"Ready for Rails" Ruby Workshop

About Ruby on Rails

Ruby on Rails (or more simply, *Rails*) is the web development framework that questioned prior assumptions and opened up a new way to create web applications that emphasized productivity and quality. Developing in Rails means:

- a lot less code
- a lot less configuration
- bringing up basic functionality quickly
- building out new functionality incrementally
- integrated testing

There are three principles behind Rails:

- **"Don't repeat yourself!"** (abbreviated *DRY*): every element of the web application has its specific place and doesn't have to be repeated multiple times across files.
- **Convention over configuration**: by using practical conventions, most configuration data can be eliminated (however the conventions can be overridden with configuration when necessary).
- **Quick turn-around time**: by providing an integrated web server and an interpreted language, the results of code modifications can be seen immediately, thereby minimizing the code-debug cycle (with no additional compile step).

The Ruby in Ruby on Rails

Rails is based on the "Model-View-Controller" (MVC) architecture, which divides the web application into coherent, functional units. Both the Models and Controllers are written entirely in Ruby. The Views are written in a combination of Ruby and mark-up (generally HTML). **So Rails development is Ruby development.**

Many Rails courses short-change the attendees by only supplying a very brief overview of Ruby. That puts the would-be Rails developers at a handicap, limiting the scope of their development to variations of what they've already seen. Knowing Ruby clarifies and deepens a developer's understanding of Rails and opens up new possibilities within Rails.

Chad Fowler, the well-regarded author of *Rails Recipes* and co-author of *Programming Ruby: The Pragmatic Programmers' Guide*, said:

> **The path to Rails enlightenment is completely based on learning and mastering Ruby.** … Because when you master Ruby, all these Rails tricks are just transparent. [February 2007, emphasis added]

Workshop Duration

Two days

Prerequisites

Participants should already be comfortable with one high-level programming language, such as Java, C#, C++, C, Python, Perl, etc.

Workshop Goal

The goal of the workshop is to provide each participant with a solid Ruby foundation to support and enhance their understanding of and ability to leverage Rails.

Workshop Principles

This workshop is organized around three fundamental principles:

- New knowledge is built on prior knowledge.
- Learning is primarily achieved through **doing rather than listening**, so we integrate well-designed, realistic, focused exercises with presentation and discussion.
- A relaxed atmosphere enhances learning.

Workshop Topics

- Introduction and History (*very brief*)
- Language Basics
- Ruby Development Tool Set
- Console I/O
- String Type and Operations
- Numeric Types and Mathematical Expressions
- Boolean Expressions
- Conditional Constructs
- Arrays
- Loop Constructs
- Code Blocks
- Ranges
- Regular Expressions
- Symbols
- Hashes
- Methods
- Object-Oriented Programming
- Classes, Attributes, Methods
- Access Control
- Class Variables and Methods
- Inheritance
- Using Modules to define namespaces
- Global Variables and Constants
- Formatted Textual Output
- Leveraging Libraries
- RubyForge and RubyGems

Materials Provided

Each participant receives:

- A comprehensive course book containing all workshop slides (over 400).
- A CD containing workshop examples, exercise solutions, and other tools and reference materials as allowed by license.
- A certificate of completion.

Public and On-Site Classes

We offer both public workshops, in which anyone can enroll, and on-site workshops, so you can maximize convenience and minimize travel costs for your employees.

On-Site Customization

On-site classes provide the opportunity to customize the workshop to **your specific needs**. Please feel free to discuss customization of your on-site workshop both in terms of content and scheduling. For example, we can develop special material for your workshop, and we would be happy to schedule the workshop for partial days or across non-consecutive days.

More Information

For more information please visit us on the web:

www.LearnRuby.com

If you have questions or would like to discuss scheduling or workshop customization, please contact us:

info@LearnRuby.com

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We look forward to providing you with a rewarding educational experience!