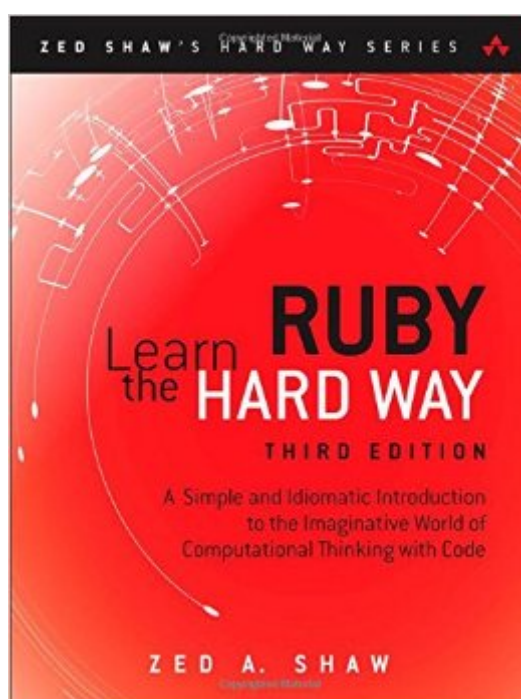


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# Learn Ruby The Hard Way: A Simple And Idiomatic Introduction To The Imaginative World Of Computational Thinking With Code (3rd Edition) (Zed Shaw's Hard Way Series)



## Synopsis

You Will Learn Ruby! Zed Shaw has perfected the world's best system for learning Ruby. Follow it and you will succeed "just like the hundreds of thousands of beginners Zed has taught to date! You bring the discipline, commitment, and persistence; the author supplies everything else. In *Learn Ruby the Hard Way, Third Edition*, you'll learn Ruby by working through 52 brilliantly crafted exercises. Read them. Type their code precisely. (No copying and pasting!) Fix your mistakes. Watch the programs run. As you do, you'll learn how software works; what good programs look like; how to read, write, and think about code; and how to find and fix your mistakes using tricks professional programmers use. Most importantly, you'll learn the following, which you need to start writing excellent Ruby software of your own:

- Installing your Ruby environment
- Organizing and writing code
- Ruby symbols and keywords
- Basic mathematics
- Variables and printing
- Strings and text
- Interacting with users
- Working with files
- Using and creating functions
- Looping and logic
- Arrays and elements
- Hashmaps
- Program design
- Object-oriented programming
- Inheritance and composition
- Modules, classes, and objects
- Project "skeleton" directories
- Debugging and automated testing
- Advanced user input
- Text processing
- Basic game development
- Basic web development

It'll Be Hard At First. But Soon, You'll Just Get It "And That Will Feel Great! This tutorial will reward you for every minute you put into it. Soon, you'll know one of the world's most powerful, popular programming languages. You'll be a Ruby programmer.

Watch Zed, too! The accompanying DVD contains 5+ hours of passionate, powerful teaching: a complete Ruby video course!

Zed Shaw is an avid guitar player, programmer, and writer whose books teach people all over the world how to write software. His book *Learn Python the Hard Way* has been read by millions of people around the world. His software has been used by many large and small companies. His essays are often quoted and read by members of many geek communities. He is an entertaining and lively writer, who is sure to keep you laughing and make you think.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Learn Ruby the Hard Way is a bit different than most introductory programming texts. This book covers the very basics of programming along with fairly advanced topics for a new coder. Many real world skills such as reading documentation and learning how to break down problems into solvable steps. The first third is an introduction to programming, which covers topics like variables, basic text manipulation, and looping. A lot of guidance is given to the reader, while noting how to find more information online. The middle third of LRtHW focuses on making the leap from examples to writing longer, more substantial programs with multiple files and branching. At this point, the author places a larger focus on using external sources of information. While still covering common problems that the reader might encounter, more references are made to looking up information in the Ruby documentation and looking at projects on GitHub. The final third of the book covers many of the skills needed by a working programmer. The projects get larger in scope and more references are made to online resources. Some of the topics include how to structure programs and gems, automated testing, writing rudimentary 'game engines', and has a large focus on using Ruby on the web. Since most real world use of Ruby will be online, the emphasis on web programming is quite helpful. Overall, I'm quite impressed with Learn Ruby the Hard Way. I would imagine this book will mostly be read by those with little or no programming experience. While I can't evaluate the book from that perspective, everything seems to be laid out very well for a new programmer. The logic and progression makes sense and is easy to follow.

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