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Book Review: JavaScript Promises Essentials



Sampath Lokuge, 23 Nov 2014

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Book Review : JavaScript Promises Essentials



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Editorial Note

This article is in the Book Review chapter. Reviews are intended to provide you with information on books - both paid and free - that others consider useful and of value to developers. Read a good programming book? Write a review!

Introduction

- Today, I am going to **Review a Book** which has been published by **Packt Publishing**.
- The Book is **JavaScript Promises Essentials**.
- **The Author** of this book is **Rami Sarieddine**.

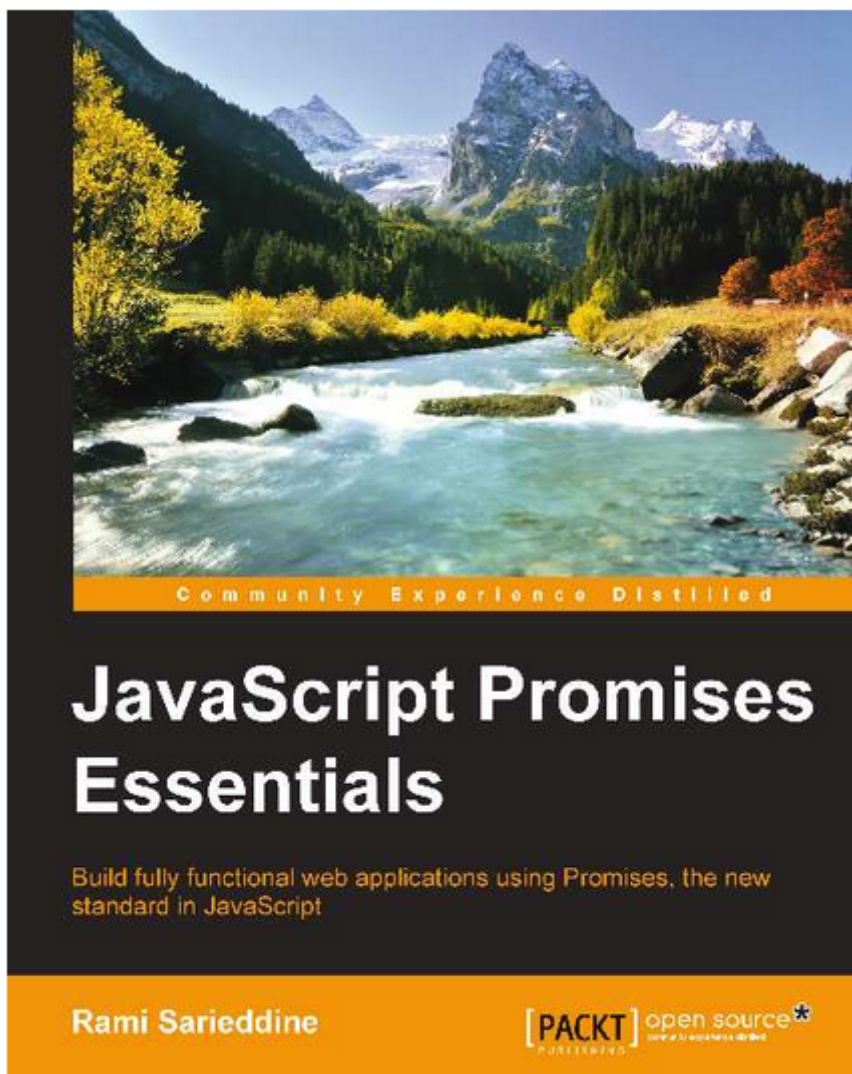


Table of Contents *

1: JAVASCRIPT PROMISES – WHY SHOULD I CARE?

