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Beginner's Guide To Embedded C Programming: Using The Pic Microcontroller And The Hitech Picc-Lite C Compiler



Synopsis

The C language has been covered in many books but none as dedicated to the embedded microcontroller beginner as the Beginner's Guide to Embedded C Programming. Through his down to earth style of writing Chuck Hellebuyck delivers a step by step introduction to learning how to program microcontrollers with the C language. In addition he uses a powerful C compiler that the reader can download for free in a series of hands on projects with sample code so you can learn right along with him. For the hardware he found the best low cost but effective development starter kit that includes a PIC16F690 microcontroller and everything else the beginner needs to program and develop embedded designs, even beyond the book's projects. There isn't a better entry level guide to learning embedded C programming than the Beginner's Guide to Embedded C Programming.

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Customer Reviews

SUMMARY: Friendly, personal approach to learning
Clear examples
Not professional
Bloated without purpose
Major content missing, even for a beginner
Way too expensive
EDIT: The gushing five-star review by "Richard O. Scherlitz"... he provided the cover design for this book. I'd take his review with a grain of salt.
REVIEW: I understood by looking at the title that I'd be in for some review material while reading, but that prospect did not bother me. By page 40, I was getting bored, but really eager to get into the meat of embedded PIC programming, so I skimmed ahead, passing several pages on topics I was quite familiar with. I skimmed even further, twenty more pages

through almost text-less pages of screenshots on how to setup MPLAB. Some of these screenshots show nothing to select other than the "Next" button on the dialog box. Unfortunately, I soon discovered that the content never progresses, rather, the author simply elaborates on everything he's already discussed in the first part of the book. His examples are clear, but the subject ends way too quickly. No pointers or function pointers. No polling. No Interrupts. No service routines. We are talking so basic that I can't recommend it to anyone with any programming experience whatsoever - regardless of the language. These topics are dare-I-say, monumental in embedded programming and should, at the very least, be touched on. This instructional book is written in first person. While not detracting from the technical capacity of chapters, it does bloat the content unnecessarily. I feel as if I've paid for the author's notes as he learned how to program a PIC microcontroller; a memoir on PIC programming, if you will.

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