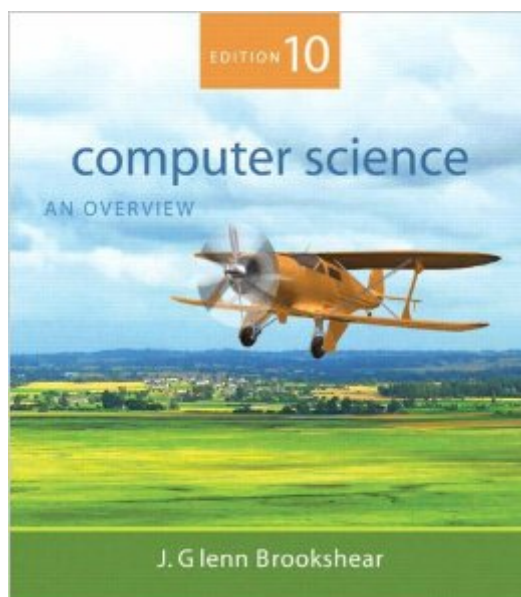# Computer Science: An Overview (10th Edition)

Synopsis

Students and instructors alike continue to praise the broad coverage and clear exposition that Computer Science: An Overview uses to present a complete picture of the dynamic computer science field. Accessible to students from all backgrounds, Glenn Brookshear uses a language-independent context to encourage the development of a practical, realistic understanding of the field. Introduction; Data Storage; Operating Systems; Networking and the Internet; Algorithms; Programming Languages; Software Engineering; Data Abstractions; Database Systems; Computer Graphics; Artificial Intelligence; Theory of Computation. For all readers interested in the basics of computer science.

Book Information

Paperback: 688 pages

Publisher: Addison Wesley; 10 edition (January 6, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0321524039

ISBN-13: 978-0321524034

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.9 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (42 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #309,752 in Books (See Top 100 in Books)   #58 inÂ Books > Business & Money > Processes & Infrastructure > Office Automation   #455 inÂ Books > Business & Money > Management & Leadership > Information Management   #1733 inÂ Books > Computers & Technology > Computer Science

Customer Reviews

First, some quick advice to those who found the book too basic or general: read the title if you can't make it to page one of the preface! This book is an overview of computer science. You can't expect it to be "Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs" + "Introduction to Algorithms, 2nd ed" + "Principles of Compiler Design" + "C Primer Plus", etc. . . If you're looking for that kind of topic depth refer to books that specialize in certain topics. If the book is too basic for you then you simply shouldn't be reading it. I don't think that's any reason to slam it though.As for the intended audience (i.e. true computer newbies) this is your starting point. I haven't read the 8th edition and am not sure how the 7th might be improved upon other than perhaps a little more depth in the database section. This book will not teach you how to program in C, how to build a compiler or how to perform a SQL

query. It will tell you what you need to know to move onto these and other computer science areas sensibly as well as point you toward the best sources of topical info (i.e. the golden books of computer science) for further study should you wish to make a career of it. This study approach is truly advantageous because you avoid basic computer science knowledge gaps and start with a better framework for topical studies and specilization. If you take the other route (e.g. grab a "learn to program in 10 minutes" book and just 'go at it') you stand to miss details that will come back to haunt you later in your career as you make mistakes yet are uncertain where your knowledge gaps lie.MIT Comp Sci students typically skip this course and begin with the more technical "Structure and Interpretation of Computer Programs"- truly a great place to start.

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