

C O N T E N T S I N D E T A I L

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS	xvii
------------------------	-------------

INTRODUCTION: WHAT IS RUBY?	xix
------------------------------------	------------

Acquiring and Configuring Ruby	xx
On a Unix or Unix-like System	xx
On a Windows System	xi
Motivations for the Book	xi
Conventions	xxii
Summary of Chapters	xxii

1

INTERACTIVE RUBY AND THE RUBY ENVIRONMENT	1
--	----------

Starting irb	2
Using irb	2
Expressions	2
Everything Is an Object	2
Integers, Fixnums, and Bignums	3
Addition, Concatenation, and Exceptions	4
Casting	4
Arrays	5
Booleans	6
Flow Control	6
Methods	8
Variables	9
Constants	10
Using the Ruby Interpreter and Environment	10

2

AMUSEMENTS AND SIMPLE UTILITIES	13
--	-----------

#1 Is It Payday? (check_payday.rb)	14
The Code	14
How It Works	14
The Results	16
#2 Random Signature Generator (random_sig.rb and random_sig-windows.rb)	16
The Code	16
How It Works	16
Running the Script	19
The Results	19
Hacking the Script	19
#3 The 99 Bottles of Beer Song (99bottles.rb)	20
The Code	20
How It Works	21

Running the Script	25
The Results	25
#4 Sound File Player (shuffle_play.rb)	25
The Code	26
How It Works	27
Running the Script	29
The Results	29
Hacking the Script	30
Chapter Recap	31

3

PROGRAMMER UTILITIES 33

#5 What Is Truth? (boolean_golf.rb)	33
The Code	34
How It Works	34
Hacking the Script	36
Running the Script	36
The Results	36
#6 Making a List (array_join.rb)	36
The Code	37
How It Works	37
Running the Script	39
Hacking the Script	39
#7 Command-Line Interface (uses_cli.rb and simple_cli.rb)	39
The Code	40
How It Works	42
Running the Script	44
Hacking the Script	45
#8 Palindromes (palindrome.rb and palindrome2.rb)	45
The Code	45
How It Works	46
Hacking the Script	46
Running the Script	47
The Results	48
Chapter Recap	49

4

TEXT MANIPULATION 51

#9 End-of-Line Conversion (dos2unix.rb)	51
The Code	52
How It Works	52
Running the Script	55
The Results	56
Hacking the Script	56
#10 Showing Line Numbers (line_num.rb)	57
The Code	57
How It Works	57
Running the Script	58
The Results	58

#11 Wrapping Lines of Text (softwrap.rb)	59
The Code	59
Running the Script	62
The Results	62
Hacking the Script	62
#12 Counting Words in a File (word_count.rb)	62
The Code	63
How It Works	64
Running the Script	64
The Results	64
#13 Word Histogram (most_common_words.rb)	65
The Code	65
How It Works	65
Running the Script	67
The Results	67
Hacking the Script	67
#14 Rotating Characters in a String (rotate.rb)	68
The Code	68
How It Works	68
Running the Script	69
The Results	69
Chapter Recap	70

5

NUMBER UTILITIES

	71
#15 Computing Powers (power_of.rb)	72
The Code	72
How It Works	73
Running the Script	74
The Results	75
#16 Adding Commas to Numbers (commify.rb)	75
Inheritance	75
Modules	76
The Code	76
How It Works	78
Running the Script	81
The Results	81
#17 Roman Numerals (roman_numeral.rb)	81
The Code	82
How It Works	83
Running the Script	86
The Results	86
Hacking the Script	87
#18 Currency Conversion, Basic (currency_converter1.rb)	87
The Code	88
How It Works	89
Running the Script	90
The Results	90
Hacking the Script	90

#19 Currency Conversion, Advanced (currency_converter2.rb)	90
The Code	91
How It Works	93
Running the Script	97
The Results	97
Hacking the Script	98
Chapter Recap	98

6

FUNCTIONALISM WITH BLOCKS AND PROCS 99

#20 Our First lambda (make_incremoter.rb)	100
The Code	100
How It Works	101
The Results	101
#21 Using Procs for Filtering (matching_members.rb)	102
The Code	102
How It Works	102
Running the Script	103
The Results	103
#22 Using Procs for Compounded Filtering (matching_compound_members.rb)	103
The Code	104
How It Works	105
The Results	107
Hacking the Script	108
#23 Returning Procs as Values (return_proc.rb)	108
The Code	108
The Results	109
How It Works	109
#24 Nesting lambdas	111
The Code	111
How It Works	112
#25 Procs for Text (willow_and_anya.rb)	112
The Code	112
How It Works	115
Running the Script	118
The Results	118
Hacking the Script	119
Chapter Recap	119

