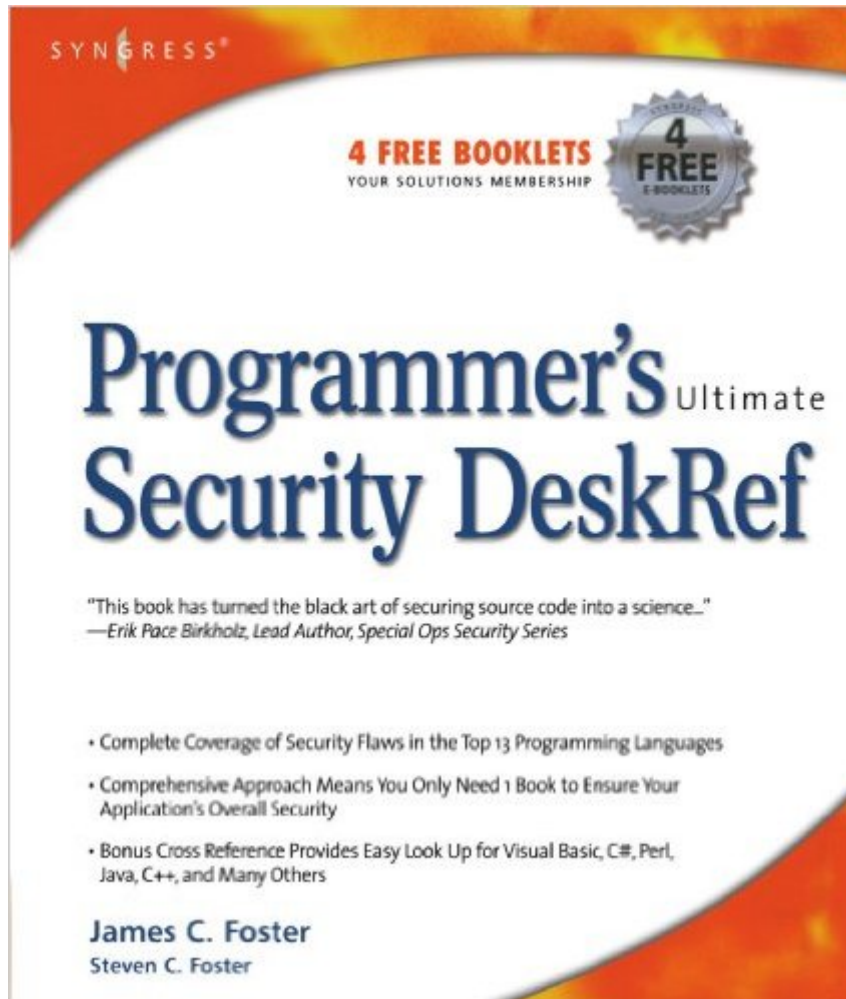# Programmer's Ultimate Security DeskRef: Your Programming Security Encyclopedia

Synopsis

The Programmer's Ultimate Security DeskRef is the only complete desk reference covering multiple languages and their inherent security issues. It will serve as the programming encyclopedia for almost every major language in use.While there are many books starting to address the broad subject of security best practices within the software development lifecycle, none has yet to address the overarching technical problems of incorrect function usage. Most books fail to draw the line from covering best practices security principles to actual code implementation. This book bridges that gap and covers the most popular programming languages such as Java, Perl, C++, C#, and Visual Basic. * Defines the programming flaws within the top 15 programming languages. * Comprehensive approach means you only need this book to ensure an application's overall security. * One book geared toward many languages.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Quick perusal finds several lisp functions whose assesment is utterly bogus. Lest you believe this is limited to less well known languages, consider this:This book lists the C function "gets" as a *low-impact* security risk, whereas in the real world it is one of the more common points-of-attack for buffer-overflows.Don't buy unless you intend to sue the author.

Based on snippets posted online, the authors and publishers of this book should be deeply ashamed of themselves. The "Risks" sections of various Common Lisp functions are complete

gibberish--for instance warning about wildcard characters in filenames when discussing the IMPORT function which has nothing to do with filenames. But that's just one example of many. Basically nothing of what I've seen that they say about the "Risks" associated with Common Lisp makes any sense at all.

If you're a typical programmer, you may be unaware of the potential security risks of certain statements in your language of choice. The new book Programmer's Ultimate Security DeskRef by James C. Foster (Syngress) can help you in that area.Chapter List: ASP; C; C++; C#; ColdFusion; JavaScript; JScript; LISP; Perl; PHP; Python; VBA; VBScriptFor as far as this book goes, it does a nice job. Each chapter for a language lists the language, and how it's used (like an example program line). There's a summary of what it does, along with a short description of how it should be used. You then get into the security aspect with a section on risk (how it might be used or exploited by an attacker), impact of the risk, and a list of additional resources where you can find more information on the risk issue. Finally, if applicable, there's a cross-reference to any other language statements that might have the same issue.The information that's contained in the book is good, to be sure. If you use any of these languages in your normal coding efforts, you'll likely discover hidden risks in your program that you didn't know existed. I would have liked to see two other features in the book, however. The first thing I would have liked is to see a more concrete example of the potential exploit. Some of the risk assessments are general in nature, and you might have a hard time trying to bridge the gap between general caution and actual usage. And second, it seems like there could have been some additional languages added to the mix. Visual Basic isn't included (although it could be argued that VBA is close enough). Java seems to be an obvious exclusion, and it would have been much more valuable to me with that language included. And if you included ASP, you could have just as easily included JSP along with it.Even with those omission or caveats, it's still a valuable addition to a programmer's bookshelf.

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