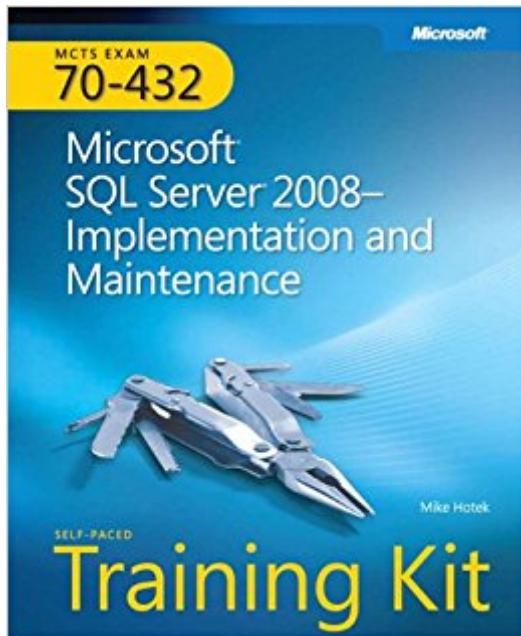


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MCTS Self-Paced Training Kit (Exam 70-432): Microsoft® SQL Server® 2008 - Implementation And Maintenance: Microsoft SQL Server 2008--Implementation And Maintenance (Microsoft Press Training Kit)



Synopsis

EXAM PREP GUIDE Ace your preparation for the skills measured by MCTS Exam 70-432â "and on the job. Work at your own pace through a series of lessons and reviews that fully cover each exam objective. Then, reinforce and apply what youâ™ve learned through real-world case scenarios and practice exercises. This official Microsoft study guide is designed to help you make the most of your study time. Maximize your performance on the exam by learning to:Configure, manage, back up, and restore databases Create a partitioned table, index, or indexed view Configure services and components to manage your environment Help prevent unauthorized access at each security infrastructure layer Design and deploy high-availability solutions Manage SQL Server Agent jobs, alerts, and operators Identify service, concurrency, and job execution problems PRACTICE TESTS Assess your skills with the practice tests on CD. You can work through hundreds of questions using multiple testing modes to meet your specific learning needs. You get detailed explanations for right and wrong answersâ "including a customized learning path that describes how and where to focus your studies. Your kit includes:15% exam discount from Microsoft. (Limited time offer). Details inside. Official self-paced study guide. Practice tests with multiple, customizable testing options and a learning plan based on your results. 250+ practice and review questions. Case scenarios, exercises, and best practices. Sample chapters from related Microsoft Press® books. 180-day trial of SQL Server 2008 Enterprise Edition. Fully searchable eBook of this guide.

Book Information

Series: Microsoft Press Training Kit

Paperback: 672 pages

Publisher: Microsoft Press; 1 edition (February 25, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0735626057

ISBN-13: 978-0735626058

Product Dimensions: 7.6 x 2 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.9 pounds

Average Customer Review: 2.9 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (69 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #774,731 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #119 in Books > Computers & Technology > Programming > Microsoft Programming > SQL Server #213 in Books > Computers & Technology > Certification > Microsoft #392 in Books > Computers & Technology > Databases & Big Data > SQL

Customer Reviews

The Microsoft Training Kit text for SQL Server 2005 exam 70-431 (for which Hotek was a contributor, but not primary author) is one of the best technical books I have ever come across. I have read every page at least twice, some sections several times. It covers a wealth of complex material in an organized, well-written manner. I hoped the SQL 2008 version would be an update of the SQL 2005 text, adding coverage for new or updated SQL 2008 features. Alas, the SQL 2008 edition has been completely rewritten, with Hotek as the only author. I have read the first 100 pages and intend to read the entire text, but am not happy. The content is poorly organized, poorly edited and flat-out incorrect on some important points. (Errors regarding multiple instances were commented on by earlier reviewers. This error was not just stated once, but was repeated.) In more than one end-of-section mini-quiz, the questions are for material not covered in that section. Hotek claims, more than once, to have worked on "millions of databases". Huh? If he worked on a different database every hour, and worked a ten-hour day for 300 days per year, that would total out to 30,000 databases a year, or 300,000 over ten years. Mike would have to have worked over thirty years to get close to his first million databases! That said, Hotek is a really smart guy, with tons of SQL Server experience. His contributions to the SQL 2005 text were interesting and useful. Unfortunately, his expertise does not translate to authorship of books like this, and he has been poorly served by his technical editors (if there were any) at Microsoft Press. NOTE: I submitted the above two-star review on March 19, 2009.

I want to start out by identifying myself. I'm a SQL DBA I've got around 8 years of experience, I've got my MCITP for SQL 2005 for Database Administration. So I've read the 70-431 book cover to cover and I can understand some of the criticism of this book, but will address that later. I bought this book to train for the 70-431 test, I didn't upgrade my cert but choose to take 70-431 & 70-450. Now I studied the book like crazy, I made flash cards, I used the CD in the back of the book, but I did not rely on it. Anything that I felt was not flushed out as well as I liked I would study on MSDN, or great blogs like Paul Randal's. I read several white papers, and was able to use a lot of the knowledge in the work place, which re-enforced my studies..... And I passed the Cert test. Mike's knowledge of SQL Server is great, but there are a lot of sections where Deep Dives will reveal more detail and may even contradict what is written. But bottom line if you study the book, the concepts, and the practices, and know them inside and out then this book is enough to prep you for the exam. If you want to be a SQL Rockstar, (Google Brent Ozar and SQL Rockstar and read his article), then this is a beginning and you have a lot more work to do. But that goes with a lot of things in life, if all you

are willing to do is crack open this book, study it's questions, and do nothing more to prepare for this exam then you are missing a lot of SQL Server Knowledge and while you *might* pass the test you will be a so/so DBA, then that is your choice. But Dear Reader it is up to you to get that knowledge and Mike does a great job of providing you a diving board to spring from. The question remains, how far do you want to go as a SQL DBA and how hard are you willing to chase it?

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