cover books. Because I tend to be very detail oriented, wanting to have all my bases covered, I’m also enrolled in the author’s online courses until I achieve Microsoft certification after passing my exams. I’m just starting on Vol 2, so I’ll post more later as I go through each volume and ultimately take the exams I have planned. I’ve set my self-learning goal for this for April, 2016...stay tuned!

I’ve read 2 other SQL books including a quick start guide and this explains abstract concepts the best. The section on Inner vs. Outer joins is really easy to grasp. This one helps by offering simple examples of every concept. There are also exercises (which really helps the learner develop the correct logic path) and a few advanced concepts. I highly recommend for anyone seeking fundamental SQL knowledge but also wants to go deeper into T-SQL or begin understanding of DB design, management, tactics and theory.

I bought this book several weeks ago along with the developer edition of SQL 2012. It’s been great! The book is easy to follow and understand. The companion video’s on the Joe’s 2 Pro’s website make getting up and running easy. There was a review about the Kindle version not rendering correctly but I have not had that issue. When I first opened the Kindle reader I had it set to display two columns and a some of the pictures were cut off. However, when I changed the view to display only one column at a time everything was perfect. I recommend this book and I recommend the Kindle version.

This book is really focused. There is no fluff and it does a very good job of making the subject of SQL interesting to learn. The book is full of fantastic examples to help reinforce each lesson and build upon your skills as you work through each chapter in the book. I am really looking forward to Volume 2 next.
The book and the downloads are geared for a TRUE beginner which I was and still am. That being said I have learned a ton. Once I installed Sql Server 2012 onto my desk top I hit the ground running and continue to grow in SQL knowledge. The bad thing is that once you realize how easy it was to begin with you have 4 more volumes to go. BUT the package deal is for 5 volumes with CDs and you already have Volume 1 and do not need another copy of that book.


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