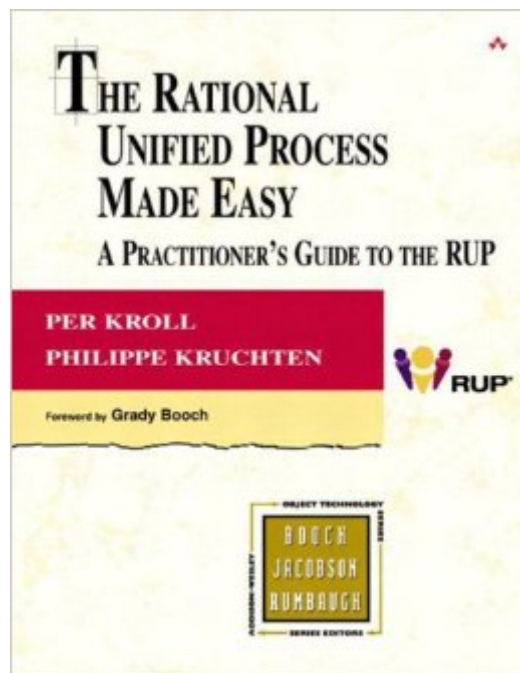


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The Rational Unified Process Made Easy: A Practitioner's Guide To The RUP: A Practitioner's Guide To The RUP



Synopsis

"Per Kroll and Philippe Kruchten are especially well suited to explain the RUP...because they have been the central forces inside Rational Software behind the creation of the RUP and its delivery to projects around the world." --From the Foreword by Grady Booch

This book is a comprehensive guide to modern software development practices, as embodied in the Rational Unified Process, or RUP. With the help of this book's practical advice and insight, software practitioners will learn how to tackle challenging development projects--small and large--using an iterative and risk-driven development approach with a proven track record. The Rational Unified Process Made Easy will teach you the key points involved in planning and managing iterative projects, the fundamentals of component design and software architecture, and the proper employment of use cases. All team members--from project managers to analysts, from developers to testers--will learn how to immediately apply the RUP to their work. You will learn that the RUP is a flexible, versatile process framework that can be tailored to suit the needs of development projects of all types and sizes. Key topics covered include: How to use the RUP to develop iteratively, adopt an architecture-centric approach, mitigate risk, and verify software quality Tasks associated with the four phases of the RUP: Inception, Elaboration, Construction, and Transition Roles and responsibilities of project managers, architects, analysts, developers, testers, and process engineers in a RUP project Incrementally adopting the RUP with minimal risk Common patterns for failure with the RUP--and how to avoid them Use this book to get quickly up to speed with the RUP, so you can easily employ the significant power of this process to increase the productivity of your team.

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Customer Reviews

"RUP Made Easy" is the best book available for anyone trying to learn how to actually do RUP. "The Rational Unified Process: An Introduction" by Kruchten (3rd Ed.) does a better job of explaining the principles behind RUP, but the problem with "An Introduction" is that it does not explain how to actually do anything. "Made Easy", on the other hand, is filled with lots of practical examples. I usually recommend "An Introduction" for senior managers within the organization who need to understand why we are using RUP; but for the project managers, analysts and developers who are doing the actual work I always recommend "Made Easy". "Made Easy" is also the book I am most likely to turn to for reference when someone asks a question about RUP.

First of all, let me share with you something that most of you may already know: There are only three books on the RUP. Namely:- "The Rational Unified Process, An Introduction", by Philippe Kruchten- This book- The Eeles et al. book on J2EE and RUP. I haven't read any of the other two books, so I cannot tell you how this book falls into the greater scheme of things. I.e. I do not know what sort of overlap exists with the RUP Intro book, or which of the two to read first, etc. What I can tell you though is that this book, as it stands on its own, is a very good book in helping you (a) understand what the RUP is and (b) understand how to apply it on your projects. First of all, the two authors of the book are as authoritative as can be. Kruchten (the author of the Intro book) is the chief technical RUP guy in Rational. Kroll is the Rational director (or whatever his new title is now under IBM) responsible for the RUP. These guys know the RUP and in a sense are the RUP. Now, to focus more on the book per se, it is as follows: It starts with a general intro chapter and then it moves on to chapter 2, which captures the so-called "Spirit of the RUP". It contains 8 tenets which sort-of summarize the philosophy of the RUP. Just as with a legal system, where it is not sufficient to only know articles of laws and statutes but you have to be extremely familiar and cognizant of the context in which these laws are applied and the purpose they serve in order to judge correctly, similarly with the RUP you don't only need to know the product with all the info and features it provides, but you need to have absorbed the philosophy that governs the process in order to apply the given material in the appropriate and most fruitful manner. Chapter 3 I found (the emphasis is on "I"; you mileage may vary) the most useful. It basically charts the whole territory of processes that are out there (RUP, XP, other agile processes, heavyweight assessment standards such as the CMM) based on two important criteria, and tries to make you understand where RUP

