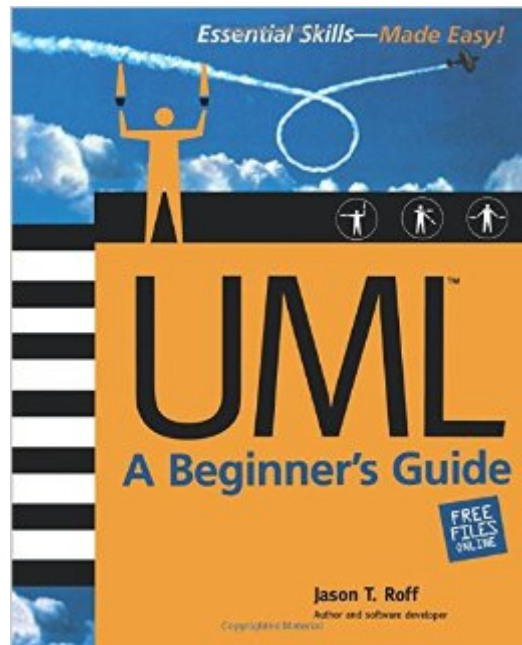


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# UML: A Beginner's Guide



## Synopsis

Essential skills for first-time programmers! This easy-to-use book explains the fundamentals of UML. You'll learn to read, draw, and use this visual modeling language to create clear and effective blueprints for software development projects. The modular approach of this series--including drills, sample projects, and mastery checks--makes it easy to learn to use this powerful programming language at your own pace.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I would like to have a higher opinion of this book. I had been looking for a book with exactly this title. The author makes a solid effort to keep the tone light, and the examples used should be familiar to the widest possible audience. The book does have good points. However, I disagree with the (many) reviewers who think that beginners are going to find this a clear path to understanding UML. I am making progress, but the pace is painful. There are several important problems with the presentation. First, the author is terribly casual about using technical terms that he has not yet defined. Second, the definitions, when they finally occur, are so light as to be unhelpful. Finally, in several places the author steps the reader through examples and carefully explains the sequence without ever specifying what determines the sequence. This is a common mistake by textbook authors, mistaking action for understanding. Let me give a few examples. In chapter five, on Sequence Diagrams, under the heading "Define Sequence Diagrams", the first paragraph begins:

"The sequence diagram is one of two types of interaction diagrams. The other is the collaboration diagram, which is covered in Module 7." Since "interaction diagrams" has not been defined, all we learn from the first two sentences is that "something we don't know about" is part of a category that we don't know about, which has one other component that we don't know about (but will learn about in two more chapters). This seems like a slow start to me, and is not untypical of the authors' prose. My second complaint is that the author is too casual in formulating his definitions.

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