2: THE PROMISE API AND ITS COMPATIBILITY

3: CHAINING OF PROMISES

4: ERROR HANDLING

5: PROMISES IN WINJS

6: PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER – PROMISES IN ACTION

What You Will Learn From This Book ? *

- Implement asynchronous programming in JavaScript
- Get acquainted with the JavaScript Promises API
- Choose the right JavaScript libraries to use callbacks in a non-compatible platform
- Write chained asynchronous operations that are easy to manage
- Master WinJS Promises for developing Windows applications
- Differentiate between various implementations of promises in JavaScript
- Put promises into action in your applications
- Catch and handle errors effectively in asynchronous operations
- Explore browser support and platform compatibility for JavaScript promises

Who This Book Is For ? *

- If you are a JavaScript developer working with asynchronous operations and want to know more about promises, then this book is ideal for you.
- Having a detailed explanation of JavaScript promises will be perfect as your next step towards adopting this new standard and using the API in your web and JavaScript applications.

Pros

- There was never a time before when JavaScript had been this popular. Same popularity for the JavaScript promises as well. So this book will give what you need to know about the Javascript Promises.
- I have read the first chapter of this book and it's a really good one. So I'm going to share my thoughts about this chapter with you. Let's start.
- In the first section, the author has explained what is Asynchronous programming in JavaScript and has described the history of AJAX and the importance of non blocking UI. This section explains about the Issues that developers face with traditional approaches to handle, asynchronous operations. After that, about the callbacks. In this section, we can learn about the callbacks. More importantly, it's by using very simple examples where anyone can understand.
- Then he moved into the Introduction to JavaScript Promises section. In this section, we can learn about the promises, its states, how it can be used and the usage of promises chaining. All are explained by using simple examples and step by step explanations. It's very cool.
- In the last section of the first chapter, the author has explained why can't we just use a callback and why we should care about promises when comparing it to the common way of doing things asynchronously. Simple examples have been provided for understanding the concepts more easily even for the beginner level of the JavaScript developers which is really great.
- Some of the code snippets have been put on JsFiddle which is really cool.
- This is a **concise book** (~ 90 pages), directly targeted to the most needed materials about the **JavaScript Promises**.

Cons

- I have seen a typo issue in the first chapter: "Additionally, callbacks are lightweight since we need to add extra libraries." It should be corrected as "Additionally, callbacks are lightweight since there is no need to add extra libraries."
- The other complaint that I have about this book is with the formatting of the code snippets. Currently, it's in Black and White (mono) way. As a reader, I would like to have a color syntax for the code snippets. If so, it'll give a huge value for Packt's books.

Reference *

- * I got the content from [JavaScript Promises Essentials Home](#)

Do You Need to Buy this Book ?

- [Packt Publishing](#)
- [Amazon](#)

Conclusion

- I would like to **recommend** this book to **all the JavaScript developers** who are willing to learn **Promises** in depth.
- I have to put a special thanks for **Packt Publishers** who gave me this opportunity to review this book. The **Packt Publishers** are doing an outstanding job in the Software Developer world by publishing this kind of **up-to-date books** in very specific areas. Keep up the good work.
- Thanks to the **Author Rami Srieddine** as well for writing this kind of **Instant category book**. Keep up the good work.

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About the Author



Sampath Lokuge

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Sampath Lokuge holds a Bachelor of Science degree in the Mathematics and Computer Science at the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka.

He possesses over 8 years of experience in constructing web applications using Microsoft Technologies including ASP.net MVC, C#, SQL Server, Web API, Entity Framework and also other web technologies such as HTML5, CSS3, jQuery and AngularJS.

Sampath has earned Microsoft certifications such as MCP, MCAD, MCSA and MCTS and very recently he has completed MS (Microsoft Specialist) for MVC 4 and MCSA (Windows Store Apps Using HTML5).

Besides that, he is an active blogger, writing about web and mobile development issues and promoting best practices. He also actively participates in online communities such as Code Project and StackOverflow. He himself is handling three communities, which are ASP.net MVC 5 With C# on LinkedIn, Entity Framework 6 on G+ and Hybrid Mobile App with WinJS on Facebook.

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Nitij 26-Nov-14 1:49

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Re: Question
Sampath Lokuge 21-Dec-14 8:39

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