falls in the plane (and it is not really a fixed point, as RUP is customizable so there is some sort of leeway in how much iterative and/or ceremonial we want it to be). Chapter 4 is an aberration to the rest of the book IMHO, and I haven't found it much useful, or to my liking. It basically tries to explain RUP phases etc. in the context of a one-man project. I am not saying that this is necessarily a bad way to try to introduce people to the concepts of RUP in a more practical context - maybe you'll like it; I just didn't. Afterwards, in chapter 5-9 we have an expounding of the 4 RUP phases, while chapter 10 is product-specific. Chapter 11 is extremely important as it talks about how to adopt the RUP in your organization, and proposes as the way to do so, treating the RUP adoption as a project of its own and applying some sort of "meta-RUP" on it; very interesting! Chapter 12 talks about planning an iterative project and Ch. 13 covers "antipatterns" (although the authors, to their credit, avoid using that term). Ch. 13 is very important reading and some of the stuff in there (e.g. the discussion on what constitutes a bad use case) you will find useful in a context much wider than the RUP. Because each one of the roles (PM, Architect, Developer, etc.) views the process from their own unique perspective (just as power forward views the ballgame more in the perspective of getting many rebounds, whereas the point guard views in the sense of passing assists and shooting the occasional 3-pointer) it is very useful to have a chapter discussing each role's unique perspective of the RUP. My opinion is the all roles must read the chapters for all roles, but if you are short on time, this also helps you focus on the stuff strictly pertaining to your role. Although I am not a tester per se, I liked very much the discussion on "Good Enough Quality" in the Tester chapter. "Paradigms of Good Enough" and "The Cost of Quality" I have found to be a "must-read". Also, the book has good references (both books and Web articles - especially from the RationalEdge) and the usual good quality you would expect from an AW publication in general and an OTS book in particular. Finally, even though in the intro the authors play a little pun on themselves on being French and Swedish respectively and thus non-native English speakers, don't get scared by that comment. Their English is excellent. All in all, a very good and useful read. Buy it if only for chapters 3, 13, and 18. Actually, you may want to buy it even if you are not intending to use the RUP.

I teach RUP classes in Brazil and the most difficult thing for the students is to understand the core practices of RUP (what I like to call Agile RUP) without getting swallowed by all the details of the hundreds activities, artifacts, roles, guidelines, etc. This book is the best way for a student to understand RUP after a few lessons with a teacher. It's very practical and focused on the core practices of RUP. Read this book and you probably will not fall in the trap of using RUP in a waterfall way or think of RUP as a heavyweight process :-)

For years, the only intro for RUP was Philippe Kruchten's book. And it was not enough... Then Larman's book came out (the great one, no doubt!), but this book is too much for someone who wants to understand process without going into UML discussions (the main purpose of Larman's book). "Rational Unified Process Made Easy" finally closes the gap. Even if you know (or think you know) RUP, it would be a good idea to buy this one.

There is plenty of theory written about RUP, but how it should be applied to your role or your project is often misunderstood. This book not only provides the overview, but the contextual guidance to make RUP work for you. As a long-term RUP mentor and user, I highly recommend it.

This book does a great job of showing steps of practical application of the RUP. The book may seem repetitive on a few points, but I feel the points bear repeating. This book has been invaluable in helping cut through the misinformation thrown around by some who have gotten the executive summary of RUP and know just enough to be dangerous. I recently completed a seven-part online course on the RUP that was based on this book. The book did a far better job of making the RUP understandable.

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