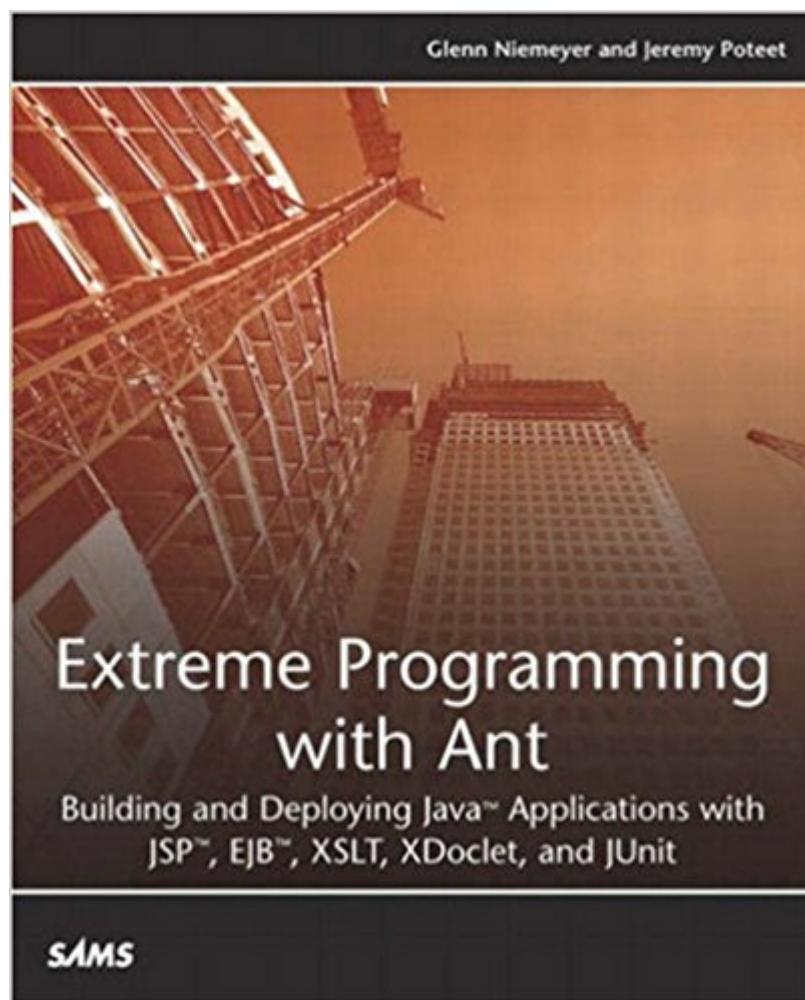




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Extreme Programming With Ant: Building And Deploying Java Applications With JSP, EJB, XSLT, XDoclet, And JUnit



Synopsis

From the Back Cover: You've heard about Extreme Programming. You might have read articles or books describing the XP process, but what next? How do you implement XP principles into an actual Java project? This unique book explains everything you need for XP development, starting with Ant, the popular Java build tool. The authors describe every stage of a real-world project life cycle—testing, refactoring, versioning, deployment, and more—with practical examples that you can immediately put to use in your own projects. Every aspect of an XP project includes unique challenges, and Extreme Programming with Ant works through each step of the process. Mitigate risks by creating spike tests with Ant buildfiles Add version control and testing with JUnit Automate nightly builds and reporting Deploy applications dynamically using XDoclet Add additional team members after a project is underway Write custom Ant components to facilitate deployment Adapt an XP process for use by other teams or across an enterprise Throughout the book, the authors include dozens of ideas for extending Ant with useful custom features such as generating UML diagrams and creating reports and metrics on-the-fly. All code and examples have been built, tested, and deployed using Ant 1.5.3.

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Customer Reviews

Before I proceed further with the review, I should note that I am the co-author of Java Development with Ant, the book which has been the best selling book about Ant to date. Thus if I were critical of this book, you'd know where I was coming from. But I am not going to be critical - I am going to say

nice things about it, and give it 5 stars as anything else would be unfair. This is a really good introduction to Extreme Programming in Java using Ant, JUnit and XDoclet. After a quick intro to the concepts of XP, this book follows the story of a team that is using the XP methodology to get stuff out the door. First Ant is introduced, the JUnit -the latter being the key to test-centric development. Then as the chapters progress, the new problems are introduced and the code and the build process refactored and expanded to adapt. I particularly like the chapter where a business merger forces a team reorganisation -organisation change does effect projects, but most software engineering books ignore such events, along with team member dynamics in general. It also repeatedly reinforces the need for automated builds and tests, and has some basic coverage of CruiseControl. CC is the system that keeps our team in check: whenever you break the build, you get email. I get a lot of email. It doesn't go into significant depth in Ant -you will (of course) need the on line documentation, and I would also point my own book. Mostly this isn't an issue -the only place where I had significant differences of opinion was when the book recommended using the task to precompile JSP pages for tomcat. If the authors had tracked the Ant dev mail list, or the open bugreps related to this task, they'd know not to encourage that, because the underlying jasperc doesn't really let you.

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