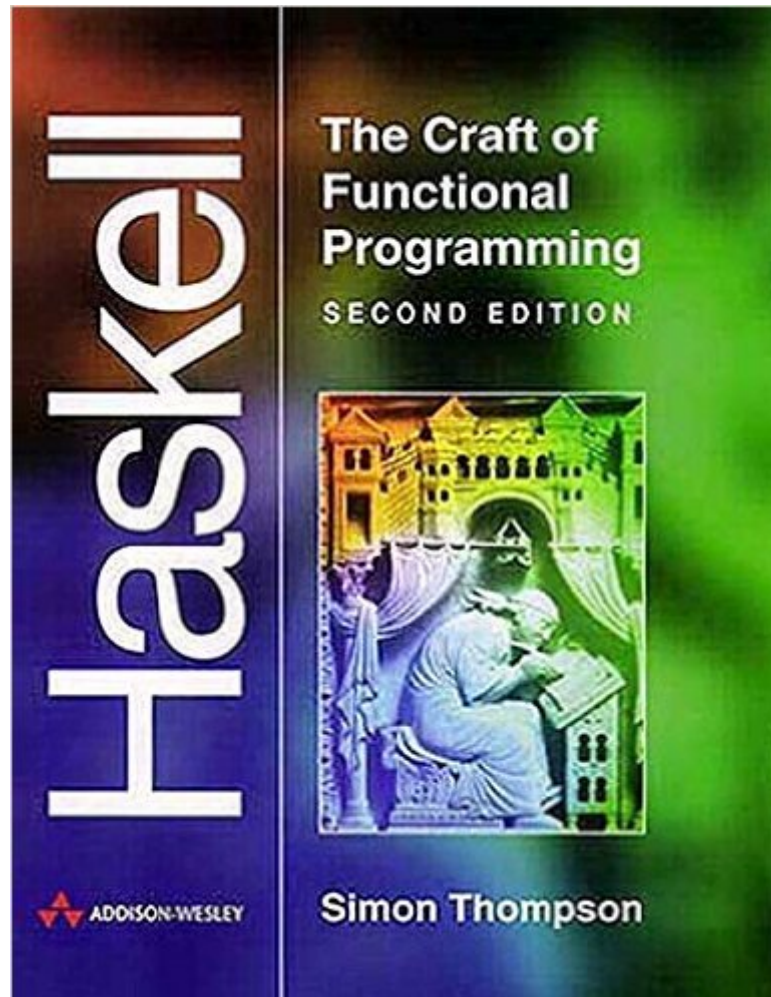# Haskell: The Craft Of Functional Programming (2nd Edition)

Synopsis

The second edition of Haskell: The Craft of Functional Programming is essential reading for beginners to functional programming and newcomers to the Haskell programming language. The emphasis is on the process of crafting programs and the text contains many examples and running case studies, as well as advice on program design, testing, problem solving and how to avoid common pitfalls.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Most of the reviewers for this text so far seem to be more experienced programmers or computer scientists. So I am writing this review to give a different perspective.My uni has this year chosen Haskell as the INTRODUCTORY language, apparently because it:1) Is a clear implementation of some fundamental programming concepts2) Puts everyone on an equal footing, since no-one is likely to have studied it (or even another functional language) before.I have little formal background but have been messing around with scripting languages like TCL for a couple of years.The initial transition to thinking from a functional perspective seemed very difficult. The idea of recursion as opposed "just sticking it in a loop" took a while to stick.But I have found simply by working through the book I have progressed quickly and in only a few weeks it has become quite natural to think in a Haskell way.I attribute this to the excellent layout of the book, but more importantly the frequent exercises provided throughout each chapter. As my lecturer is fond of saying, practice is the only way to learn programming, and it is by exploring the introduced concepts in this way that I feel my

learning of Haskell has been most effective.The book is paced, if anything, a little slowly. But since I am someone who likes to gain a thorough understanding of topics I don't mind this. The exercises themselves are well thought out and tend to offer an increasing amount of challenge. Something that conceptually seems trivial can be given an interesting twist when it comes to writing a function.

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