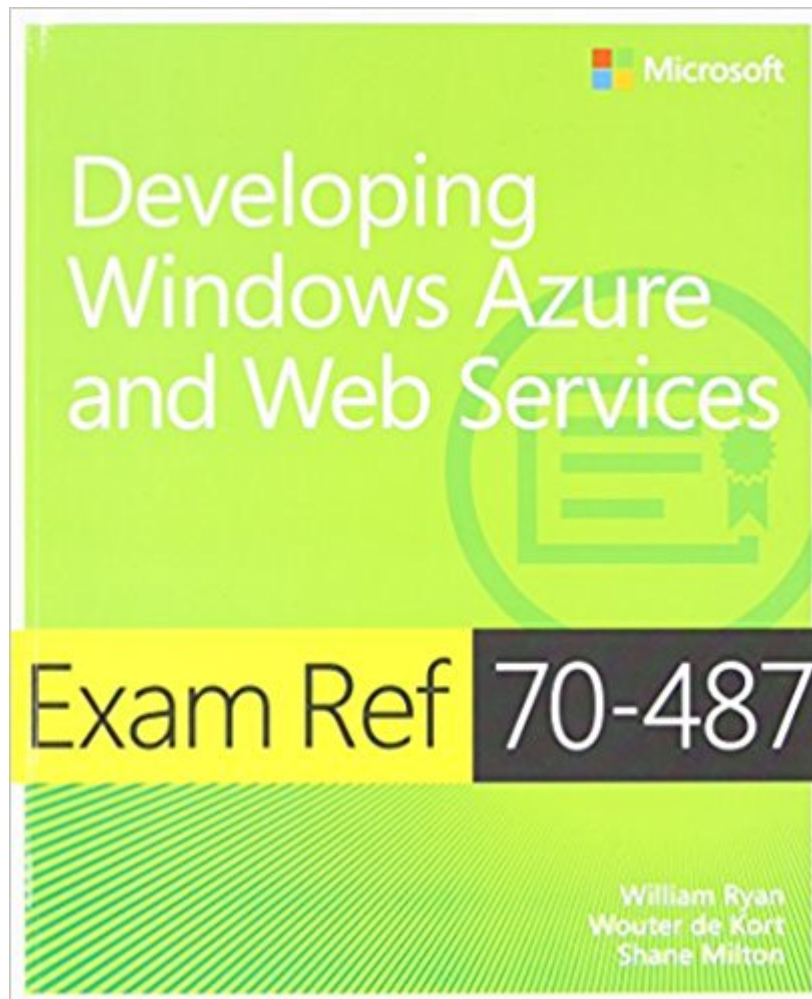


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Exam Ref 70-487 Developing Windows Azure And Web Services (MCSD)



Synopsis

Prepare for Microsoft Exam 70-487 and help demonstrate your real-world mastery of developing Windows Azure and web services. Designed for experienced developers ready to advance their status, Exam Ref focuses on the critical-thinking and decision-making acumen needed for success at the Microsoft Specialist level. Focus on the expertise measured by these objectives: Accessing data Querying and manipulating data by using the Entity Framework Designing and implementing WCF Services Creating and consuming Web API-based services Deploying web applications and services This Microsoft Exam Ref: Organizes its coverage by exam objectives. Features strategic, what-if scenarios to challenge you.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

First of all, don't buy this book...It's a joke-although I'm not laughing.How this got to print is inexcusable -- I'm only on page 26 and have ZERO confidence in this book.Look at the "unconfirmed" errata found at this link (from page xvi in the book) <http://aka.ms/ER70-487/errata>I've been programming many years with a few Microsoft's certs under my belt so I know the drill:- read Study Guides, Exam Crams, Google...- use Practice Test- code examples, i.e, Lab Work etc...Right out of the gate, on page 6 & 7 are two pages of code comprising unit test for "which is better" DataReader" or "DataAdapter"?No problem, let me just download the code for this book and run the examples...But alas, there aint no stink'n code.The author goes on to point out, on page 8, that the

data reader takes 2 ms to run vs 3 ms for the data adapter...Well, I tell ya, I'm shocked....DUDE, WHO CARES? What about Developing Azure and Web Services?Then there is an important paragraph, with a highlighted gray background..."IMPORTANT...MAKE SURE YOU CLOSE EVERY CONNECTION YOU OPEN"....DUDE, this is programming 101...and what does this have to do with Objective 1.1 Choose Data Access Technologies?BTW, where's the database for this example?On page 14, were given detailed instructions on building an EF Model using the Entity Data Wizard...I'm mean complete with screen shots and step-by-step instructions...i.e, First right-click on YOUR Project in Solution Explorer....BTW, where's the database for this example? What version of Visual Studio do we need?

First of all, I am only a bit more than half way through the book. There are quite a few mistakes in this book. Some answers are clearly incorrect or missing. For example, p. 248 and 282 (Objective 3.6), there are three questions but only two answers are given. I want to give it more stars but this kind of errors are found through out. The book feels like it was re-arrange last minute and did not get reviewed properly.While some of the authors' thoughts are good, I find most of them to be too general and does not help in the exam or in practice. In addition, many important topics are simply skimmed over, such as in the WCF chapter. Many of the bindings options were not clearly explained.While I am learning something from this book, and I understand compiling a book for exam 70-487 is a difficult task, it simply falls short of my expectation. I have seen better exam prep from Microsoft (I have read a dozen of them). If the second half of the book somehow changes my mind, I will update this review.[Updated on 3/27/2014]I took my exam and passed it. It wasn't easy but I made it, so I want to give this book some credits and update my review, now that I have read it cover to cover twice. I am bumping it up from 2 to 3 stars, and here is why.First of all, I am quite familiar with MS data access technologies and WCF from using them at work for years. Exam (70-487) truly covers an insane range of topics that can only be sufficiently covered by a book of at least 900-1100 pages. While this book has only some 420 pages and is not expensive (I paid \$26 for it), I would rather pay more for a more well-written book. I am sure the authors are restricted by page numbers but many paragraphs could have been more succinct.

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