

Graham

Starting in the 1980s, Lisp began to be used in several large systems, including Emacs, Autocad, and Interleaf. *On Lisp* explains the reasons behind Lisp's growing popularity as a mainstream programming language.

On Lisp is a comprehensive study of advanced Lisp techniques, with bottom-up programming as the unifying theme. It gives the first complete description of macros and macro applications. The book also covers important subjects related to bottom-up programming, including functional programming, rapid prototyping, interactive development, and embedded languages. The final chapter takes a deeper look at object-oriented programming than previous Lisp books, showing the step-by-step construction of a working model of the Common Lisp Object System (CLOS).

As well as an indispensable reference, *On Lisp* is a source of software. Its examples form a library of functions and macros that readers will be able to use in their own Lisp programs.

The first book that really explains what Lisp is all about.

JOHN FODERARO, FRANZ INC.

On Lisp draws the reader in from the very first sentence. The author's writing style is clear and articulate, but comfortably informal. The subject matter is important and has not been adequately treated in previous books. The chapters on macros present important material that is virtually unique to this book.

The chapter on object-oriented programming is excellent. The author builds a nice mini-CLOS to teach basic object-oriented techniques, but then wisely switches to real CLOS to cover the more advanced topics.

DAVID TOURETZKY, CARNEGIE-MELLON UNIVERSITY

An excellent description of the real essence of Lisp.

THOMAS CHEATHAM, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

The topics On Lisp covers are extremely useful for any seriously aspiring Lisp programmer. I think it's a great idea to collect in one place programming techniques normally attainable only the hard way. The examples, which are plentiful and excellent, are one of the significant strengths of the book.

SKONA BRITTAINE, DEVELOPER OF NANOLISP

Paul Graham is an independent consultant specializing in Lisp. He received his PhD in Computer Science from Harvard University.

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Advanced Techniques
for Common Lisp



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