7

USING, OPTIMIZING, AND TESTING FUNCTIONAL TECHNIQUES

121

#26 Basic Factorials and Fibonaccis (factorial1.rb through fibonacci5.rb)	122
The Code	122
How It Works	123
The Results	123
Hacking the Script	124

#27 Benchmarking and Profiling (<code>tests/test_opts.rb</code>)	128
Benchmarking	128
The Code	128
How It Works	129
Running the Script	130
The Results	130
Profiling	131
Hacking the Script	132
#28 Converting Temperatures (<code>temperature_converter.rb</code>)	132
The Code	132
How It Works	134
The Results	136
Hacking the Script	136
#29 Testing <code>temperature_converter.rb</code> (<code>tests/test_temp_converter.rb</code>)	137
The Code	137
The Results	138
How It Works	139
Hacking the Script	139
Chapter Recap	140

8

HTML AND XML TOOLS	141
#30 Cleaning Up HTML (<code>html_tidy.rb</code>)	141
The Code	142
How It Works	144
Running the Script	146
The Results	147
Hacking the Script	148
#31 Counting Tags (<code>xml_tag_counter.rb</code>)	148
The Code	149
How It Works	150
Running the Script	153
The Results	153
Hacking the Script	153
#32 Extracting Text from XML (<code>xml_text_extractor.rb</code>)	154
The Code	154
How It Works	155
Running the Script	155
The Results	155
Hacking the Script	156
#33 Validating XML (<code>xml_well_formedness_checker.rb</code>)	156
The Code	156
How It Works	157
Running the Script	158
The Results	158
Hacking the Script	158
Chapter Recap	159

MORE COMPLEX UTILITIES AND TRICKS, PART I

#34 Finding Codes in the Bible or <i>Moby-Dick</i> (<i>els_parser.rb</i>)	161
The Code	162
How It Works	164
Running the Script	167
The Results	167
Hacking the Script	168
#35 Mutating Strings into Weasels (<i>methinks.rb</i>)	168
The Code	168
How It Works	171
Running the Script	174
The Results	174
Hacking the Script	175
#36 Mutating the Mutation of Strings into Weasels (<i>methinks_meta.rb</i>)	176
The Code	177
How It Works	179
Running the Script	181
The Results	181
Hacking the Script	182
Chapter Recap	183

MORE COMPLEX UTILITIES AND TRICKS, PART II

#37 Overnight DJ (<i>radio_player1.rb</i>)	186
The Code	186
How It Works	187
The Results	189
Hacking the Script	190
#38 Better Overnight DJ (<i>radio_player2.rb</i>)	190
The Code	190
How It Works	191
The Results	192
Hacking the Script	193
#39 Numbers by Name (<i>to_lang.rb</i>)	193
The Code	194
How It Works	198
The Results	201
Hacking the Script	202
#40 Elegant Maps and Injects (<i>symbol.rb</i>)	203
The Code	203
How It Works	203
The Results	204
Hacking the Script	204
Chapter Recap	204

11**CGI AND THE WEB****205**

Common Gateway Interface	206
Preparation and Installation	206
#41 A Simple CGI Script (<code>simple_cgi.rb</code>)	207
The Code	207
How It Works	208
The Results	210
Hacking the Script	210
#42 Mod Ruby (<code>mod_ruby_demo.rhtml</code> and <code>mod_ruby_demo.conf</code>)	211
The Code	211
How It Works	213
The Results	214
Hacking the Script	214
#43 CSS Stylesheets, Part I (<code>stylesheet.rcss</code>)	215
The Code	215
How It Works	216
The Results	217
Hacking the Script	218
#44 CSS Stylesheets, Part II (<code>stylesheet2.rcss</code>)	218
The Code	218
How It Works	220
The Results	220
Hacking the Script	221
Chapter Recap	221

12**RUBYGEMS AND RAILS PREPARATION****223**

RubyGems	223
Installing RubyGems	224
Using RubyGems	224
Rails Preparation	227
What Is Rails?	228
Other Options for Installing Rails	228
Databases	229
The Structure of a Rails Application	229
Chapter Recap	235

13**A SIMPLE RAILS PROJECT****237**

Creating the Application	237
Initial Creation	238
Preparing the Database	238
Adding Data	238
Creating the Model and Controllers	240

Dissecting the Application	241
Dissecting the Photo Model	241
Dissecting the Controllers	242
Dissecting the Helpers	245
Dissecting the Album Controller's Views	251
Dissecting the Feed Controller's images View	254
Dissecting the Album Controller's Layout	256
Using CSS	257
Using the Application	257
Learning More About Rails	260
Chapter Recap	260

APPENDIX HOW DOES RUBY COMPARE TO OTHER LANGUAGES? 261

C	261
Haskell	262
Java	262
Lisp	263
Perl	264
PHP	264
Python	265
Smalltalk	265
Summary of Ruby vs. Other Languages	266

INDEX 267