The Pragmatic Programmer

The Pragmatic Programmer: From Journeyman to Master is a book about software engineering by Andrew Hunt and David Thomas, published in October 1999, first in a series of books under the label *The Pragmatic Bookshelf*. It is an influential book in software engineering,[1] and it is used as a textbook in related university courses.[2]

The book does not present a systematic theory, but rather a collection of tips to improve the development process in a pragmatic way. The main qualities of what the authors refer to as a pragmatic programmer are being an early adopter, to have fast adaptation, inquisitiveness and critical thinking, realism, and being a jack-of-all-trades.[3]

The book uses analogies and short stories to present development methodologies and caveats, for example the broken windows theory, the story of the stone soup, or the boiling frog.[4] Some concepts were named or popularised in the book, such as code katas, small exercises to practice programming skills,[5] and rubber duck debugging, a method of debugging whose name is a reference to a story in the book.[6]

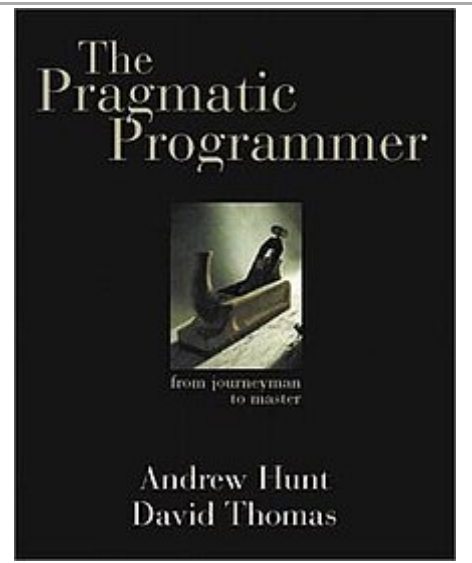| The Pragmatic Programmer	
Authors	Andrew Hunt David Thomas
Country	US
Subjects	Education, Teaching
Published	1999 by Addison Wesley
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References

- Andrew Hunt and David Thomas, *The Pragmatic Programmer*, Addison-Wesley, 2000.

1.
   - "8 Most Influential Books on Programming of All Time" (https://www.bgosoftware.com/blog/8-most-influential-books-on-programming-and-computer-science-of-all-time/).
   - "Top 40 Software Engineering Books" (http://www.aioptify.com/top-software-books.php).
   - "12 Most Influential Books Every Software Engineer Needs to Read" (https://jasonroell.com/2015/03/16/12-most-infuential-books-every-software-engineer-needs-to-read/).
2. "CSE 331 17sp Software Design & Implementation: Information and Syllabus" (https://courses.cs.washington.edu/courses/cse331/17sp/syllabus.html).
3. Hunt and Thomas, pp. xviii–xix.
4. Hunt and Thomas, pp. 7-9.
5. Steve Fenton (2014). *Pro TypeScript: Application-Scale JavaScript Development*. Apress. p. 209. ISBN 1430267909.
6. Pete Goodliffe (2014). *Becoming a Better Programmer: A Handbook for People Who Care About Code*. O'Reilly Media. p. 82. ISBN 1491905581.

External links

- Official website (http://pragprog.com/book/tpp/the-pragmatic-programmer)
- Pragmatic Programmer on CodingHorror (http://www.codinghorror.com/blog/2004/10/a-pragmatic-quick-reference.html)

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