

About the Author

Jon Bodner has been a software engineer, lead developer, and architect for over 25 years. In that time, he has worked on software across many fields, including education, finance, commerce, healthcare, law, government, and internet infrastructure.

Jon is currently a staff engineer at Datadog, working on improving the onboarding experience for customers.

Previously, Jon was a senior distinguished engineer at Capital One, where he worked on commercialization of technology, contributed to the company's development and testing workflow, developed patented techniques for web payment page detection and population, and coauthored tools for finding and managing software development issues.

Jon is a frequent speaker at Go conferences, and his blog posts on Go and software engineering have been viewed more than 300,000 times. He is the creator of the [Proteus data access library](#) and codeveloper of [checks-out](#), a fork of the LGTM project.

Colophon

The animal on the cover of *Learning Go* is a plains pocket gopher (*Geomys bursarius*), a burrowing mammal found across the Great Plains of North America. These rodents are highly adapted to digging and live primarily underground.

Plains pocket gophers are covered in brown fur and have a nearly naked tail. Physical adaptations to digging include small eyes, short ears, and large, clawed front feet. They also have a tolerance for low oxygen and high carbon dioxide levels. The gophers are named for their external cheek pouches, which can be used for carrying food.

The gophers are territorial and aggressive, and will rarely enter another's burrow. They spend nearly three-quarters of their time in their own burrows, which contain their nests and food caches of roots and grasses. They go above ground to search for food and mates.

The plains pocket gopher's conservation status is of least concern. Many of the animals on O'Reilly covers are endangered; all of them are important to the world.

The cover illustration is by Susan Thompson, based on an antique black-and-white engraving from an unknown source. The series design is by Edie Freedman, Ellie Volckhausen, and Karen Montgomery. The cover fonts are Gilroy Semibold and Guardian Sans. The text font is Adobe Minion Pro; the heading font is Adobe Myriad Condensed; and the code font is Dalton Maag's Ubuntu Mono.

The background of the entire page is a vibrant gradient of red and orange. Overlaid on this are several large, semi-transparent circles in various shades of red and orange, creating a layered, organic effect. The text is white, providing a high-contrast, clean look.

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