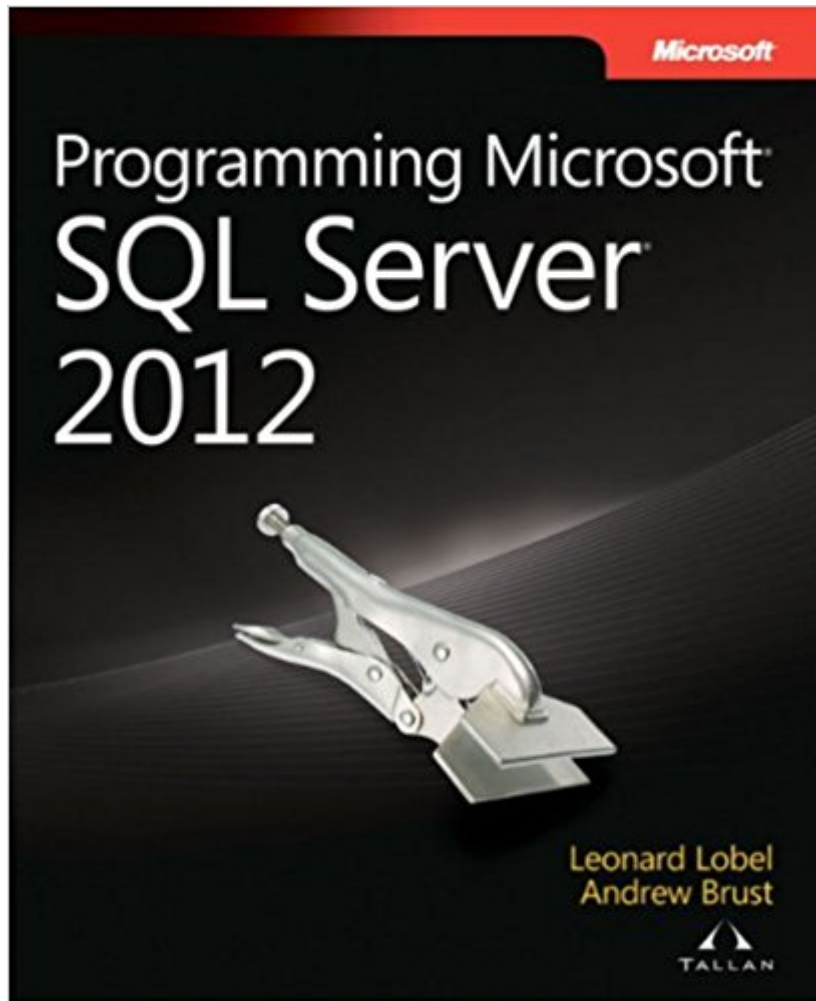


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Programming Microsoft SQL Server 2012 (Developer Reference)



Synopsis

Your essential guide to key programming features in Microsoft SQL Server 2012 Take your database programming skills to a new levelâand build customized applications using the developer tools introduced with SQL Server 2012. This hands-on reference shows you how to design, test, and deploy SQL Server databases through tutorials, practical examples, and code samples. If youâre an experienced SQL Server developer, this book is a must-read for learning how to design and build effective SQL Server 2012 applications. Discover how to: Build and deploy databases using the SQL Server Data Tools IDE Query and manipulate complex data with powerful Transact-SQL enhancements Integrate non-relational features, including native file streaming and geospatial data types Consume data with Microsoft ADO.NET, LINQ, and Entity Framework Deliver data using Windows Communication Foundation (WCF) Data Services and WCF RIA Services Move your database to the cloud with Windows Azure SQL Database Develop Windows Phone cloud applications using SQL Data Sync Use SQL Server BI components, including xVelocity in-memory technologies

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Customer Reviews

First off, this book is for all those db developers who have good working knowledge of SQL Server along with a keen interest in using other microsoft technologies to play around with the database. The book is nicely dissected into 3 parts. The first 2 parts are geared towards core SQL

development. The 3rd part covers new tools of integration and new technologies that are enriching the SQL landscape. Chapter 1 is a full-blown coverage of the new SSDT introduced in SQL Server 2012. This chapter is for core developers who often find themselves juggling between tools for SQL as well as .net development. As SSDT is hosted within the visual studio, there is now a single development environment to work from. Chapter 2 covers new T-SQL features and enhancements brought in by SQL Server 2012. Each feature is nicely treated with some good examples. Chapter 3 goes deep into discussing SQL CLR. This highly underutilized feature within SQL Server was touted to be the next big thing. Hopefully after reading the chapter, you will feel the same and be encouraged to take advantage of it. Chapters 4 & 5 cover transactions and SQL security. Both have been highly misunderstood areas and the chapters do complete justice to them. Chapters 6, 7, 8 & 9 covers all the non-relational features that are making SQL an enterprise level product. Features like XML integration, Hierarchical data manipulation, file streaming and geospatial support equip SQL Server with tomorrow's technology. These features are powerful and very intuitive to use. Chapters 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 & 15 cover different aspects of SQL programming. Mobile and cloud computing have become buzzwords and SQL is enabling developers to tap into those areas. .

The problem of selecting a database reference book is that most of the material will not be related to your area of interest. Practically no one is trying to get a fifth reference on normalizing a database and writing a SQL query. What we want is a book that has some depth and gives you a decent look into the proper use of new features and a new perspective or two with new code examples. I can say that this book is one of Microsoft's better renditions of a user manual for its latest database. This is a very good thing, because the 2008 R2 database had some peculiar gotchas and jams when running slightly advanced queries and special applications. Along with many other programmers, who didn't want to make a career out of database design, we wanted better reliability of operation and much better documentation for the new 2012 database. This book goes a long way in the desired direction. Especially welcome sections were: Table Valued Parameters (TVPs), modern date-time convenient storage formats, data encryption and security, spatial data enhancements, and stored parameter design and testing. Microsoft databases have lagged behind PostgreSQL databases and others for years because they didn't have anything similar to an array column type. TVPs may finally alleviate this issue and a good discussion about this solution is gratefully accepted. The date-time conversion operations make handling this vital area of database interaction much clearer. The use of proper security of databases has long been a poorly documented issue and the more thorough presentation of it in Chapter 5 is well worth reading. Chapter 9 answers

some long awaited questions on the use of spacial data.

If you're looking for a book that gives you plenty of starting points for programming against the various data access APIs available to MS SQL Server using .NET while learning something about some of the new tools and features available to MS SQL Server 2012, including SQL Server Data Tools, then this book is a good place to start. My only complaint: when this review went to press, the companion website and accompanying code samples were non-existent, yet they're referenced on several occasions; a little frustrating. Part One of the book, "Core SQL Server Development", kicks off with a description of the new SQL Server Data Tools and its declarative, model based development approach, which utilizes an "in-memory representation of what the database looks like". This permits a developer to work against something beside the database, all from inside the project explorer in Visual Studio, then deploy to the real thing. Chapter two of the book illustrates the latest T-SQL additions, which include improved "windowing" using the OVER clause, new functions, improvements to THROW, "server-side result set paging with OFFSET and FETCH NEXT", "sequential number generation with the SEQUENCE object", and "metadata discovery". Even in the absence of the downloadable code samples, there are plenty of samples in the pages of the book to keep you off the streets. Chapter Three does a good job showing the reader the degree to which Visual Studio and SQL Server are integrated and how a developer can host SQL Server Database Projects in Visual Studio, and the next chapter goes on to give a thorough explanation of Transactions and a review of the ACID properties for added context.

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